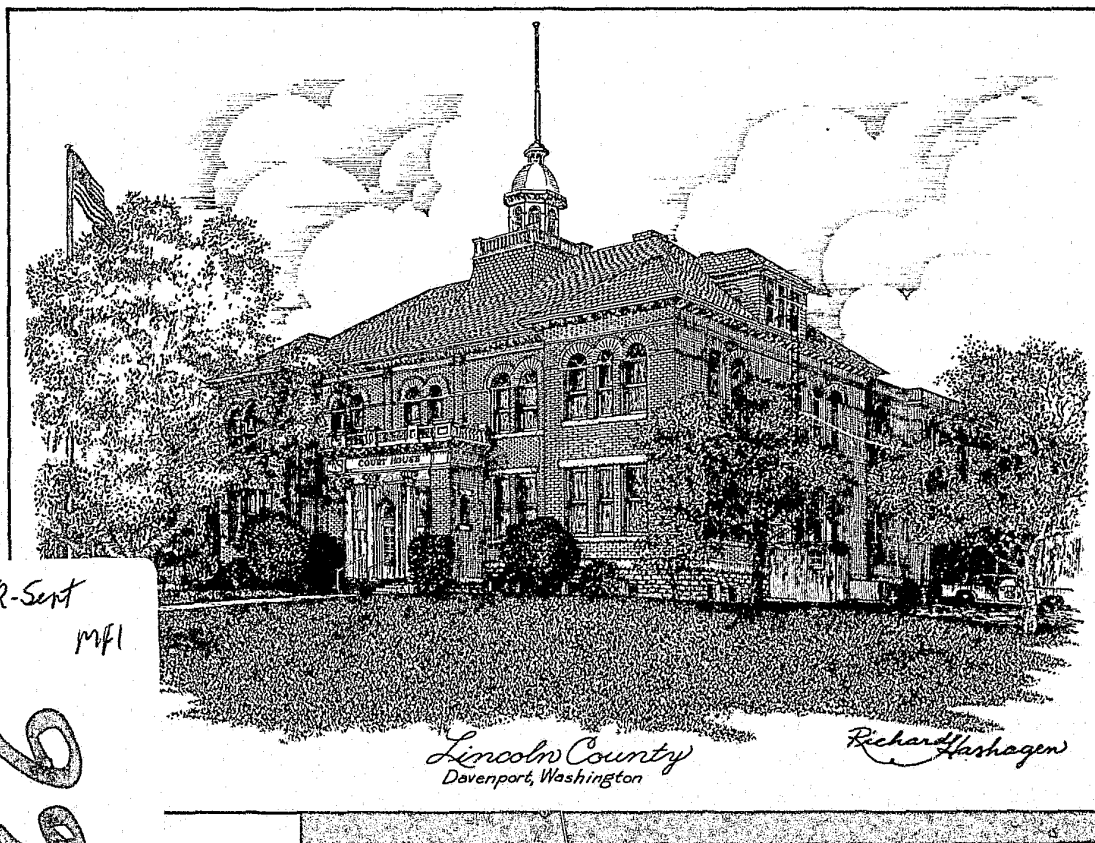


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# Annual Report of the Courts of Washington



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About the cover...

The Lincoln County Courthouse was built in 1897 and is a beautiful old brick building which is on the Registry of National Historic Places. It is situated on a promontory knoll overlooking downtown Davenport. This pen-and-ink drawing is by author/illustrator Richard Hashagen and is included in his book, *Counties of the State of Washington*, published in 1986. The drawing, as well as the above description are reproduced here with the permission of the author.

## Office of the Administrator for the Courts Olympia, Washington

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Mary Campbell McQueen, Administrator for the Courts

Annual Report  
Of The Courts of Washington  
1987

112166

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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TO: The Honorable Chief Justice and  
Associate Justices of the Supreme  
Court of the State of Washington

The Honorable Governor of  
Washington State

The Honorable President of the  
Washington State Senate

The Honorable Speaker of the  
Washington State House of  
Representatives

The 1987 *Annual Report of the Courts of Washington* serves as the report of the status and accomplishments of the judicial branch. The activities of judicial organizations and committees are documented to illustrate the progress made on a variety of issues affecting the judiciary.

The Board for Judicial Administration emphasizes the coordinated direction within the entire judicial branch. The by-laws of the Board are an appropriate introduction to the Judicial Issues chapter, which describes activities spanning all court levels.

We hope the judges' introductions lend perspective to each chapter as we strive to continue improving the usefulness of the Annual Report to the State as well as the judicial community. We appreciate suggestions to accomplish this goal.

Respectfully,

Mary Campbell McQueen  
Administrator for the Courts

STATE OF WASHINGTON

1206 S. Quince Street  
Mail Stop EZ-11  
Olympia, WA 98501  
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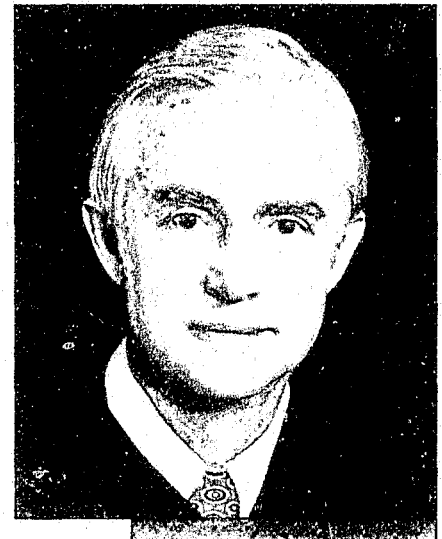




**W. Edward Allan, Past President  
District & Municipal Court Judges Assn.**



**Keith M. Callow, Acting Chief Justice  
Supreme Court**



**Harold D. Clarke, President-Elect  
Superior Court Judges' Association**



**Robert R. Redman, Representative  
Washington State Bar Association**



**Edward P. Reed, Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals, Division II**



**Joel A. C. Rindal, President  
District & Municipal Court Judges Assn.**

The Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) is chartered to develop statewide policy enhancing the administration of justice in Washington courts. By unanimous vote, the Board's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) establishing a judicial position on legislation affecting the overall judicial system;
- 2) establishing a judicial position on legislation affecting a single court level, at the request of that court level;
- 3) providing direction to the Office of the Administrator for the Courts on legislative and other matters affecting the administration of justice;

4) fostering the local administration of justice by improving communication within the judicial branch.

Membership on the BJA consists of the Chief Justice and Acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Presiding Chief Judge and one Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, the President and President-Elect of the Superior Court Judges' Association, the President and President-Elect of the District and Municipal Court Judges Association, and two members of the Washington State Bar Association appointed by the Board of Governors. The Administrator for the Courts serves as secretariat to the Board for Judicial Administration with no voting rights. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court chairs the meetings.

# Judicial Issues



**Patrick C. Comfort, Representative  
Washington State Bar Association**



**Vernon R. Pearson, Chief Justice  
Supreme Court**



**Norman W. Quinn, President  
Superior Court Judges' Association**



**Solie M. Ringold, Presiding Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals**



**John N. Skimas, Past President  
Superior Court Judges' Association**



**R. Joseph Wesley, President-Elect  
District & Municipal Court Judges Assn.**

The Executive Committee of the BJA considers and takes action on emergency matters arising between Board meetings, subject to ratification of the Board. Standing committees as well as ad hoc committees and task forces are established by unanimous vote with such authority as the Board deems appropriate. Committees report in writing to the Board for Judicial Administration as appropriate to their charge.

During 1987 the BJA coordinated the judiciary's response to the work of the Washington Citizen's Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials. The BJA formulated recommendations for the Commission and provided additional information to support increased salary levels for the judiciary. Due in large part to the efforts of the BJA, the Salary Commission raised judicial salaries

commensurate with the standards developed by the American Bar Association.

After a failed attempt to reform the judicial retirement system during the 1987 session of the Legislature, the BJA initiated a coordinated effort with the state actuary. Working together, a new design for the judicial retirement system, which would meet the needs of the judiciary and the requirements of the Legislature, was prepared for the 1988 Legislative session.

The BJA also reviewed numerous bills during the 1987 session and presented a cohesive position for the judiciary regarding judicial administration issues, including the re-creation of the Judicial Council and the Judicial Information System biennium budget.

# Judicial Issues

## Chapter Contents

### Judiciary

- Education
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- Revenue

## Judiciary

### Education

During calendar year 1987, the Board for Trial Court Education coordinated over 55 days of education programs for judges and court support personnel. These courses were attended by over 1000 individuals. The overall goal of the Board and the programs it sponsors is to maintain the effectiveness and efficiency of the judicial branch.

To meet the individual needs of judges and court support personnel, the Board sponsored attendance at out-of-state seminars. Sixty-two court employees benefited from this program during 1987.

A new program initiated in 1987 also addressed the individual education needs of court personnel, through a tuition assistance program that enabled over 148 individuals to take courses directly related to job responsibilities in the court system.

In January, the Board for Trial Court Education was represented at the National Conference on Judicial Education in Williamsburg, Virginia. The meeting, sponsored by a coalition of judicial education providers and planners, addressed current programming and unmet needs, state and national roles and relationships, and the future of continuing judicial education. The Board for Trial Court Education was cited as a model planning

group which other states were encouraged to emulate.

Additional education opportunities were provided at the annual Judicial Conference and at the Appellate Judges' Seminar. The Judicial Conference is coordinated by the Chief Justice and planned by representatives of each court level. The 1987 agenda included over 12 hours of education encompassing the issues of gender and justice, ethics and Canon VII, jury voir dire, discretionary review, video technology in the courtroom, Sentencing Reform Act, crime victims, and constitutional interpretations.

The Appellate seminar was held in April and examined problems related to attorney misconduct at the trial court and appellate levels. Interaction between the press and the courts was also addressed utilizing a panel of judges, print and broadcast media representatives, and a representative of the Bar Association.

### Performance Evaluation

Since its formation in early 1986, Washington's Judicial Performance Evaluation Task Force has been working toward the development of an evaluation program tailored to this state's needs. The primary goal is to develop a balanced process for providing performance feedback to judges as a sound basis for self-improvement. As a secondary goal, performance evaluation may lend insights as to the design and content of judicial education programs.

Justice Robert F. Utter serves as Chair of Washington's Task Force. Members are individuals appointed from the judiciary at each court level, the Bar Association, and the lay public. Researchers provide technical support to the Task Force, and the American Bar Association has contributed a small grant to cover a portion of member travel costs.

During 1987 the Task Force (1) drafted and revised policy governing uses and dissemination of evaluations, (2) continued work on the design of a valid and reliable methodology for conducting the evaluations, and (3) continued development of a process for testing the proposed system. The Task Force plans to complete the initial design of the program by spring 1988 and to submit it at that time, to the judges' associations at each court level for review and consideration for pretesting.

### Publications

During 1987 the Desk Manual for Juvenile Court Administration was updated to incorporate the following recent changes in legislation and court rule: policies were rewritten incorporating (a) the statutorily mandated fingerprinting of juveniles arrested for felony and gross misdemeanor offenses and (b) the report-

ing to the Washington State Patrol of records of perpetrators of physical and sexual child abuse; the new Juvenile Disposition Standards effective July 1, 1987 were added; policies were added incorporating statutory changes regarding juvenile court verification of certain Indian Child Welfare matters; statutes in the Title 13 section of the manual were replaced with 1987 statutes; the Juvenile Court Rules (JuCR) were replaced with the JuCRs which became effective in September 1987; and indexes were added to the court rules and to the entire publication.

A Supplement to Washington Pattern Jury Instructions contains instructions incorporating changes resulting from the Tort Reform Act of 1986 and changes to the act made during the 1987 legislative session.

A Summary of Selected 1987 Legislation of Interest to the Courts was published immediately after the 1987 legislative session as reference for new legislation and its impact on the courts. The 1987 report, with bill summaries, Governor's veto messages, and OAC staff comments on implementation, also included a new section listing RCWs affected by legislation passed during the session.

Other reports of possible interest to the judiciary published during 1987 include the following: Washington State Child Support Schedule Commission Report, October 1987; Detention Standards Report by Juvenile Disposition Standards Commission; Crisis in Children's Services Report of Governor's Protective Services Review Team; Washington State Code Review Panel Report.

### Salaries

The 1986 Legislature passed a bill which required a vote of the people to amend the state constitution to create a new salary commission. The amendment, which was passed on the November ballot, created a Citizen's Commission on Salaries for Elected Officials.

This Commission was required to establish the salaries for statewide elected officials and all full-time judges no later than the first Monday in June 1987. The Commission, consisting of eight members selected by lot from voter registration lists, and seven selected jointly by the speaker of the house and the president of the senate, represents higher education, personnel management, the legal profession, business, and organized labor.

After a year of fact finding, the Commission filed a new salary schedule in June 1987. The salary schedule filed meets two fundamental premises for judicial salaries as identified by the BJA: 1) the federal judiciary should be used as a "standard" for the establishment of state

Judicial Salaries	September 1987	July 1988
Justices of the Supreme Court	\$75,900	\$82,700
Judges of the Court of Appeals	\$72,100	\$78,600
Judges of the Superior Court	\$68,500	\$74,600
Judges of the District Court	\$62,100	\$71,700

judges' salaries and 2) the salary differential between each level of state court should be equal and minimal to reflect the unique role of each court in the judicial system.

Public support for the Commission's salary schedule was evidenced by the lack of voter support for a referendum that would have required direct voter approval of the Commission's salary schedule.

## Retirement

The *Judicial Retirement Task Force Report*, published in July 1986, contains a description of the existing retirement systems, the results of a survey of Washington State judges, an examination of federal and other state retirement systems, and a comparison of the Judicial Retirement System to Public Employees' Retirement System II (PERS II). The report concludes with a set of recommendations and a cost analysis. The recommendations were submitted to the 1987 Legislature.

During the 1987 session a bill to cap the Judicial Retirement System and place all new judges in the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) was introduced. The bill, in addressing the Judicial Retirement Task Force recommendations, proposed to identify judges as a distinct group within PERS with special benefits designed to attract highly qualified attorneys to the bench. Policy issues were raised by legislators who were concerned that the PERS system should be uniformly applied to all groups. As a result of these concerns, the judicial retirement system was not achieved during the 1987 session. Legislators and judges agreed to examine new approaches in preparation for the 1988 session.

## Ethics

The Ethics Advisory Committee, created by Supreme Court rule, renders advisory opinions upon written request of judicial officers. Compliance with an opinion will be considered evidence of good faith by the Supreme Court GR 10(b) and the Commission on Judicial Conduct CJCR 10(b).

The full opinions rendered by the Committee are published in the *Judiciary*, a quarterly publication of the Office of the Administrator for the Courts. A cumula-

tive publication of the advisory opinions, the *Washington State Judges' Ethics Advisory Opinions*, is published yearly and includes an index for determining opinions concerning specific issues.

In 1987 the Ethics Advisory Committee rendered 12 advisory opinions. The issues addressed the following concerns: authoring letters of reference or evaluation; off the bench activities; fund raising; serving as a fiduciary; use of collection agencies by courts; and permissible activities by part-time judges and spouses.

Additionally, in 1987 the Legislature amended RCW 26.04.050 to allow the solemnization of marriages by active or retired justices of the Supreme Court, judges of the court of appeals, superior courts, and superior court commissioners, any regularly licensed or ordained minister or priest of any church, and judges of the courts of limited jurisdiction as defined in RCW 3.02.010.

## Immunity

In May 1984 the U.S. Supreme Court held in *Pulliam v. Allen*, 104 U.S. 1970, that judicial immunity does not bar the award of attorney's fees under 42 U.S.C. section 1988. Numerous questions raised by *Pulliam v. Allen* prompted the formation of Washington's Judicial Immunity Task Force in 1985.

Legislation passed during 1986 supported the Task Force's recommendations to make non-consensual common-law liens against real property neither recognizable nor enforceable. This bill is of particular interest to a grow-

ing number of judges against whom liens have been filed as a result of dissatisfaction over judicial decisions or administration.

During 1987 Judge Philip Roth in Portland Oregon requested the assistance of the Board for Judicial Administration to seek national legislation to correct the *Pulliam v. Allen* decision. In response, the BJA decided that it would serve as the coordinating committee for Washington State courts in this effort. Chief Justice Pearson was appointed to serve as the principal contact for the BJA with Judge Roth's group.

## Qualifications

Established in 1980, Washington's Judicial Qualifications Commission protects the integrity of the judicial process and promotes public confidence in the courts. It also serves to strengthen the judiciary by creating a greater awareness of proper judicial behavior. Its function is to investigate and act on allegations of a judge's misconduct as defined by the Code of Judicial Conduct and to make decisions regarding allegations of a judge's disabilities which are permanent or seriously interfering with performance of judicial duties. Each year the Commission publishes a detailed annual report.

The commission consists of nine members who serve four-year terms: three judges members, two lawyers and four non-lawyers. Commission Rules were first adopted in 1981 and revised in 1984, and most recently revised in 1987.

All hearings held subsequent to proceedings to determine if further action is necessary are public. The Commission recommends the discipline or retirement of a judge upon affirmative vote of at least five members. Such recommendations are filed with the Supreme Court for final determination. If the Commission proceeds with informal disposition and the judge agrees to the proposal, the matter is closed upon issuance of a letter of admonishment or reprimand.

## Judicial Qualifications Commission Matters

Type of Activity	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Matters pending: Jan 1	12	11	16	11	12
Complaints received/reopened	102	89	102	69	90
Total	114	100	118	80	102
Complaints dismissed	97	81	102	66	92
Informal dispositions	6	3	4	1	3
Supreme Court recommendation	0	0	1	1	1
Total dispositions	103	84	107	68	96
Matters pending: Dec 31	11	13	11	12	6

# Judicial Issues

The table on judicial conduct matters, reviewed by the Commission between 1983 and 1987, demonstrates the complaints filed with the Commission over the last five years.

## Judicial Administration

### Judicial Council

In response to a need for greater coordination of issues of mutual concern between the Legislature, the Bar, and the Bench, the Legislature reconvened the Judicial Council (Chapter 322, Laws of 1987), which has been inactive for the past six years. The membership of the Council was reduced to include four Legislative members, four judges, four Bar members, and the Attorney General. The Council is chaired by the Chief Justice.

The Council will provide a forum for issues to be studied and debated prior to legislative action. As part of the broad concern about case management and delay reduction in the courts, the Legislature charged the Judicial Council with studying the following issues:

- Use of mandatory settlement conferences in both the appellate and superior courts.
- Use of mandatory discovery conferences in the trial courts.
- Use of more stringent, court controlled voir dire procedures.
- Desirability of an "offers of settlement" statute to provide incentives for settlement of cases.

### Court Management Council

The Court Management Council, created in 1987, serves as a statewide forum for enhancing the administration of the courts. Council responsibilities include the following:

- establishing, by unanimous vote, a position on legislation affecting the overall administration of the courts;
- providing, by majority vote, direction to the Office of the Administrator for the Courts on other matters affecting the administration of the courts;
- fostering communication among the various entities providing court administration.

Membership in the Court Management Council consists of the president and one executive board member from each of the following: Association of County Clerks, Association for Court Administration, Association of Superior Court Administrators, and Association of Juvenile Court Administrators. The clerks of the appellate courts appoint two representatives to serve on the Council, and

the Administrator for the Courts or a designee from that office also serves. Meetings are chaired and staffed by the Administrator for the Courts.

The Court Management Council's Executive Committee considers and takes action on emergency matters arising between Council meetings, subject to ratification of the Council. Standing and ad hoc committees are established with such authority as the Council deems appropriate. Membership on all committees and task forces reflects equal representation from all represented associations.

During 1987 the Court Management Council appointed a special Case Management Work Group to study issues relating to time standards for case processing. The group initiated an analysis of SCOMIS (Superior Court Management Information System) data to understand and document sources of delay in King, Pierce and Snohomish County Superior Courts. Based on this information, the group will present to the Court Management Council recommendations for delay reduction in large superior courts.

### Courts and Community

**Washington State Courts and Community Committee:** In 1985, Chief Justice James M. Dolliver convened the Washington Courts & Community Committee (a 13-member, *ad hoc* group of lawyers, judges, media representatives, and others) and asked the group to examine the public's perception of state courts. The committee recommended that citizen attitudes towards court and the legal system be formally measured by using a series of "focus group" and survey research techniques. A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in late 1986 and GMA Research, a Bellevue marketing research firm, was selected to do the work.

With financial underwriting from the Washington State Bar Association, the Board for Trial Court Education, the district/municipal and superior court judges' associations, Seattle-Pacific University and the Office of the Administrator for the Courts, the first phase of the information-gathering study began in the summer of 1987.

In that phase, three nine-person "focus groups" of randomly-selected citizens were interviewed and tested over two-hour periods, to determine their knowledge and attitudes about state courts. Each of these interactive settings was videotaped. Material compiled from each tape was used to develop the questionnaire for a formal, statewide survey.

Statewide telephone polling of a random sample of 800 Washington citizens was scheduled for February 1988. A

final report of the results was set for early spring 1988.

Overall issues to be addressed by the report include (1) the level of citizen knowledge about state courts and the legal system, (2) the sources of that knowledge and, (3) the extent to which knowledge--or the lack of it--affects citizen confidence in state courts. The information will be used to determine how best to deploy public information/education resources within the judicial branch of government.

**The Bench-Bar-Press Committee of Washington:** The Bench-Bar-Press Committee of Washington held its twenty-third annual business meeting in Pasco in October, combining it with a "regional seminar" on issues of common interest to lawyers, judges, and media personnel.

Highlights of the business session included a report by Washington State University Professor Val Limburg on his study of the effects of usage of the Committee's "Principles and Considerations," and consideration of an amendment to judicial Canon 3(A)(7)(c). The latter, aimed at liberalizing media use of audio tape recorders during court proceedings, was referred to the Committee's Steering Committee for recommendation.

The Committee also voted to reconstitute its long-dormant Steering Committee, chose new members for its liaison or "Fire Brigade" Committee, and elected a new secretary.

During the seminar portion of the program, a panel of lawyers and reporters addressed the question, "Cameras in the Courtroom...Yours or Ours?" The discussion focused on the use of video as a substitute for transcripts produced by traditional court reporters.

A report by retiring Committee secretary Paul Conrad, a luncheon address by Spokane Superior Court Judge John Schultheis, and a second panel discussion concluded the program.

### Court Rules

The Washington State Bar Association and the Superior Court Judges' Association submitted the following for consideration: proposed changes to Juvenile Court Rules (JuCRs); a new set of Criminal Rules for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (CrRLJs); New JAR 9, amendments to the Rules for Appeal of Decisions of Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (RALJs); and amendments to General Rule (GR) 12 to the Supreme Court under GR 9.

**JuCRs:** The Superior Court Judges' Association suggested comprehensive amendments to the JuCRs to incorporate statutory amendments and case law which affected the rules.

**CrRLJs:** This new set of criminal rules for courts of limited jurisdiction parallels the superior court criminal rules with few exceptions, thereby making practice more uniform between the court levels. These rule changes have had a major effect on the operation of limited jurisdiction courts as follows:

**JAR 9:** Governs the disclosure of records in courts of limited jurisdiction.

**RALJs:** These changes incorporate statutory changes and case law, and/or clarify the existing language in the court rule. The most significant change is new RALJ 6.3A, which provides for transcripts of the electronic record of proceedings as an aid to the superior court judge who hears the appeal.

**GR 12:** Sets forth the general purpose of the Washington State Bar Association as well as the specific activities which are or are not authorized.

In 1988 the Supreme Court will be looking at amendments to the Superior Court Civil Rules (CRs) and Evidence Rules (ERs).

## Gender And Justice

In response to the 1987 legislative mandate to prevent gender and minority bias in the courts, Supreme Court Chief Justice Vernon R. Pearson initiated a two-phased study of the Washington State Courts.

The Gender and Justice Task Force, chaired by Court of Appeals Judge H. Joseph Coleman, held its organizational meetings in the fall of 1987. The Minority and Justice Task Force, chaired by Charles Z. Smith, will begin its work in 1988.

The Gender and Justice Task Force is investigating the existence and extent of gender bias in the state court system. Gender bias is defined as the predisposition to think and act based on the weight given to preconceived notions of sexual roles rather than upon independent evaluation of each person or situation.

The Task Force is divided into two main committees: the Committee on the Status of Women Litigants, chaired by King County Superior Court Judge Susan R. Agid; and the Committee on the Status of Women Judges, Attorneys, and Court Personnel, chaired by William W. Baker, Esq.

Committee investigation will examine the impact of gender on specific areas of substantive law, such as divorce, custody, wrongful death, personal injury, and domestic violence; and on the courtroom environment for ways in which bias might influence professional acceptance, credibility, employment practices and procedures.

Public hearings, surveys, case analysis, and personal interviews will provide data

for Task Force analysis. The Task Force expects to take about a year to form its recommendations.

## Joint Jury Management Standards

The Joint Jury Management Standards Committee is a committee of superior and limited jurisdiction court judges, court administrators, representatives of the county clerks association and state bar. During 1987 the Committee undertook a review of statutes relating to jury selection and summoning, first considered while developing the *Washington Standards Relating to Jury Use and Management* in 1985. The Committee then undertook a series of steps to implement the Standards, namely: drafting proposed legislation concerning jury selection and summoning, formulating a statewide survey concerning jury management, and promoting the adoption of the standards by judicial and administrative associations.

The proposed jury legislation seeks to achieve several goals:

- To promote greater citizen participation in the jury system by conducting a study to add to the current juror source list.
- To promote greater efficiency in the state's jury system by encouraging joint jury management within counties.
- To provide for uniform selection and summoning of all types of juries (petit, grand, inquest).
- To reflect in statute the pattern of jury management in the state's courts.
- To provide greater recognition of the needs of courts of limited jurisdiction.

Among other features, the legislation provides for each court to appoint a jury administrator, allows the Supreme Court to add additional lists to the current voter's registration list, amends the definition of persons qualified to sit as jurors, prohibits discrimination against employees summoned to serve as jurors, and allows courts of limited jurisdiction to select jurors from the area served by these courts.

The jury system survey was distributed to all courts in the State to gain information for preparing legislation, to gather information for a proposed feasibility study to add additional lists to the current juror source list, and to aid in future orientation sessions to court staff on the Standards. The survey results will be available in early 1988.

The Standards were adopted by the District and Municipal Court Judges Association in August, 1987 and by the Washington State Association for Court Administration in May, 1987.

## Attorney Contingent Fees

In early 1987 the Supreme Court established the Novack Commission to study the issue of attorney fees in tort matters. The Supreme Court charge to the Commission requested findings and recommendations in particular to these inquiries:

"Are there significant abuses in attorney fee practices in tort litigation, whether in the representation of plaintiffs or defendants? If so, what are the abuses, what are their causes, and what steps might be appropriate to correct them? Even if there is not a problem of significant abuses, should this court undertake further control or regulation of attorney fees and other client costs in tort litigation? What types of control or regulation might be necessary, advisable, and feasible?"

The Commission has been meeting since June 1987 and has heard testimony from various medical, legal, civic, and public interest groups concerning the issue of attorney fees in tort matters. The Commission also invited testimony from members of the Legislature, as well as many other consumer groups which declined the invitation to comment.

The Commission is working on a draft of proposed amendments to Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) 1.5 which will require a more structured fee arrangement, as well as an advice of rights for clients. The rule will be extensively circulated among the commentators, other interested groups, and bar associations before the Commission submits it to the Supreme Court for consideration.

Additionally, the Committee will begin drafting a comprehensive report which will be presented to the Court when the Commission completes its study.

## Trial Court Case Management

Chief Justice Pearson has made trial court case management a top priority in 1987. A number of organizations are working on this issue.

**Judicial Council Studies:** In 1987 the Legislature restructured the Judicial Council and assigned several study topics to the Council. Four of the studies dealt with trial court case management. These were: offers of settlement pursuant to Superior Court Civil Rule (CR) 68, the examination of jurors, mandatory settlement conferences in superior court civil cases, and mandatory discovery conferences in superior court civil cases. The Council considered several effects of changes to CR 68 including the effect on low income litigants and the potential for disparate impact on plaintiffs and defendants. The Council also considered making the award of attorney fees discretionary. The Council tabled any action subject to receipt of reports from the King County Task Force on Delay Reduction

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and the Washington State Bar Association's Court Rules and Procedures Committee.

In discussing the issue of examination of jurors, the Council considered amendments to court rules which would increase the judicial control in examining jurors. In a recent report by the National Center for State Courts entitled *On Trial*, one of the conclusions was that "trial time expended by courts with high levels of judge control is one-eighth to one-half the time consumed by courts in which attorneys control jury selection." The Council has asked the Superior Court Judges' Association to examine rule changes which would strengthen the judicial control in the examination of jurors.

After a thorough review of research materials, the Council concluded that mandatory settlement conferences and discovery conferences are not advisable in every case and may, in fact, be a waste of judicial resources. There is strong consensus, however, that early judicial involvement helps narrow issues, expedite case processing and discourage discovery abuse. The Council supports the principles of caseload management, which rely on early and continued judicial involvement in cases, and will direct its efforts toward the practical application of these principles in the courts.

## **Washington State Bar Association:**

The Washington State Bar Association Court Congestion and Delay Committee has been examining the issue of trial court case management. The committee discussed development of a comprehensive case management rule but there was concern that statewide rules may undermine local delay reduction programs. A subcommittee on case management was formed. The subcommittee was charged with developing a format regarding an approach to delay reduction on a statewide basis.

**King County Bench/Bar Delay Reduction Task Force:** In November 1987 the Seattle King County Bar Association and the King County Superior Court formed a task force to examine the issue of court congestion and delay in the King County Superior Court. The Task Force has divided into subcommittees to focus on certain issues such as backlog, caseload management rules and procedures, monitoring/statistics, public relations, plan drafting, and standards. The Task Force has also requested technical assistance from the National Center for State Courts to aid in this project.

**National Center For State Courts:** In October 1987 the National Center for State Courts announced the Large Court Capacity Increase Program. The program consists of two related projects. The first is the Caseload Management Resource Project, which has four components:

- implementing systems for annually collecting case processing time data for at least 35 large general jurisdiction trial courts;
- providing major technical assistance to urban courts plagued with serious backlog and delay problems;
- implementing a "demonstration court program" under which urban trial court personnel observe practices and procedures in courts with the best records of handling caseloads; and
- publishing information, including an annual report, on specific issues of caseload management and delay reduction.

The second project is the Trial Court Performance Standards Project. The Standards Project consists of four phases:

- developing standards and testing them in four exemplary courts;
- refining the standards and assessing key processes, resources, and technical applications;
- establishing assessment procedures; and
- announcing and institutionalizing the standards so they will be accepted and used by state court administrative offices and state trial courts.

King County Superior Court has been selected as one of the 35 large general jurisdiction trial courts in which case processing time data will be collected.

**Court Management Council:** The Case Management Work Group was instituted by the Court Management Council to make recommendations and assist the efforts of King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties in reducing court congestion and delay. One role of this group is to measure court delay, and based on that measurement to make recommendations for delay reduction. The committee is composed of county clerks, superior court administrators, and limited jurisdiction court administrators.

The measurement of delay involves defining the critical points in the litigation process. Having defined the events, procedures will be developed to allow the accurate identification of these events. Time-in-process statistics and pending caseload statistics can then be developed to support case management recommendations. Snohomish County is a pilot court in the development of both types of reports.

**Regional Court Congestion and Delay Conference:** On October 3, 1986 a regional Court Congestion and Delay conference was held involving King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties. The conference was jointly sponsored by the Board for Trial Court Education and the

Washington State Bar Association. Mr. Ernest Friesen, Mr. Douglas Somerlot, and the Honorable Robert Broomfield were the featured speakers.

The conference focused on these five basic principles of case management:

- early judicial control;
- continuous judicial control;
- short scheduling;
- reasonable accommodation of attorneys; and
- expectation that events will occur when scheduled.

The conference also featured discussion of several successful delay reduction programs conducted throughout the United States and the components of successful programs.

## **Technical Assistance**

The Court Services Section of the Office of the Administrator of the Courts offers a technical assistance program designed to provide consulting services to state courts. The program includes a site visit (a maximum of two weeks) followed by recommendations in a confidential report. Court Services staff are available to assist in the implementation of recommendations.

The study areas of these consulting services include:

- Calendar Management - the examination of the case assignment and scheduling system used by the court, and the policies and procedures that affect the movement of cases through the court.
- Personnel Management - the examination of the processes of recruitment, training and development, utilization, classification, and management of nonjudicial staff.
- Records Management - the examination of the methods for ensuring control, accessibility, security, retention, and destruction of the court's records.
- Exhibits Management - the examination of the processes for ensuring control, security, retention, and destruction of items entered as exhibits during court proceedings.
- Facilities Management - the examination of the design of existing or proposed facilities, and utilization of the court's facilities.
- Workflow and Document Processing - the examination of the organization of work and the administrative structure of the clerk's office. This may include examining staffing levels and utilization as well as the methods by



which the court's paperwork and legal documents are processed.

- Equipment Needs Assessment - the examination of existing or proposed general office equipment, or electronic data/word processing.
- Jury Management - the examination of the methods used in selecting, notifying, orienting, utilizing, and paying jurors.
- Fiscal Management - the examination of the processes used in transacting, recording, reporting, and monitoring the court's cashflow activities, including cash transactions, trust funds, accounts receivable, disbursements, and cash control.
- Court Organization - the examination of the administrative and organizational structure of the court district-wide.

In 1987 technical assistance studies were provided to four superior courts, one juvenile court, and five district courts. Refer to the superior courts and courts of limited jurisdiction sections for details of these studies.

## Technology in the Courts

Nineteen eighty-seven marked the 10th year that the Judicial Information System (JIS) has been in use by the Washington State courts. As its name implies, JIS receives, processes and produces information stemming from judicial activities in the courts.

Currently, each court level has its own unique automated Judicial Information System. These four systems, in combination, comprise the JIS:

Appellate Court Records and Data System (ACORDS);

Superior Court Management Information System (SCOMIS);

Juvenile Court Information System (JUVIS); and

District/Municipal Court Information System (DISCIS).

ACORDS, SCOMIS, AND JUVIS are located on an AMDAHL computer at Office of the Administrator for the Courts (OAC) in Olympia. DISCIS is installed on seven WANG mini computers, four in Olympia, one at Seattle Municipal Court, one in Spokane, which serves both the Spokane District and Municipal courts, and one at Clark District Court. DISCIS has also been installed on a WANG mini computer owned by Skagit District Court.

## JIS Committee Reorganization

Judicial Information System Committee Rules (JISCR) were revised during 1987

to reflect the reorganization of the Judicial Information System Committee (JISC). JISC was reorganized to provide equal representation of all court levels and interested parties. The smaller number of members serving on the committee will benefit the decision making process for implementing the JIS Long-Range Plan and will improve communication throughout the judiciary.

## JIS Long-Range Plan

Pressures for improvements, enlargement, and additional services have been brought about by: active use of the system by the courts; legislation; the need to share information within and across jurisdictions; and the desirability for linkage to other departmental systems, e.g. Department of Licensing (DOL) and Department of Corrections. These pressures, plus new technology, have led to a new look at the JIS data processing environment.

In early March 1987, OAC contracted with Arthur Andersen & Co. to assist in developing a long-range plan which would address the current and future needs of JIS. The resulting plan outlined the long-range direction of JIS. It also provided a strategic plan for the 1987-1989 biennium. The services and projects identified in the plan for completion in 1987-1989 include:

- Extending the hours of computer availability to the courts;
- Converting DISCIS programs to operate on a mainframe;
- Moving to a single, compatible JIS data processing environment;
- Installing DISCIS in 12 new courts;
- Installing SCOMIS and JUVIS in the remaining non-JIS superior and juvenile courts;
- Establishing an Information Center which responds to informational report requests and provides user access to data stored on the JIS computer, allowing users to generate their own court specific reports;
- Employing Data Administration standards and models to ensure data and system development consistency;
- Installing and encouraging the use of personal computers in the courts, through linkage to the JIS computer, and for development of court specific applications; and
- Installing a pilot Local Area Network (LAN).

## 1987 JIS Accomplishments

In 1987 the JIS has:

- Extended the number of hours the computer is available to the courts

during the work week (Monday through Friday) and on the weekends.

- Initiated a project to convert DISCIS programs to operate on a mainframe computer. A Request for Information (RFI) was sent to approximately 40 vendors to obtain information about Data Base Management Systems (DBMS), Productivity Tools, End User Access software, Computer Based Training (CBT) software, etc. Responses were evaluated and a DBMS chosen. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for accomplishing the required DISCIS Conversion, utilizing the selected DBMS, was sent to approximately 30 vendors.
- Vendors were also given the opportunity to submit an alternate DBMS proposal to ensure consideration for all available DBMS software. A thorough evaluation of the vendors' proposals resulted in the selection of a proposal from Weyerhaeuser Company.
- Completion of the DISCIS Conversion will require the entire biennium. When completed, DISCIS will join ACCORDS, SCOMIS and JUVIS on a single central processor; the current 28 DISCIS sites' data will be converted to the new system; and 12 additional sites will receive DISCIS.
- Installed SCOMIS and JUVIS in the remaining superior and juvenile courts. All superior and juvenile courts are now using JIS, except Spokane and Garfield County Superior Courts who have opted not to use SCOMIS at this time.
- Responded to thousands of requests for statistical, management, and informational reports. These requests are steadily increasing. To meet the demand, over 300 model programs, which can be modified to meet specific criteria, have been written and are produced on an ad hoc basis for users. Reports that are requested repeatedly are further developed and offered as production reports, which court staffs may select and print themselves. Continued development in this area will form the foundation for an information center.
- Established JIS Data Administration Standards to ensure uniformity in the way data is defined, accessed and managed. These standards will also ensure consistency in developing mainframe and PC applications. Data Dictionaries and User Guides for ACCORDS, SCOMIS, and JUVIS were completed. A DISCIS Data Dictionary is currently in development.
- Installed a Local Area Network (LAN) at the Supreme Court and at OAC.
- Developed a PC-based accounts receivables tracking system and

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installed it in Grant County District Court. In 1987 time pay revenue at Grant County District Court increased by 61 percent over time pay revenue in 1986. This increase has been credited to the use of the Court Receivables Tracking System (CORTS).

- Offered CORTS as an "off the shelf" software package to other courts interested in installing it themselves. Douglas County District Court successfully installed CORTS in September. The court plans to further develop the system locally.
- Developed a PC based calendaring system to be used in small to mid-sized courts. Thurston County Superior Court Administrator's office is piloting this system.
- Improved the DOL Link feature to print batch Abstract Driving Records (ADR) for persons whose cases are scheduled for hearing. Previously, ADRs could only be requested one at a time.
- Established a communication linkage between the Department of Corrections' system and SCOMIS at King County Superior Court.
- Developed a JUVIS Detention module for the juvenile courts. The system tracks juvenile detention data more completely and offers more flexibility than the JUVIS detention function currently in use. The new detention module will be installed in the courts in March 1988.
- Expanded the criminal history function on JUVIS to allow display of a juvenile's criminal history when a printed version is not required.

## Data Administration Projects

Administration was established as a separate Information Systems Division (ISD) unit in 1986. During 1987 the Data Administration staff concentrated on its mission of increasing the quality of court information.

**User Guides to Data:** Data Administration completed a user guide to data for ACORDS and began a guide for DISCIS. The guides serve as useful tools that expedite access to data in answering ad hoc requests and providing management information.

**Information Models:** Enterprise-wide models for all court levels provide a blueprint for data structures that minimize redundancy and maximize modularity, flexibility, extendibility, adaptability, and shareability. Two projects were completed in 1987 that served to improve upon already existing court models.

## OAC Information Requirements

**Project:** This project linked the court-related information requirements of the (OAC) to the information requirements of courts themselves. This linkage verified and expanded existing data models. This project documented some key issues: the need to standardize superior court case milestones to enhance caseload and pending caseload statistics; and the need to address the increasing demand for the exchange of court data with other agencies with accompanying issues of data ownership, data security and data integrity.

## District Court Functional Model

**Verification Project:** This project validated and enhanced the original District Court Functional and Entity Models, which reflect the essential processes and activities of the courts. In particular, high affinity levels for the Financial Management, Record Keeping, and Case Monitoring functions of district courts were identified and affirmed.

**DISCIS Conversion Project:** A subject area module for pilot development within the DISCIS Conversion project was identified and evaluated. The characteristics of a subject area module include possible portability between applications and shareability between court levels.

The subject area selected for pilot project development was the Person-Organization model that covers the domain of such entities as Judge, Attorney, Court, Law Enforcement Agency, Juror, Litigant, etc. Initial specifications and table mock-ups for the Person-Organization Subject area were prepared as part of DISCIS Conversion planning prior to the award of the project contract.

**Quality Assurance:** Stable and enforceable standards for deliverance and procedures relating to data planning, conceptual design, and data integrity were initiated in 1987. In particular, data element naming standards and abbreviation lists were addressed. In addition, change control procedures for data definitions were established to assure that all changes would be made in a timely fashion and coordinated and communicated with all affected parties through the User Guides To Data.

**Education/Training:** Completed products, including the Enterprise Functional Models, Entity-Relationship Models, and other improved data documentation, were viewed as underutilized in systems planning and development. In response, a contract for a Data Administration consultant was awarded. The training and expertise provided by the consultant in 1988 is aimed toward expanding usage of data administration principles and products.

## Costs/Revenues

Washington's courts are supported by funds appropriated by both state and local governments. State fiscal activities are on a biennial basis; local governments are based on the calendar year.

### State Expenditures

Support for the Supreme Court, Supreme Court Clerk's Office, the Reporter of Decisions, the State Law Library, the Court of Appeals, and the Office of the Administrator for the Courts comes exclusively from state funds. In addition, the state is responsible for the following superior court expenses: half the salaries and all of the benefits of superior court judges, half the fees for judges pro tempore, arbitrators in mandatory arbitration hearings, and criminal witness fees (except experts).

During fiscal year 1987 the state expended approximately \$28.5 million for judicial operations and retirement. Funds to support court operations are appropriated to and administered by, the state judiciary. The Department of Retirement Systems administers retirement funds.

### Local Expenditures

Local governments finance the major portion of the state's trial courts, including the cost of court administration and facilities, local law libraries, grand and petit juries, civil process services, and expert witness expenses.

With the exception of the state-supported functions listed above, the operations of superior and district courts are funded by the counties. Many district courts provide court services to municipalities under contract and receive a portion of their operating costs from the cities. Municipal courts and violation bureaus are funded by the cities they serve.

Local governments are responsible for funding half of the superior court judges' salaries; salaries and benefits of district and municipal court judges, superior court commissioners, and superior court administrators; indigent criminal defense services provided by individual attorneys or non-profit corporations; and all other expenses such as courtrooms, clerical staff, supplies, etc. Salaries for these commissioners and administrators are set by local policy (frequently as a percentage of the superior court judges' salary level). Expenditures for indigent criminal defense are also set locally.

### Public Safety and Education Assessment

Revenue generated by the courts comes from four general sources:

### State Expenditures (In Millions)

	FY 1985	FY 1986	FY 1987
<b>Judicial Operations<sup>a</sup></b>			
Supreme Court	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.4	\$ 5.1
Court of Appeals	\$ 5.1	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.5
Superior Court Judges	\$ 5.6	\$ 5.6	\$ 6.0
State Law Library	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.2
Judicial Qualifications Commission	\$ .1	\$ .2	\$ .2
Administrator for the Courts	\$ 8.3	\$ 10.2	\$ 10.5
Total Operating Expenditures	\$24.5	\$26.5	\$28.5
<b>Judicial Retirement<sup>b</sup></b>			
Judges' Retirement Fund	\$ .3	\$ 0	\$ 0
Judicial Retirement System	\$ .4	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total Retirement Expenditures	\$ .7	\$ 0	\$ 0
<b>Total Judicial Operations/Retirement</b>	<b>\$25.2</b>	<b>\$26.5</b>	<b>\$28.5</b>

<sup>a</sup>Appropriated to and administered by state judiciary.

<sup>b</sup>Appropriated to and administered by Department of Retirement Systems.

### Local Government Expenditures (In Millions)

	1984	1985	1986
<b>Expenditures for Judicial Services</b>			
Superior Courts	\$ 27.9	\$ 30.9	\$ 35.8
District Courts	\$ 28.0	\$ 24.1	\$ 27.6
Municipal Courts/Violation Bureaus	\$ 17.5	\$ 18.4	\$ 19.2
Total Expenditures	\$ 73.4	\$ 73.4	\$ 82.6
<b>Other Expenditures</b>			
County Clerk	\$ 9.4	\$ 10.5	\$ 11.6
Juvenile Services	\$ 29.9	\$ 34.0	\$ 37.5
Total Expenditures	\$ 39.3	\$ 44.5	\$ 49.1
<b>Total Local Government Expenditures</b>	<b>\$112.7</b>	<b>\$117.9</b>	<b>\$131.7</b>

Source: Washington State Auditor, Budgeting, Accounting, and Reporting System (BARS) Data.

- Fees for filing cases and documents with the courts;
- Fines, bail forfeitures, and penalties from persons convicted of crimes or traffic violations;
- Special surcharges and assessments on fines, forfeitures, and penalties; and
- Recoupment of costs.

The Legislature generally sets the fees, special surcharges, and assessments, and the provisions for recoupment of costs, while infraction penalties and bail schedules are set by the Supreme Court.

Provisions regarding revenue in the Court Improvement Act of 1984 took effect July 1, 1985. A single Public Education and Safety Assessment (PSEA) of 60 percent of the base fine or penalty replaced numerous special surcharges and assessments. The PSEA is applied

to all court fines and penalties imposed by district and municipal courts.

The Court Improvement Act also simplified the distribution of court revenues between local governments and the state. Specifically, local governments now retain 68 percent of all court revenue collected for filing fees, fines and forfeitures, penalties, assessments, and costs. The state receives 32 percent of these revenues. This division of revenue was intended to neither increase nor decrease revenue. That is, all things being equal, the revenue received by state and local governments should remain constant.

The state portion of trial court revenues is appropriated for several purposes including:

- Training programs for local judicial personnel and law enforcement officers;

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- Programs to assist victims of crime;
- Support for driver education in local school districts;
- Administration and operation of the statewide JIS;
- Other purposes defined by the Legislature.

Effective May 1986 the Legislature created an additional PSEA surcharge of 30 percent of the base fine or penalty. Unlike the 60 percent assessment, the new surcharge does not apply to DWI fines and is dedicated in total to the state.

Estimated state revenue from trial courts for the state fiscal year 1988 is \$28 million. Of that revenue, \$9 million (32.1 percent) is for OAC programs to support the courts. JIS receives \$8.1 million for the operation of the statewide data processing system and court education receives \$.9 million. Estimated 1987-89 biennial revenue for the appellate courts is \$.247 million.

The accompanying table demonstrates the history of state revenues from trial courts since fiscal year 1984.

## Legislative Impacts on PSEA Revenue

During any legislative session there are a number of laws enacted that could impact the PSEA. The following bills are considered to have a direct impact. This list is not exhaustive because there could be other laws enacted that affect the account but in an indirect manner. The impact of these more subtle laws may never be fully known unless a rigorous investigation is conducted analyzing PSEA revenues on a case by case basis. It cannot be over emphasized that predicting the actual revenues from these bills, particularly those without fiscal notes, is difficult because of the complex interaction of public, law enforcement and judicial response.

**Tort Reform Filing Increase in Revenue, Tort Reform Act of 1986:** During fiscal year 1987 the Tort Reform Act resulted in one year's worth of tort cases being filed during July 1986. This generated a one-time revenue of \$0.4 million from tort case filing fees.

**30 Percent Assessment Revenue, Chapter 98, Laws of 1987:** The \$27.8 million revenue produced in fiscal year 1987 includes \$6.1 million generated as a result of the 30 percent state assessment effected by legislation in May 1986. This 30 percent assessment totalled \$3.7 million in district court revenue and \$2.4 million in municipal court revenue. The state revenue excluding the 30 percent assessment was \$10.6 million for district courts and \$7.7 million for municipal courts, figures comparable to prior years' revenues.

## State Revenues From Trial Courts (In Millions)

	FY 1984	FY 1985	FY 1986	FY 1987
Superior	\$ 1.8	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.2	\$ 3.3
District	\$ 9.8	\$ 9.5	\$10.5	\$14.3
Municipal	\$ 7.9	\$ 7.4	\$ 7.5	\$10.2
Total Revenues	\$19.5	\$18.9	\$20.2	\$27.8 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> \$6.1 million from 30 percent state assessment effected by legislation, May 1986.

### Filing Fee Changes, Chapter 382:

Changed the filing fees for the first time since 1981, and increased filing fees at all levels of court. Changes are as follows:

The fiscal note filed with Office of Financial Management (OFM) estimated an increase of \$640,000 state revenues annually.

Filing Fee Changes	Previous	Current
Supreme Court	\$100.00	\$125.00
Appellate Court	\$100.00	\$125.00
Petition of Review in COA	\$100.00	\$100.00
Superior Court	\$70.00	\$ 78.00
Modification of Dissolution Decree	None	\$ 20.00
District Court	\$20.00	\$ 25.00

**Failure to Appear and Out of State Penalty "Bond," Chapter 345, Laws of 1987:** Allows law enforcement officers to require the infraction penalty amount to be posted at the time the driver is stopped. Fiscal note estimated an impact of \$1.2 million (increase) to the state.

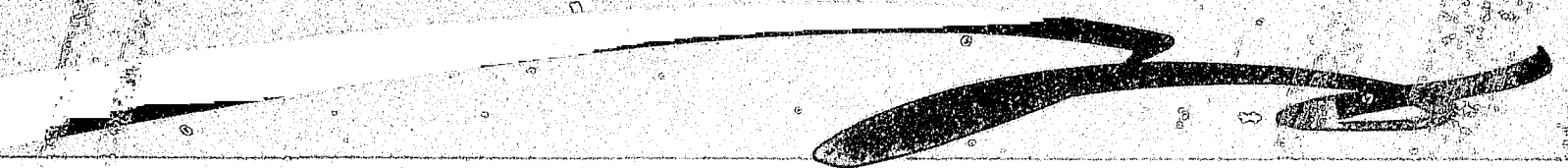
**Motorcycle Helmets, Chapter 454, Laws of 1987:** Creates a new infraction and a new penalty of \$47.00 for violations. No fiscal note was filed.

**Department of Wildlife, Chapter 506, Laws of 1987:** Increase the civil reimbursement to the state for hunting or possession of endangered species of wildlife from \$500 and \$1,000 to \$1,000 and \$2,000, and creates a new penalty of \$5,000 for certain wildlife. All of this money goes into PSEA. No fiscal note was filed.

**Probable Cause to Stop, Chapter 66, Laws of 1987:** Allows information obtained from another law enforcement officer who viewed an infraction to serve as probable cause for a second officer to stop. No fiscal note was filed.

**Use of Collection Agencies and Credit Cards, Chapter 266:** Authorizes district courts to contract for collection agencies to collect outstanding fines and penalties and to accept credit cards for payment of fines. No fiscal note was filed.





Judicial duties are undergoing a series of critical changes. New, dynamic growth patterns in caseloads have expanded the range of responsibilities traditionally carried out by judges to include both the application and the administration of justice.

The application of justice--finding the facts, determining guilt or innocence, interpreting and applying the law--have always been the essence of the judicial experience; but now, pressured by increasing caseloads, the administration of justice demands equal time and attention from judges at all levels of the judicial system. More and more, judges are discovering a certain new ambivalence in their work, a need to divide their professional attention and thought between the twin duties of application and administration. Still handling their usual obligations on the bench, judges continue to acquire new responsibilities beyond it.

To meet these responsibilities, judges are putting paper files behind them and embracing new, more efficient methods of automated file-keeping, calendar-setting and case control. The advantages become visible as the new technology makes court data more usable, more workable, and more effective. For example, through the use of a micro-computer program, an eastern rural county district court increased its traffic fine collections by 66 percent in 1987.

On a more strategic level, members of the state Judicial Information Systems (JIS) committee finalized plans in 1987 for the conversion/expansion of the state DISCIS (District and Municipal Court Information System) to a single technology. When completed the new architecture will allow for data sharing among courts and the

beginning of a more integrated JIS for easier development across all court levels.

Of course, methodology is as important as technology. Work is continuing on a methodology to defeat the real enemies of justice: high cost and excessive delay. In 1987 the judiciary continued to expand its caseload control initiatives.

About mid-year, a five-member, multi-level team of judges and administrators traveled to Tempe, Arizona to take part in a special, nationwide meeting of judges and court administrative experts. The conference, directed specifically at problems of case management, offered sound advice and led participants to formulate a plan for decreasing caseload delays.

The plan focuses on the population corridor along the Interstate 5 highway, where caseload delays can mean a 26-month wait for some litigants. Recognizing that much of the plan's success depends upon raising consciousness about the need for judicial leadership, a three-county conference of lawyers and judges was held in Seattle on October 3, 1987.

At that conference, national speakers told more than 200 participants from Snohomish, Pierce, and King Counties how other trial courts across the country have successfully attacked congestion and delay. The basic principals of case management outlined emphasized early and continuous judicial case control with reasonable accommodation to attorneys, but with the expectation that events occur as scheduled.

# The Supreme Court



**Vernon R. Pearson, Chief Justice  
Supreme Court**

Judges in King County used the conference as a springboard to take the lead in establishing a comprehensive, broad-based study to determine where and how to cut costly delays in their venue. Co-funded by the state and the National Center for State Courts, the goal of the project is to recommend procedures, rules, standards, and management techniques to reduce delay in King County Superior Court.

There are no one-time solutions to the problems of long delay and high cost. Litigants continue to bring in new, more complicated disputes to resolve. The Legislature passes new laws which create new causes for action. Newly-enacted sentencing practices put new pressures on appellate courts.

However, short-term measures do work. In a single year, the Appellate Backlog Elimination Project (ABLE) dissolved a 600-case backlog that had built up over many years in the Court of Appeals. A number of three-member panels of retired superior court judges, each headed by a Supreme Court justice, completed the project in a little more than a year at a cost of under \$400 per case. For some litigants, ABLE meant delay reductions of more than a year. For future cases, ABLE means delay reductions of two years.

Judges of the Court of Appeals know that in order to keep the backlog from growing, they must maintain a high degree of administrative vigilance over the caseloads of the three divisions of their court. Soon after the ABLE program was completed in the summer of 1987, the Court of Appeals instituted the Long-Range Planning Task Force to investigate more permanent options to deal with appellate level congestion and delay.

System-wide caseload pressures call for a more cohesive, proactive decision-making process, a need within the overall political framework to focus on issues with a single voice. The time has gone when a judicial association at one level could contradict one at another on a matter of system-wide importance. Universal problems require unanimity of purpose.

By strengthening the Board for Judicial Administration, the judiciary has created an important and powerful tool of unanimity, one that will help it set its own action agenda, make its own policies, develop our own solutions, and otherwise protect the independence of the judicial branch of government.

A multi-level group, the ten-member Board consists of leadership representatives from district and municipal courts, superior courts, the Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court. Two former state bar association presidents serve the Board in an ex officio capacity. Lawyer representation on the Board has ensured a partnership that is essential to the proper administration of justice.

In its first year of strengthened leadership, the Board addressed judicial salary and retirement issues. The Board presented a cohesive position for the judiciary on legislative issues during the 1987 session, including the re-creation of the Judicial Council and the formulation of the Judicial Information System biennium budget. Immediate issues for the Board include consolidating district and municipal courts, as well as bringing judges of those courts into the Judicial Retirement System as equal participants.

# The Supreme Court

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## Administration

### Jurisdiction

The Supreme Court has the authority to review decisions of the Court of Appeals and the superior court. Direct appeal of superior court decisions to the Supreme Court is appropriate when: the review is authorized statutorily; an issue of constitutionality is involved; conflicting appellate decisions are at issue; questions of public importance are raised; or the death penalty is decreed. In addition to notices of appeal specifying direct review, such cases can reach the Supreme Court by several other means: the most important of which are certifications from the Court of Appeals and motions to transfer from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has discretion to review interlocutory orders of the superior court—orders made prior to a final determination of the case, concerning whether errors or substantial departures from accepted and usual courses of proceedings occurred in the trial court. Discretionary reviews are in the purview of the Supreme Court under most of the same conditions that apply for appeals as stated above. Also, the Supreme Court has discretion to review matters brought originally before the Court of Appeals. These include matters denied review by the Court of Appeals, interlocutory decisions, and personal restraint petitions filed as a discretionary review to exhaust all state remedies.

Petitions for review are filed by parties seeking Supreme Court review of any Court of Appeals decision terminating review. The Supreme Court only accepts reviews of decisions that conflict with either Supreme Court or Court of Appeals decisions, that involve a significant question of law under the federal or state constitution, or that concern "an issue of substantial public interest..." (Rules of Appellate Procedure (RAP) 13.4).

A personal restraint petition may be filed in either the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals to seek relief from limitations on a person's freedom due to current or imminent confinement. The Supreme Court normally exercises its jurisdiction over such petitions by transferring them to the Court of Appeals (RAP 16.5).

Other matters that the Supreme Court may decide are original actions against state officers, petitions for expenditure of monies from the indigent defense fund, and questions certified by a federal court.

### Leadership

Not all the Supreme Court's work is case-related. Approximately one third of their work involves other state-level leadership tasks.

Much of this stems from the Court's general administrative responsibility for the entire state legal system. For example, though local courts can create their own procedural rules, they must conform to those established by the Supreme Court, the final rule-making authority for all Washington courts. The Court's six-member Rules Committee, chaired by the Acting Chief Justice, deals with proposed and amended court rules.

The Court also oversees certain activities of the Washington State Bar Association and has final authority on matters related to admission to practice and attorney discipline.

Members of the Court preside over, or serve upon, various committees dedicated to improving the performance of the state judicial system. Chief among these is the Board for Judicial Administration, an "executive committee" of state court leaders. It is chaired by the Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice chairs the state Judicial Council, a group first established in pre-World War II years to provide dialogue between bench, bar, and the Legislature. Dormant for six years, it was reconstituted in 1987.

The Chief Justice also presides over the Judicial Information Systems Committee. This group provides policy direction for the state judiciary's four-tiered, automated data system, a system that interconnects more than a thousand devices statewide and handles more than 300,000 transactions daily.

The Bench-Bar-Press Committee of Washington is a group of lawyers, judges, and media representatives who work on a voluntary basis to assure an adequate balance between the often conflicting rights of fair trial and free speech. This committee is chaired by the Chief Justice, with the Acting Chief Justice also a member.

The ad hoc Washington Courts and Community Committee, set up in 1985 to explore public perception of the courts, is headed by the Chief Justice.

Still other committees, commissions, and task forces are established or served by the Supreme Court and examine specific issues on short-term bases. During 1987 the Court created the "Novack Commission," charging it to look into lawyer fee practices in tort litigation. Named for its chairman, Everett attorney Edward J. Novack, the eight-member group looked for problems in the attorney fee structure, then considered what, if any, regulations needed to be put in place to control it.

Legislation passed in 1987 directed an examination of the effects of gender and minority racial status on the business of state courts. Accordingly, the Supreme Court established the Gender and Justice Task Force with Court of Appeals Judge H. Joseph Coleman as its head. During 1987 the 33-member task force made plans to conduct a series of public hearings statewide to solicit information from litigants, lawyers, and employees about gender-related problems within the state court system. Appointment of a Minority and Justice Task Force was set for early 1988.

### Education

Educational opportunities were provided to the Supreme Court at the Annual Judicial Conference and at the Appellate Judges' Seminar. The Judicial Conference is coordinated by the Chief Justice and planned by representatives of each court level. The 1987 agenda included over 12 hours of education including gender and justice, ethics and Canon VII, jury voir dire, discretionary review, video technology in the courtroom, Sentencing Reform Act, crime victims, and constitutional interpretations.

The Appellate Seminar was held in April and examined problems related to attorney misconduct at the trial court and appellate levels. Interaction between the press and the courts was also addressed utilizing a panel of judges, print and broadcast media representatives, and a representative of the Bar Association.

### Traveling Supreme Court

During 1987 the Washington Supreme Court continued its practice of holding occasional public sessions away from its Olympia-based headquarters. Begun in



1985, this practice has one principal purpose: to give the Court more exposure to Washington citizens on a wider geographic basis.

In 1987 the Court traveled, as in previous years, to the law schools at Gonzaga University, the University of Washington, and the University of Puget Sound. The latter site hosted a special observance of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, held in conjunction with the University and Division II of the Court of Appeals.

The Court also sat in federal courtrooms in Seattle and Tacoma, concluding its 1987 out-of-town schedule with a two-day session on the campus of Western Washington University in Bellingham, where nearly one thousand students, faculty and others observed the Court in action.

## Building Dislocation

In late summer, the Court was forced to move from its traditional home in Olympia's Temple of Justice so that the 70-year-old building could be modernized and made safe against earthquakes. The work is not scheduled for completion until late 1989, assuring, at least in the short run, that the Court's practice of traveling will continue.

## Bicentennial Celebration

The celebration of the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution was given direct support and promotion by the Supreme Court.

An official Bicentennial representative, Justice William C. Goodloe, was appointed by the Court. As such, he made dozens of appearances before civic and school groups to describe the nation's founding document and talk about its origins and intent.

As part of a national effort, Justice Goodloe also chaired a statewide essay contest held in conjunction with the 200th birthday celebration of the United States Constitution. Aimed at the state's secondary school population, the contest drew 106 entries. A student from Richland won the state's top award, then went on to win a national prize of \$10,000 for his essay which discussed the concept of separation of powers.

A proclamation issued by the Court, "direct(ed) all courts of this state to interrupt their court business at 11:00 a.m. on September 17, to hold an in-court celebration of this great and historical event," and packets of information supporting the observance were sent to each court. As the Supreme Court and Division II of the Court of Appeals joined to create their own special ceremony in Tacoma, other courts across the state took a break in their day's work to recognize this special date in U.S. history.

## Technology

### Attorney Names/Addresses

The Supreme Court is responsible for registering all attorneys admitted to the Bar in Washington State. An improvement was made to Appellate Court Information and Data System (ACORDS) to convert all attorney identifiers in ACORDS to their corresponding Washington State Bar Numbers.

This required the Supreme Court Clerk's office to match all attorneys recorded in ACORDS with their correct Bar Number. The Clerk accomplished this task using both automated and manual means. The Washington State Bar Association provided computer files with all attorney names and addresses to JIS to initiate the database.

All Washington attorneys are now registered in JIS with the name and address provided to the Supreme Court. If the attorney has never been associated with a case at the appellate level, the name and address are from the Bar Association. This information will be improved to allow all courts access to the JIS attorney file for use in notices and other communications with attorneys.

### Local Area Network

The Supreme Court has used a variety of office automation techniques to assist the court in the preparation and dissemination of opinions. A pilot project utilizing IBM-compatible microcomputers connected together in a Local Area Network was initiated in late 1986.

This technology provides a common text processing facility for justices, law clerks, and administrative assistants, to draft, review, amend, and eventually publish opinions and other documents. This environment permits uniform access to WESTLAW (for computer-assisted legal research), to the JIS Appellate Court Records System (ACORDS), and to other information resources useful to the Supreme Court.

Three justices participated in the pilot project using three different types of microcomputers to allow comparative evaluation. Using the WordPerfect word-processing software, all parties concluded that the system was beneficial. A variety of incompatible office equipment was replaced, and all office members began using a common word-processing facility. A document conversion capability permits the Reporter of Decisions to electronically transcribe finished opinions for distribution.

Based upon the success of the pilot project, all chambers will be equipped with microcomputers using WordPerfect. These microcomputers will be interconnected to share software, printers, and common data services. Network expan-

sion may include the Court Commissioner, the Clerk, and Court Administrator offices. Future usage may include inter-office electronic messaging, electronic spreadsheets for budget and cost tracking, and local databases to assist in such tasks as indigent defense, constitutional law, and other studies.

## Appellate Backlog Elimination Project

The Appellate Backlog Elimination Project (ABLE) was instituted to dispose of intermediate court cases awaiting oral argument in Divisions I and II of the Court of Appeals. The project involved the placement of the nine Supreme Court justices, each on a panel with two pro tem judges, to hear pending cases. In general, the court rules for the project did not differ from those normally followed. For non-unanimous opinions, however, the opinion required the support of the Supreme Court justice on the panel. The hearing of ABLE cases created an addition to the normal workload of the Supreme Court and represented a significant effort on the Court's part to reduce the backlog of cases in the Court of Appeals.

The ABLE Project successfully achieved its objective. The special panels heard a total of 515 cases. As a result of this effort, the backlog of cases in Division I was eliminated and during the winter 1988 term Division I was able to set for oral argument, all cases that were ready. The backlog in Division II was also eliminated, but cases ready for oral argument in Division II exceeded the number of cases set for the winter 1988 term. As a result, a backlog of cases in Division II will start to develop.

Of the 515 cases processed by ABLE, 134 have filed for a Supreme Court Review at the end of 1987. Most of these petitions for ABLE cases were not accepted for review. Therefore, rather than transferring the backlog of Court of Appeals cases to the Supreme Court, the ABLE Project disposed of its caseload.

## Caseload

### Decisions by Opinion

Historically, the proportion of cases disposed of by a mandated Supreme Court opinion has remained fairly constant at approximately 18 percent. In 1987 there were fewer opinions mandated, as in 1985. At the end of both these years there was a larger number of opinions still in process. The Court's participation in the ABLE project may have caused the higher number of opinions still in process at year end 1987.

# The Supreme Court

## Supreme Court Dispositions, All Reviews

Year	Dispositions	Opinions	Percent
1981	830	150	18.1
1982	888	175	19.7
1983	947	192	20.3
1984	1,081	201	18.6
1985	1,091	134	12.3
1986	995	197	19.8
1987	1,241	134	10.8
<b>Average Dispositions</b>			
<b>By Type of Review</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>17.1</b>

## Disposition Percentages By Type Of Review

Type Of Disposition	Type Of Review			
	Notices Of Appeal	Petitions For Review	Discretionary Reviews	Personal Restraint
Opinion Mandated	45%	8%	5%	1%
Dismissed Terminated	10%	1%	8%	7%
Transferred to Court Appeals	38%	0%	0%	91%
Review Not Accepted	7%	91%	87%	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Disposition by Type of Review

There is a distinct pattern to the way reviews are disposed in the Supreme Court. Notices of appeal have the highest decision by opinion rate, with the remaining types of cases having less than a 10 percent decision by opinion rate. While petitions for review and motions for discretionary reviews are generally not accepted. Most personal restraint petitions are transferred to the Court of Appeals.

### Overview

Supreme Court filings increased over 20 percent in 1987. This increase resulted primarily from an increase in petitions for review and discretionary reviews.

The Appellate Backlog Elimination (ABLE) Project disposed of over 600 backlogged cases in the Court of Appeals. The increase in Supreme Court petitions for review was a direct result of the ABLE Project's activity, since 134 ABLE cases resulted in petitions for review during calendar year 1987.

Over 85 percent of discretionary reviews arise from the Court of Appeals, with the remaining 15 percent from superior courts. Discretionary reviews increased by approximately 100 cases in 1987, a

33 percent change. Personal restraint petitions continue their steady growth trend.

Dispositions in the Supreme Court have steadily kept pace with filings. The 21.4 percent increase in filings was accompanied by a 24.7 percent increase in dispositions. As a result, the court avoids building a large pending caseload.

At the end of 1987, the total cases awaiting a hearing increased over the 1986 level by approximately 100 cases. The majority of pending cases are either not ready for setting (182) or are set for motion calendar (129). All 129 of the pending cases set for motion calendar are petitions for review. These pending cases resulted from the large increase in petitions for review filed during 1987.

### Notices of Appeal

As a matter of right, notices of appeal are filed directly following a judgment in a superior court. The notices of appeal statistics include certified and transferred appeals from the Court of Appeals. This causes some confounding of the relationship between notices of appeal and superior court activity.

The decline in notices of appeal filed in the Supreme Court in 1986 and 1987

results from the Court no longer administratively transferring cases from the Court of Appeals because of the Court's participation in the ABLE project. Administrative transfers to the court, of approximately 40 appeals, occurred in 1984 and 1985. The 135 filings in 1987 were comparable to the 144 filings in 1983. Approximately 100 notices of appeal per year have been filed directly from superior court over the last several years.

Notices of appeal have the highest rate of disposition by opinion. Nearly 45 percent of notices of appeal have opinions mandated, while 38 percent are transferred to the Court of Appeals, and approximately 16 percent are not accepted, dismissed or terminated. Notice of appeal opinions represent 50 percent of all opinions mandated by the Supreme Court.

By year-end 1987, the number of pending appeals was identical to last year at 134 cases. The majority of these pending notices of appeal (80) are not ready for setting. The remaining pending cases are either set for oral argument (15) or have an opinion/order in process (32). There is no indication of a backlog of appeals in the Supreme Court.

### Petitions for Review

Petitions for review are filed by parties seeking Supreme Court review of any decision terminating review through an opinion, order, or judgment by the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court only accepts reviews of decisions that conflict with other Supreme Court or Court of Appeals decisions, that involve a significant question of law under the federal or state constitution, or that concern "an issue of substantial public interest..." (Rules of Appellate Procedure (RAP) 13.4).

As anticipated, Supreme Court petitions for review rose substantially (28 percent) in 1987 due to an additional 134 ABLE Project cases from the Court of Appeals.

Historically, as Court of Appeals dispositions have increased, so have petitions for Supreme Court review. Since 1975 the ratio of petitions for review filed in the Supreme Court to dispositions in the Court of Appeals has averaged 17 per 100. In 1987 this ratio continued to hold true with 15.3 percent of Court of Appeals dispositions resulting in Supreme Court petitions for review. The ABLE cases had a somewhat higher rate of petitions with 134 out of 515 cases or 26 percent.

As a result of the large number of petitions for review filed, the pending caseload of petitions exceeds prior levels. Of the 199 cases pending, 129 are set for motion calendar and 20 are set for oral argument.

## Motions for Discretionary Review

Motions for discretionary review are reviews of interlocutory orders of the superior court made prior to a final determination of the case concerning whether errors or substantial departures from accepted and usual courses of proceedings occurred in the trial court. Discretionary reviews include reviews of matters brought originally before the Court of Appeals including matters denied review, interlocutory decisions, and personal restraint petitions filed as a discretionary review to exhaust all state remedies.

The number of discretionary reviews directly from the superior courts has remained constant since 1981. Since motions for discretionary review (approximately 80 percent) are from the Court of Appeals. It is not surprising that motions for discretionary review increase in correspondence with Court of Appeal activity. No ABLÉ cases resulted in motions for discretionary review.

The growth in motion for discretionary review includes requests for review of personal restraint petitions that were denied in the Court of Appeals. Because the number of personal restraint petitions in the Court of Appeals is growing rapidly, it is assumed that some of the growth in Supreme Court discretionary reviews is attributable to these personal restraint petitions.

Most discretionary reviews are not accepted (approximately 85 percent) with only 5 percent having an opinion mandated and 5 percent being dismissed. The 17 discretionary reviews with opinions mandated represent 13 percent of the opinions mandated by the court. Since discretionary review dispositions, generally handled on the commissioner's motion calendar, keep pace with filings, there are very few pending discretionary review cases that are ready for setting.

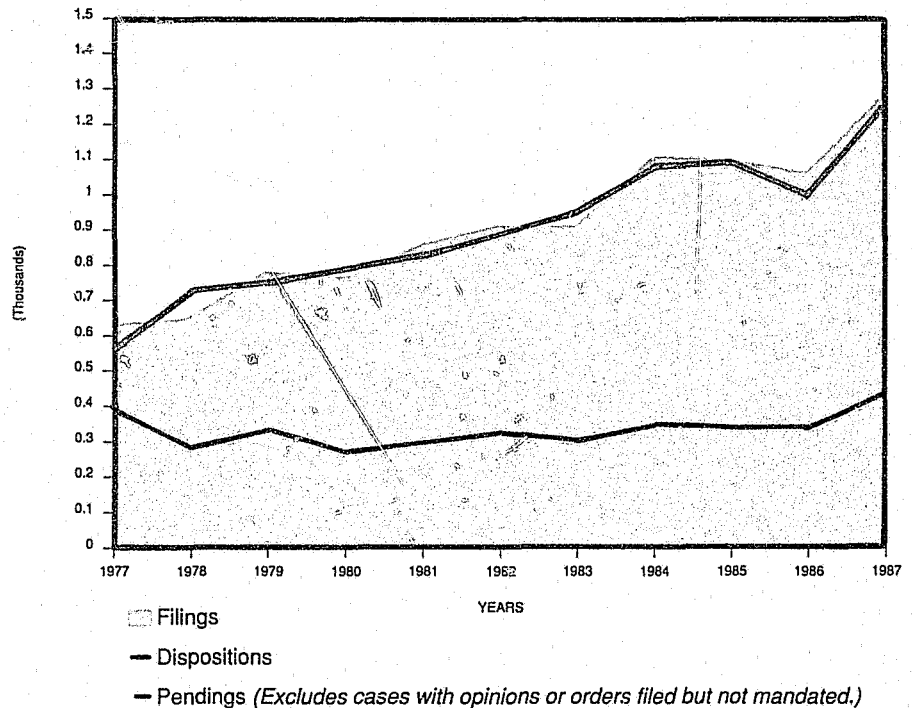
## Personal Restraint Petitions

Personal restraint petitions seek relief from limitations on a person's freedom, due to current or imminent confinement. Most personal restraint petitions are assumed to be related to criminal case judgments. These reviews can be directed to either the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals.

Personal restraint petitions have continued to grow in number since 1983. This growth is probably attributable to the Phelan cases (*In Re Phelan*, 97 Wn.2d 590, 647 P.2d 1026 [1982], *State v. Phelan*, 100 Wn.2d 508, 671 P.2d 1212 [1983]), concerning credit for jail time served, and to the 1984 Sentencing Reform Act.

Most personal restraint petitions (90 percent) are transferred to the Court of Appeals, again by commissioner's rulings,

Total Filed, Disposed, and Pending at Year End, 1977-1987



and there is no pending caseload of personal restraint petitions in the Supreme Court.

caseloads of the other types of review remained stable.

## Statistical Highlights

- Supreme Court participated on panels to dispose of 515 ABLÉ Project cases in the Court of Appeals.
- Total Supreme Court filings increased by 20 percent over 1986 levels, reaching a five year high of 1,286.
- Total filing increase is attributed to the increased caseload activity in the Court of Appeals by the ABLÉ Project disposing of 515 cases with 134 additional petitions for review in the Supreme Court.
- Those cases which require the largest amount of judicial resources, notices of appeals, declined to pre-1982 levels because the Supreme Court suspended administratively transferring cases from the Court of Appeals to reduce appellate congestion and delay.
- As with filings, total dispositions grew to an all time high of 1,241 cases. Reviews receiving opinions remained consistent with prior years, while the Court's screening of cases based on merit disposed of the majority of cases.
- The pending caseload increased by nearly 30 percent to 445 cases as a result of petitions for review arising from the ABLÉ Project. The pending

# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, 1987

	Appeals			Petitions For Review			Personal Restraint	Discr. Review	Other Reviews		Total	All Reviews
	Criminal	Civil	Total	Criminal	Civil	Total			OASO <sup>a</sup>	Other <sup>b</sup>		
<b>Filed</b>	14	121	135	327	324	651	101	349	6	44	500	1,286
<b>Disposed</b>												
Opinion Mandated	11	55	66	16	29	45	1	17	2	3	23	134
Dismissed	2	11	13	3	4	7	3	21	4	1	29	49
Review Not Accepted	2	7	9	260	260	520	1	321	1	0	323	852
Transferred To Court of Appeals	8	48	56	0	0	0	87	2	0	0	89	145
Terminated	1	1	2	1	0	1	4	8	2	38	52	55
<b>Total Disposed<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>24</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>1,241</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>												
Case Stayed	2	4	6	4	1	5	0	5	0	1	6	17
Not Ready for Setting	9	71	80	10	5	15	11	66	0	10	87	182
Ready for Setting	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	3
Set for Motion Calendar	0	0	0	65	64	129	0	0	0	0	0	129
Set for Oral Argument	4	11	15	9	11	20	0	6	0	1	7	42
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>373</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	10	22	32	8	22	30	2	7	0	1	10	72
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>445</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	3	10	13	7	1	8	17	26	1	0	44	65

<sup>a</sup> Original actions against state officers

<sup>b</sup> Includes petitions for expenditure of public funds and matters certified from federal court.

<sup>c</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Supreme Court

## History of Filings, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Appeals</b>									
Criminal	24	32	33.3%	39	21.8%	29	-25.6%	14	-51.7%
Civil	120	196	63.3%	155	-20.9%	133	-14.1%	121	-9.0%
<b>Total Appeals</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>58.3%</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>-14.9%</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>-16.4%</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>-16.6%</b>
<b>Petitions For Review</b>									
Criminal	267	284	6.3%	216	-23.9%	228	5.5%	327	43.4%
Civil	191	242	26.7%	262	8.2%	282	7.6%	324	14.8%
<b>Total Petitions for Review</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>-9.1%</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>27.6%</b>
<b>Other Reviews</b>									
Personal Restraint Petitions	53	65	22.6%	78	20.0%	74	-5.1%	101	36.4%
Notices of Discretionary Review	194	247	27.3%	278	12.5%	262	-5.7%	349	33.2%
Actions Against State Officers	9	10	11.1%	23	130.0%	13	-43.4%	6	-53.8%
Other <sup>a</sup>	55	33	-40.0%	49	48.4%	38	-22.4%	44	15.7%
<b>Total Other Reviews</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>-9.5%</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>29.1%</b>
<b>Total Filed</b>	<b>913</b>	<b>1,109</b>	<b>21.4%</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>	<b>1,059</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>21.4%</b>

# The Supreme Court

## History of Dispositions, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Appeals</b>									
Criminal	32	35	9.3%	28	-20.0%	29	3.5%	24	-17.2%
Civil	139	141	1.4%	156	10.6%	180	15.3%	124	-31.1%
<b>Total Appeals</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>-29.1%</b>
<b>Petitions for Review</b>									
Criminal	288	311	7.9%	224	-27.9%	203	-9.3%	282	38.9%
Civil	201	234	16.4%	271	15.8%	256	-5.5%	293	14.4%
<b>Total Petitions for Review</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>-9.1%</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>-7.2%</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>25.2%</b>
<b>Other Reviews</b>									
Personal Restraint Petitions	44	69	56.8%	70	1.4%	68	-2.8%	96	41.1%
Notices of Discretionary Review	173	249	43.9%	278	11.6%	202	-27.3%	371	83.6%
<b>Actions Against State</b>									
Officers	16	8	-50.0%	17	112.5%	20	17.6%	9	-55.0%
Other	54	34	-37.0%	47	38.2%	37	-21.2%	42	13.5%
<b>Total Other Reviews</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>25.4%</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>-20.6%</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>58.4%</b>
<b>Total Disposed</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>-8.7%</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>24.7%</b>

# The Supreme Court

## History of Pending Cases <sup>a</sup>, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Appeals</b>									
Criminal	28	26	-7.1%	38	46.1%	37	-2.6%	25	-32.4%
Civil	99	154	55.5%	153	-0.6%	97	-36.6%	109	12.3%
<b>Total Appeals</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>-29.8%</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>-0.0%</b>
<b>Petitions For Review</b>									
Criminal	59	39	-33.8%	31	-20.5%	36	16.1%	96	166.6%
Civil	41	50	21.9%	38	-24.0%	49	28.9%	103	110.2%
<b>Total Petitions for Review</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>-22.4%</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>23.1%</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>134.1%</b>
<b>Other Reviews</b>									
Personal Restraint Petitions	15	9	-40.0%	17	88.8%	19	11.7%	13	-31.5%
Notices of Discretionary Review	59	66	11.8%	49	-25.7%	98	100.0%	86	-12.2%
<b>Actions Against State</b>									
Officers	1	3	200.0%	8	166.6%	3	-62.5%	0	---
Other <sup>b</sup>	9	7	-22.2%	9	28.5%	5	-44.4%	13	160.0%
<b>Total Other Reviews</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>50.6%</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
<b>Total Pending</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>29.3%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Does not include "Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated."

<sup>b</sup> Includes petitions for expenditure of public funds and matters certified from federal court.

# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, All Reviews, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	913	1,109	21.4%	1,100	-0.8%	1,059	-3.7%	1,286	21.4%
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated	192	201	4.6%	134	-33.3%	197	47.0%	134	-31.9%
Dismissed	37	40	8.1%	56	40.0%	61	8.9%	49	-19.6%
Review Not Accepted	541	674	24.5%	709	5.1%	589	-16.9%	852	44.6%
Transferred to Court of Appeals	91	102	12.0%	112	9.8%	87	-22.3%	145	66.6%
Terminated	79	57	-27.8%	72	26.3%	56	-22.2%	55	-1.7%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>947</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>995</b>	<b>-8.7%</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>24.7%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	28	19	-32.1%	12	-36.8%	54	350.0%	17	-68.5%
Not Ready for Setting	112	160	42.8%	131	-18.1%	127	-3.0%	182	43.3%
Ready for Setting	4	31	675.0%	19	-38.7%	22	15.7%	3	-86.3%
Set for Motion Calendar	42	51	21.4%	28	-45.0%	40	42.8%	129	222.5%
Set for Oral Argument	43	63	46.5%	60	-4.7%	43	-28.3%	42	-2.3%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>41.4%</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>-22.8%</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>30.4%</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	82	30	-63.4%	93	210.0%	58	-37.6%	72	24.1%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>29.3%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	46	30	-34.7%	48	60.0%	42	-12.5%	65	54.7%

<sup>a</sup> Includes cases opened in error.



# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, Criminal Appeals, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	24	32	33.3%	39	21.8%	29	-25.6%	14	-51.7%
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated	22	18	-18.1%	11	-38.8%	22	100.0%	11	-50.0%
Dismissed	2	1	-50.0%	2	100.0%	1	-50.0%	2	100.0%
Review Not Accepted	2	3	50.0%	2	-33.3%	0	---	2	---
Transferred to Court of Appeals	6	12	100.0%	12	-0.0%	5	-58.3%	8	60.0%
Terminated	0	1	---	1	-0.0%	1	-0.0%	1	-0.0%
<b>Total Disposed</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>-20.0%</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>-17.2%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	2	2	-0.0%	1	-50.0%	0	---	2	---
Not Ready for Setting	17	15	-11.7%	15	-0.0%	23	53.3%	9	-60.8%
Ready for Setting	0	2	---	1	-50.0%	0	---	0	---
Set for Motion Calendar	0	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---
Set for Oral Argument	2	6	200.0%	8	33.3%	9	12.5%	4	-55.5%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-0.0%</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>-53.1%</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	7	1	-85.7%	13	1200.0%	5	-61.5%	10	100.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>46.1%</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>-2.6%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-32.4%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	3	1	-66.6%	0	---	0	---	3	---

# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, Civil Appeals, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	120	196	63.3%	155	-20.9%	133	-14.1%	121	-9.0%
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated	69	71	2.8%	67	-5.6%	113	68.6%	55	-51.3%
Dismissed	16	24	50.0%	26	8.3%	26	-0.0%	11	-57.6%
Review Not Accepted	8	12	50.0%	14	16.6%	4	-71.4%	7	75.0%
Transferred to Court of Appeals	43	32	-25.5%	39	21.8%	24	-38.4%	48	100.0%
Terminated	3	0	---	9	---	12	33.3%	1	-91.6%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>139</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>10.6%</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>15.3%</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>-31.1%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	7	9	28.5%	4	-55.5%	2	-50.0%	4	100.0%
Not Ready for Setting	40	83	107.5%	51	-38.5%	44	-13.7%	71	61.3%
Ready for Setting	2	11	450.0%	13	18.1%	10	-23.0%	1	-90.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	0	2	---	0	---	0	---	0	---
Set for Oral Argument	18	36	100.0%	46	27.7%	10	-78.2%	11	10.0%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>110.4%</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>-19.1%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>-42.1%</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>31.8%</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	32	13	-59.3%	39	200.0%	31	-20.5%	22	-29.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>55.5%</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-36.6%</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>12.3%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	12	12	-0.0%	11	-8.3%	15	36.3%	10	-33.3%

<sup>a</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, Criminal Petitions For Review, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>-23.9%</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>43.4%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated	38	50	31.5%	16	-68.0%	14	-12.5%	16	14.2%
Dismissed	0	0	---	1	---	1	-0.0%	3	200.0%
Review Not Accepted	235	248	5.5%	205	-17.3%	185	-9.7%	260	40.5%
Transferred to Court of Appeals	0	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---
Terminated	15	13	-13.3%	2	-84.6%	3	50.0%	1	-66.6%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>288</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>-27.9%</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>-9.3%</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>38.9%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	7	1	-85.7%	3	200.0%	2	-33.3%	4	100.0%
Not Ready for Setting	0	2	---	2	-0.0%	1	-50.0%	10	900.0%
Ready for Setting	0	6	---	2	-66.6%	5	150.0%	0	---
Set for Motion Calendar	23	22	-4.3%	14	-36.3%	19	35.7%	65	242.1%
Set for Oral Argument	11	4	-63.6%	2	-50.0%	4	100.0%	9	125.0%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-14.6%</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>-34.2%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34.7%</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>183.8%</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	18	4	-77.7%	8	100.0%	5	-37.5%	8	60.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>-33.8%</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-20.5%</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>16.1%</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>166.6%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	9	2	-77.7%	3	50.0%	1	-66.6%	7	600.0%

<sup>a</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, Civil Petitions For Review, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>26.7%</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>14.8%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated	36	28	-22.2%	21	-25.0%	23	9.5%	29	26.0%
Dismissed	3	1	-66.6%	1	-0.0%	5	400.0%	4	-20.0%
Review Not Accepted	160	197	23.1%	246	24.8%	225	-8.5%	260	15.5%
Transferred to Court of Appeals	0	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---
Terminated	2	6	200.0%	3	-50.0%	2	-33.3%	0	---
<b>Total Disposed<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>201</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>16.4%</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>15.8%</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	5	1	-80.0%	1	-0.0%	4	300.0%	1	-75.0%
Not Ready for Setting	0	1	---	3	200.0%	0	---	5	---
Ready for Setting	1	9	800.0%	2	-77.7%	5	150.0%	0	---
Set for Motion Calendar	18	25	38.8%	14	-44.0%	21	50.0%	64	204.7%
Set for Oral Argument	5	6	20.0%	4	-33.3%	9	125.0%	11	22.2%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>44.8%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>-42.8%</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>107.6%</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	12	8	-33.3%	14	75.0%	10	-28.5%	22	120.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>-24.0%</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>28.9%</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>110.2%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	5	4	-20.0%	7	75.0%	4	-42.8%	1	-75.0%

<sup>a</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Supreme Court

## Court Activity, Other Reviews, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>-9.5%</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>29.1%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated	27	34	25.9%	19	-44.1%	25	31.5%	23	-8.0%
Dismissed	16	14	-12.5%	26	85.7%	28	7.6%	29	3.5%
Review Not Accepted	136	214	57.3%	242	13.0%	175	-27.6%	323	84.5%
Transferred to Court of Appeals	42	58	38.0%	61	5.1%	58	-4.9%	89	53.4%
Terminated	59	37	-37.2%	57	54.0%	38	-33.3%	52	36.8%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>287</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>25.4%</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>-20.6%</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>58.4%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	7	6	-14.2%	3	-50.0%	46	1433.3%	6	-86.9%
Not Ready for Setting	55	59	7.2%	60	1.6%	59	-1.6%	87	47.4%
Ready for Setting	1	3	200.0%	1	-66.6%	2	100.0%	2	-0.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	1	2	100.0%	0	---	0	---	0	---
Set for Oral Argument	7	11	57.1%	0	---	11	---	7	-36.3%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>14.0%</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>-20.9%</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>84.3%</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>-13.5%</b>
Opinion/Order in Process	13	4	-69.2%	19	375.0%	7	-63.1%	10	42.8%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>50.6%</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	17	11	-35.2%	27	145.4%	22	-18.5%	44	100.0%

<sup>a</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Supreme Court

## Glossary

### Filings

#### Notice of Appeal

A review of appeals in these select circumstances: review is authorized statutorily; an issue of constitutionality is involved; conflicting appellate decisions are at issue; questions of public importance are raised; or the death penalty was decreed. Notices of appeal directly following a judgment in a superior court as a matter of right must be filed within 30 days. Notices of appeal are categorized into criminal and civil appeals.

Cases opened on notice of appeal can reach the Supreme Court by these means: direct appeal from trial court; certification by the Court of Appeals; granting of a motion to transfer an appeal from the Court of Appeals; and an administrative transfer initiated by the Supreme Court to relieve pressure on the Court of Appeals.

#### Petitions for Review

A review of any Court of Appeals decision terminating review. The Supreme Court only accepts reviews of decisions that conflict with other Supreme Court or Court of Appeals decisions, that involve a significant question of law under the federal or state constitution, or that concern "an issue of substantial public interest..." (Rules of Appellate Procedure (RAP) 13.4).

#### Other Reviews

The four following categories are grouped under the title of "Other Reviews": discretionary reviews, personal restraint petitions, original actions against state officers, and other.

#### Discretionary Reviews

A review of interlocutory orders of the superior court. Those made prior to a final determination of the case, in which a party urges that the trial court has committed an error on [RAP 2.3(b)]. Discretionary reviews are in the purview of the Supreme Court under most of the same conditions that apply for notices of appeal.

The Supreme Court may be requested by motion for discretionary review to review interlocutory Court of Appeals decisions, and decisions on personal restraint petitions.

#### Personal Restraint Petition

A petition to seek relief from limitations on a person's freedom due to current or imminent confinement. The Supreme Court normally exercises its jurisdiction over such petitions by transferring them to the Court of Appeals (RAP 16.5).

### Original Actions Against State Officers

Both the Supreme Court and the superior courts have concurrent original jurisdiction of a petition against a state officer in the nature of quo warranto, prohibition, and mandamus (RAP 16.2), generally preventing a continued exercise of authority unlawfully asserted. The Supreme Court has original jurisdiction only if the writ is brought against a state officer.

#### Other

Reviews concerning questions certified from federal court and petitions for expenditure of public monies from the indigent defense fund are categorized under the broad title of "Other."

### Dispositions

Cases are considered officially disposed in the Supreme Court after being mandated. A decision is mandated by the Clerk of the Supreme Court with a written notification of the Court's decision to the trial court and the parties involved.

#### Opinions

Those cases which were reviewed by the Court, had an opinion written, and were mandated by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

#### Dismissed

An order, issued by the court, dismissing the review prior to a determination of the merits. The commissioner or clerk, on 30 days notice, may dismiss a review for failure to comply with procedures. The court, on motion of a party, may dismiss a review if the review is frivolous, moot, or solely for the purpose of delay. Also, the court may dismiss reviews for want of prosecution or for failure to comply with procedures (RAP 18.19).

#### Review Not Accepted

Reviews disposed through this manner are not accepted because they fail to meet the requirements of review stated in Title 2 and Title 13 of the Rules of Appellate Procedure. These requirements are summarized in the above glossary definitions for each review type.

#### Transferred to Court of Appeals

To promote the orderly administration of justice, the Supreme Court may, on its own initiative or on motion of a party, transfer a case to the Court of Appeals.

#### Terminated

An order, issued by the court terminating the review before an opinion is rendered. An order to terminate a review would result if, for example, a petitioner decided to withdraw the review.

### Pending

#### Case Stayed

Those cases temporarily arrested or removed from judicial processing by order of the court.

#### Not Ready for Setting

Those cases within the stages of perfection which are ready for consideration but have yet to file further pleadings.

#### Ready for Setting

Those cases within the stages of perfection which have at minimum had the Petitioner's/Appellant's brief filed but have yet to be set on the court calendar for review.

#### Set for Motion Calendar

Those cases which have progressed to the point at which all briefs were filed and served and now qualify for setting. Because motions exist concerning these cases, they are set for the motion calendar.

#### Set for Oral Argument

Those cases which have progressed to the point at which all briefs were filed and served and now qualify for setting for review.

#### Opinion/Order in Process

Those cases which have been reviewed by the court but have yet to receive a decision.

#### Opinion/Order Filed but Not Mandated

Those cases which have been reviewed by the court, have received a decision, but have yet to have the decision mandated.



# The Court of Appeals



**Solie M. Ringold, Presiding Chief Judge  
Court of Appeals**

It is a pleasure to report that the objectives of the Appellate Backlog Elimination Project (ABLE), instituted in July 1986, have been largely fulfilled. In Division I the docket for the January 1988 calendar was set for all civil and criminal cases considered "ready" (i.e., appellant's and respondent's briefs filed by mid-November 1987). While Division II has carried over a backlog of approximately 130 cases ready for setting, the waiting period to setting has been reduced from 18-22 months to between 6-8 months. Division III remains current. We thank the judges from the superior court, the Supreme Court, and retired judges who assumed additional judicial duties and volunteered their services to make the ABLE project a success.

Presently however, Division I foresees a new backlog within 18 months, and Division II expects a 350-case backlog within a year and a half. An appellate court task force on long-range planning is considering various solutions: adding new judges, revising district court, superior court, and appellate court jurisdiction, (maintaining, however, for the parties the right to one full appeal), and increasing the class of cases subject to discretionary review.

While the judges of the Court of Appeals generally agree that additional judges will be required, no consensus has been reached with respect to the numbers or to alternatives such as (a) creating a new division; (b) adding judges to the present divisions; or (c) devising a new geographic allocation of jurisdiction.

Unfortunately, the court cannot simply dispose of more cases. Each case requires reasons for the decision and written opinions. The court has a responsibility to do more than just affirm or reverse.

Throughout the United States, people attribute court congestion to the unjustified demands of a litigious society. The causes of the litigation explosion are much more complex. They find their roots in the many old problems still persisting but magnified in our

present society. New disputes are also generated by the rapid cultural, scientific, economic, and political changes confronting us.

The number and variety of disputes coming to the courts reflects in a measure the failure of other social and governmental institutions to provide the necessary redress. At the same time it demonstrates the faith and esteem the American people have in the judicial system to resolve our many societal issues fairly, impartially, and justly. The courts provide services to men, women, and children whose very lives, welfare, property, and liberty are at stake. The public still retains trust and confidence in an independent judiciary to resolve these controversies with integrity. There must be a sufficient opportunity for the parties to be heard, for the court to adequately consider the facts, the law, and to make a decision in a well-reasoned, logical, understandable opinion.

Each judge in the Washington appellate system has been responsible for writing approximately 80 opinions each year and has participated in the issuance of 160 more opinions, constituting a total of 240 opinions annually. An increase in the numbers will result in assembly line justice. Most authorities and scholars assert that individual judges should not be required to write more than 40 opinions each year to maintain respect and esteem for the judiciary.

Concern for numbers must not overcome the necessity for quality service to society. Nor can concerns for efficiency erode the integrity, independence, and reputation of the judiciary. To meet the demands of society, to which the judiciary is ultimately responsible, the need for more judges cannot be disregarded.



# The Court of Appeals

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## Administration

### Jurisdiction

Most cases appealed from superior courts go directly to the Court of Appeals, with specific types of superior court cases going directly to the Supreme Court. The Court of Appeals has authority to reverse, remand, modify, or affirm the decision of the lower court. Each case is decided only after the record on review in the superior court has been reviewed, and both oral and written arguments have been considered. No live testimony is heard.

### Organization

The Court of Appeals is divided into three divisions: Division I in Seattle has eight judges; Division II in Tacoma has eight judges; Division III in Spokane has four judges.

### Operation

Each division shares common tasks and procedures but is also able to tailor their case management techniques to fit its own division. For example, geographic distances have dictated that Division III use telephone conference calling and regular traveling to Yakima, Kennewick, Richland, Wenatchee, and Walla Walla.

## Division I

**District 1** King County: six judges  
**District 2** Snohomish County: one judge  
**District 3** Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties: one judge.

## Division II

**District 1** Pierce County: two judges  
**District 2** Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, and Thurston Counties: one judge  
**District 3** Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Pacific, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties: one judge

## Division III

**District 1** Ferry, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Spokane, and Stevens Counties: two judges  
**District 2** Adams, Asotin, Benton, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Walla Walla and Whitman Counties: one judge  
**District 3** Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, and Yakima Counties: one judge

Although opinion writing is performed year around, work in the court is based on a pattern which revolves around hearing cases and writing opinions. There are three cycles of this active each year as follows: winter term: sitting (January - March), Opinion writing (April); summer term: sitting (May - June), opinion writing (July); fall term: sitting (September - October), opinion writing (December).

Commissioners, staff attorneys, and court clerks help to prepare and screen cases, and correspond with attorneys in the appeal process.

### Education

Educational opportunities were provided to the Court of Appeals at the annual Judicial Conference and the Appellate Judges' Seminar. The Judicial Conference is coordinated by the Chief Justice and planned by representatives of each court level. The 1987 agenda included over 12 hours of education including issues such as gender and justice, ethics and Canon VII, jury voir dire, discretionary review, video technology in the courtroom, Sentencing Reform Act, crime victims, and constitutional interpretations.

The Appellate Seminar, held in April, examined problems related to attorney misconduct at the trial court and appellate levels. Interaction between the press and the courts was also addressed utilizing a panel of judges, print and broadcast media representatives, and a representative of the Bar Association.

In addition to educational programs within the state, Court of Appeals judges and staff attend national educational programs on an individual basis.

### Traveling Court

Wanting to get closer to the people it serves within its own 13-county division, Division II obtained approval from the

1987 Legislature to broaden its base of public hearing locations. Former statutory restrictions allowed the court to hear cases only in Vancouver and Tacoma. The new provisions allow it to sit in any town or city within its divisional boundaries.

In addition to Vancouver, Division II judges regularly took their court to Kelso during the last half of 1987.

Geographic distances have dictated that Division III regularly travel to Yakima, Kennewick, Richland, Wenatchee, and Walla Walla to hear appeals.

## Delay Reduction

### Appellate Backlog Elimination

The Appellate Backlog Elimination Project (ABLE) was instituted to dispose of intermediate court cases awaiting oral argument in Divisions I and II of the Court Appeals. The project involved the placement of each Supreme Court justice on a panel with two pro tem judges to hear pending cases. In general, the court rules for the project were the same as those normally followed. For non-unanimous opinions, however, the opinion must have the support of the Supreme Court justice on the panel.

The ABLE Project successfully achieved its objective. The accompanying table presents statistics and illustrates the ABLE caseload. A total of 515 cases were processed. As a result of this effort, the backlog of cases in Division I was eliminated and Division I was able to set for oral argument during the winter 1988 term all cases that were ready. The backlog in Division II was also reduced. However, cases ready for oral argument in Division II exceeded the number of cases set for the winter 1988 term. As a result, a backlog of cases in Division II will develop.

## Status of ABLE Cases in Court of Appeals

	I	II	Total
No Opinion Filed			
Heard	6	6	12
Stayed	1	0	1
Dismissed	11	4	15
Certified	1	0	1
Terminated	0	1	1
Transferred to Supreme Court	1	0	1
Total	20	11	31
Opinions Filed	223	261	484
Total ABLE Cases	243	272	515

## Status of ABLE Cases in Supreme Court

Petitions Filed	134
Petitions Not Accepted	95
Petitions Dismissed	2
Opinion Mandated	2
Total Disposed	99

Of the 515 cases processed by ABLE, only 18 cases were dismissed, certified, terminated, or transferred to the Supreme Court, while 497 cases were heard by the panels.

There were 134 ABLE petitions subsequently filed for review in Supreme Court. Only two of these cases had opinions mandated by the Supreme Court. Since most Supreme Court petitions were not accepted for review, the backlog of Court of Appeals cases did not result in a large increase in opinion writing by the Supreme Court. However, the Supreme Court did have to screen these petitions for review resulting in a workload increase for the Supreme Court Commissioner.

## Division III Opinions

In a further effort to reduce the backlogs, the judges of Division III agreed to sit and hear cases in other division sites. This reallocation of judicial resources between divisions was possible because Division III was able to stay current with their filings.

During 1986 Division III heard and filed opinions for 47 selected cases from Divisions I and II. A total of 42 notices of appeal were completely disposed, 9 by published opinion, 33 by unpublished opinion, and of the remaining five appeals filed, post opinion proceedings are pending.

During 1987 Division III heard and filed opinions for 32 selected cases from Division II. For these 32 cases, 11 received published opinions and 21 received unpublished opinions.

This effort by Division III continues to demonstrate the cooperative effort and

the determination of the entire Court of Appeals to address the backlog problem.

## Motion On Merits

As specified in the Rules of Appellate Procedure 18.14, a motion on the merits may be made by the court or a party after the appellant's brief is filed. This allows a single judge or commissioner to quickly determine if the court's review is

## Motion on the Merits Cases

	1985	1986	1987
<b>Criminal</b>			
Granted	51	78	152
Denied	9	24	41
Total	60	102	193
<b>Civil</b>			
Granted	108	89	100
Denied	72	62	56
Total	180	151	156
<b>Total</b>			
Granted	159	167	252
Denied	81	86	97
Total	240	253	349

merited. Motions that are granted terminate the review unless a panel of the court grants a motion to modify. Motions that are denied go on to be heard by the court.

A motion on the merits is granted in whole or in part if the relevant issues on review (1) are clearly controlled by settled law, (2) are factual and supported by evidence, or (3) are matters of judicial discretion with the decision clearly within the discretion of the trial court. The 1985 Supreme Court decision in *State v. Rolax*, 104 Wn.2d 129, 702 p.2d 1185 (1985), upheld the constitutionality of the procedure for criminal appeals. The conditions of applicability limit the usefulness of motion on the merits in delay reduction.

## Settlement Conferences

A settlement conference is a pre-argument meeting to discuss the settlement or a limitation of issues in a pending civil appeal. The Chief Judge of the Court of

Appeals Division determines if one or more settlement conferences are appropriate. Once scheduled, attendance is mandatory and both attorneys should be ready to seriously consider the possibility of settlement, limitation of issues, and other matters which may promote the prompt and fair disposition of the appeal. If agreement is reached, an order consistent with that agreement is entered and sanctions or dismissal of the appeal is possible if there is failure to comply with the order.

Settlement conference usage depends upon the workload and existence of other delay reduction techniques in each division. Division II utilized settlement conferences for several years, but currently it holds settlement conferences when requested. Division III, which is able to keep current with its workload, holds settlement conferences when requested. Division I holds settlement conferences for all civil appeals where parties are represented by counsel.

## No Oral Argument

The appellate court has the authority, on its own initiative or on a motion of all parties, to decide a case without oral argument (RAP 11.6). Division II utilizes a pro tem judge to decide single or simple issue cases with No Oral Argument (NOA). A judge pro tempore works with two other Division II judges to decide these cases.

## Oral Decisions

Previously, Division I used two programs which tried to reduce opinion writing by the court. One program involved a stipulation-waiving written opinion. Parties were offered an opportunity to be heard by a panel sooner if they agreed to an oral rather than written opinion from the court. The other program involved limited issues cases where the panel reviewed the case prior to being heard, so they could issue an oral opinion immediately following the

# The Court of Appeals

parties' arguments. Attorneys felt these programs did not provide sufficient review of their cases and the programs were discontinued.

## Long-Range Planning Committee

Although the Appellate Backlog Elimination Project eliminated the current backlog of cases in the Court of Appeals, the problem will persist unless additional steps are undertaken. In response, the Long Range Planning Committee, chaired by Judge C. Kenneth Grosse of Division I, was established during 1987. Justice James Andersen is the Supreme Court liaison to the Committee. Judges Gerry Alexander of Division II and Ray Munson of Division III are working with Judge Grosse to present the committee's report at the Spring 1988 Appellate Conference.

The committee will investigate viable options to deal with congestion by statistical analysis, documentation of the previous actions, and exploration of options implemented in other jurisdictions. The report is expected to determine the extent to which congestion persists, define the sources for congestion, provide recommendations, and implement a plan to more permanently resolve the congestion issue.

## Petitions For Review To Supreme Court

During 1987 the Court of Appeals disposed of 4,258 reviews. Of these, only 624, or 15 percent, had petitions for review filed in the Supreme Court. In addition, of the 280 discretionary reviews of Court of Appeals cases filed in the Supreme Court, fewer than 15 percent are accepted for review by the Supreme Court.

The following table presents a tracking of cases that had petitions for review filed in the Supreme Court following a Court of Appeals decision. Of the 624 petitions disposed during 1987, only 47 had opinions mandated. That is, over 90 percent of the Court of Appeals decisions that went on to the Supreme Court did not require the Supreme Court to issue an opinion. These data clearly support the effective role of the Court of Appeals in reviewing trial court activity.

## Caseload

### Caseload Growth

Filings in the Court of Appeals have grown steadily since the courts inception in 1968. Several factors have historically been associated with growth in Court of Appeals filings. These include superior court activities such as trials, final judgments, cases disposed, the number of new judges, and additional judgeships in

## Petitions For Review Disposed By The Supreme Court

	Opinion Filed	All Other Dispositions	Total Disposed
<b>Division I</b>			
Criminal Petition	8	136 (94%)	144
Civil Petition	19	147 (89%)	166
Total	27	283 (91%)	310
<b>Division II</b>			
Criminal Petition	5	109 (96%)	114
Civil Petition	4	83 (95%)	87
Total	9	192 (96%)	201
<b>Division III</b>			
Criminal Petition	4	38 (90%)	42
Civil Petition	7	64 (90%)	71
Total	11	102 (90%)	113
<b>Division, ALL</b>			
Criminal Petition	17	283 (94%)	300
Civil Petition	30	294 (91%)	324
Total	47	577 (92%)	624

superior court. One opinion is that superior court judges "act like a filter limiting appeals; adding an additional judge increases filter size to allow more appeals." Other factors considered to be related to appeals include the number of new and active attorneys.

In addition, appeals are the judicial system's way of testing judgments. An example of this is the shift in appeals from civil matters to criminal, as a result of the Miranda decision. The Tort Reform Act of 1986 provides a more recent example of changes that will affect appeals. The use of video in superior court may increase personal restraint petitions appeals because defendants may analyze tapes and find more possibilities. The Sentence Reform Act of 1984 has dramatically increased personal restraint petitions in the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court. Each new case decision in both the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals may result in more personal restraint petitions by those incarcerated. The implementation of the Interpreter's Task Force recommendations for court interpreters may also affect appeals. Finally, the view that ours is a more litigious society supports the perspective that more appeals are demanded as a product of our culture.

Another complication is that filing growth is neither uniform by case type nor by division. Division I, located in the Seattle metropolitan area may have reviews that differ considerably from those of Division III, a high technology/big business agriculture area, and Division II, which includes urban/rural areas, state government, and large military complexes. This necessitates an examination of growth by case type within each division.

In summary, an examination of the validity of the primary causes of filing growth would be very difficult and would require an innovative study methodology. One certainty is that the Court of Appeals will continue to experience heavy workloads as a result of its review role in the justice system.

## Caseload Overview

Nineteen eighty-seven saw the first decline in filings in the Court of Appeals since 1976, with personal restraint petitions accounting for the majority of the decline. This may be the first indication that the impact of the 1984 Sentence Reform Act is lessening.

Notices of appeal, particularly civil appeals, experienced a sudden increase in filings, possibly indicating the start of an increased appeal cycle spawned by the Tort Reform Act of 1986. Division III did not experience increases in civil appeals, possibly because of less urban population.

Division III was the only division to experience an increase in discretionary reviews. The differences in the types of reviews filed among the three divisions from year to year supports the idea that each division serves a unique case mix.

Total dispositions grew by nearly 20 percent to a record high of 4,258. Dispositions for each review type increased with notices of appeal in Divisions I and II increasing by over 500 cases. This was a direct result of the work performed by the Supreme Court through the Appellate Backlog Elimination (ABLE) Project. The ABLE Project disposed of 515 cases.

The natural outcome of the increase in the disposition of cases was a decrease

in the pending caseload. With the 16 percent drop, pending matters have now receded to pre-1982 levels. For the last two years, there have been fewer active cases remaining at the end of each year than were filed during their respective years.

Approximately 50 percent of the cases awaiting hearing are not ready for setting; with 174 cases set for motion calendar and 337 cases set for oral argument during the winter term. That leaves 490 cases that are ready for setting; 23 percent of those awaiting hearing. These 490 cases ready for setting at year-end 1987 are less than half the 1,264 cases ready for setting at year-end 1984. This is a clear indication of the success of the backlog reduction efforts utilized over the last three years.

## Division I

Overall, filings in Division I declined by approximately 4 percent in 1987 compared to 1986. The most significant changes include the large decrease (193 cases) in personal restraint petitions and the sudden increase of 127 additional civil appeals.

Division I dispositions rose by 553 cases to 2,314 compared to the 1,761 dispositions in 1986. Notices of appeal account for 64 percent of these dispositions, personal restraint petitions 26 percent, and discretionary reviews 10 percent.

Opinions mandated in Division I grew by 264 cases, from 620 in 1986 to 884 in 1987. The ABLE Project accounted for a large portion of the increase in opinions mandated during 1987. Cases terminated also increased from 65 in 1986 to 152 in 1987, a change of 87 cases.

As a result of this increased dispositional activity, the pending caseload in Division I decreased by approximately 50 percent to 954 cases. This returned total pending matters to pre-1982 levels. The pending case categories accounting for most of this change are "Ready for Setting" and "Opinion/Order in Process."

## Division II

Personal restraint petition filings fell by nearly one-half in 1987. This represented a decrease of 200 reviews. The division's total filings were down by 181 cases, or 15 percent. Criminal appeals increased 13 cases (4.2 percent), and civil appeals by 28 cases (7.9 percent).

There were 222 more dispositions realized in 1987 than in 1986's record high of 1,075. Dispositions of appeals increased by 180 cases. Opinions mandated increased by 214 cases from 343 in 1986 to 557 in 1987. As in Division I, this increased dispose of appeals and opinions is a direct result of the ABLE Project.

All review types experienced a decrease in the pending caseload in 1987. Both

criminal and civil appeals dropped better than 15 percent, while personal restraint petitions declined 53 percent.

The total number of cases pending at year-end 1987 was 920, compared to 1,194 at year-end 1986. The categories of "Case Stayed," "Ready for Setting," and "Opinion/Order in Process" accounted for the majority of the 274 case decrease. Forty percent of the total pending cases are not ready for setting while 332 cases or 36 percent are ready for setting, and 96 cases are set for oral argument during the winter term.

## Division III

Division III experienced a similar decrease in total cases filed, with an 8.4 percent decline in filings. As with the other divisions, personal restraint petitions experienced the largest actual and percentage declines: 82 cases and 35.2 percent, respectively.

Criminal appeal filings increased by 20 cases (11.4 percent). Division III is the only division to have experienced a decrease in civil notices of appeal, in contrast to the increases of 21.6 percent and 7.9 percent in Divisions I and II, respectively.

Because Division III historically has been able to keep current with its caseload, the decrease in filings during 1987 was naturally accompanied by a decrease in cases disposed. This allowed Division III the opportunity to hear 32 cases in Division II, thus assisting in reducing appellate congestion and delay.

Pending matters rose by only 30 cases for the year, a 5.5 percent increase. The largest increase came from criminal appeals with 40 additional cases. The slight increase in total pending cases in Division III is attributable to an increase in the number of cases not ready for setting from 282 in 1986 to 314 in 1987, while the number of cases ready for setting dropped from 108 in 1986 to 68 in 1987.

The 1987 year-end active pending caseload equals 573 cases, 127 fewer cases than the 700 cases filed during 1987.

# The Court of Appeals

## Statistical Highlights

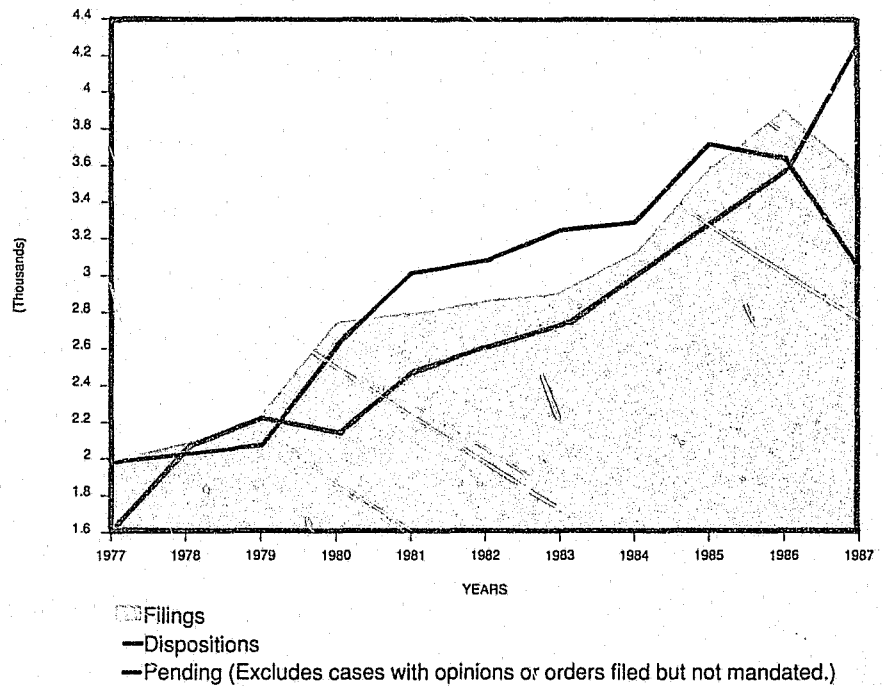
### All Divisions

- Filings dropped for the first time since 1976; filings are at the 1985 level.
- A decline of approximately 500 personal restraint petitions accounted for most of the filing decrease.
- Notices of appeals increased over 1986 by 185 additional filings; mostly criminal reviews.
- Dispositions increased by 703 over 1986 to 4,258; there has been a 50 percent increase in dispositions during the last five years.
- Disposition of appeals jumped by more than 500 cases because of the work performed by the Supreme Court through the Appellate Backlog Elimination (ABLE) Project.
- Since dispositions exceeded filings, the pending caseload decreased for the second straight year.
- Approximately 50 percent of the total cases awaiting hearing are not ready for setting.
- Active pending cases, those ready for setting, have dropped to 490 in 1987; down from 1,264 cases in 1984.
- In 1987 time from filing to opinion for both criminal and civil notices of appeal decreased 10 and 15 percent, respectively.
- The days from respondent's brief to oral argument, the time waiting to be heard, decreased by 28 percent for both criminal and civil notices of appeal in 1987.
- The decreases in pending caseload and time in process statistics are clear indications of the success of the backlog reduction efforts utilized over the last three years.

### Division I

- Filings declined by approximately 4 percent in 1987 due to a decline in personal restraint petitions of 193 cases.
- While criminal appeals remained unchanged, civil appeals increased by 127 cases in 1987.
- Dispositions rose to a new high of 2,314. The increases in appeal dispositions can largely be attributed to the ABLE Project; increased disposition of personal restraint and discretionary reviews was accomplished by the division.
- As a result, the pending caseload decreased by approximately 50 percent, returning total pending matters to pre-1982 levels.

Total Filed, Disposed, and Pending at Year End, 1977-1987



- Active pending cases, those ready for setting, decreased by 57 percent during 1987; down to 90 cases compared with 606 cases in 1984.
- In 1987 time from filing to opinion for criminal cases decreased by 2 percent, while civil appeals experienced a 13 percent decrease.
- The days from respondent's brief to oral argument, the time waiting to be heard, decreased by 2 percent for criminal appeals and 26 percent for civil notices of appeal in 1987.

### Division II

- The division's total filings decreased in 1987 by 181 cases, or 15 percent. Personal restraint petitions filings fell by 200 reviews or nearly one-half since 1986.
- Criminal appeals increased by 13 cases and civil appeals by 28 cases, for a 6 percent notice of appeal increase.
- In 1987, 222 more dispositions were realized than the record high of 1,075 in 1986.
- Disposition of appeals increased by 180 cases, primarily because Division II was one of the benefactors of the ABLE Project. Personal restraint petition dispositions also increased by 13 percent as a result of division efforts.
- All review types experienced a decrease in the pending caseload last year.

- Pending criminal and civil appeals dropped better than 15 percent, while pending personal restraint petitions decreased by 53 percent.
- Pending cases ready for setting decreased 15 percent in 1987, down to 332 cases from a 1985 high of 571 cases.
- Cases ready for setting represent 38 percent of the cases awaiting hearing, while the 371 cases not ready for setting represent 43 percent of the cases awaiting hearing.
- The time from filing to opinion decreased over 20 percent in 1987 for both criminal and civil appeals.
- The time from respondent's brief to oral argument declined by 41 and 34 percent for criminal and civil appeals respectively during 1987.

### Division III

- The division experienced an 8.5 percent decline in filings. As with the other divisions, personal restraint petitions experienced the largest actual and percentage declines; 82 cases and 35.2 percent, respectively.
- Criminal appeal filings increased by 11 percent in 1987.
- Division III's decline in dispositions corresponds to their decrease in filings. Division III cases were not processed through the ABLE Project and therefore did not benefit from ABLE's efforts.

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- Pending matters rose by only 30 cases for the year, a 5.5 percent increase. The largest increase came from criminal appeals with 40 additional cases.
- Cases ready for setting decreased by 37 percent and 314 of the 512 cases awaiting hearing (61 percent) are not ready for setting.
- The time from filing to opinion decreased over 4 percent in 1987 for both criminal and civil appeals.
- The time from respondent's brief to oral argument declined approximately 10 percent for criminal and civil appeals respectively during 1987.

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## Court Activity, All Divisions, 1987

	Appeals			Personal Restraint	Other Reviews		All Reviews
	Criminal	Civil	Total		Discr. Review	Total	
<b>Filed</b>	<b>1,083</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>1,148</b>	<b>3,584</b>
<b>Disposed</b>							
Opinion Mandated	789	796	1,585	27	33	60	1,645
Published	196	263	459	8	14	22	481
Unpublished	593	533	1,126	19	19	38	1,164
Dismissed	218	557	775	1,055	20	1,075	1,850
Review not Accepted	5	9	14	0	294	294	308
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	6	20	26	19	9	28	54
Terminated	90	73	163	21	24	45	208
Unpublished Ruling	91	61	152	24	7	31	183
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>1,535</b>	<b>4,258</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>							
Case Stayed	4	42	46	12	12	24	70
Not Ready for Setting	516	438	954	106	42	148	1,102
Ready for Setting <sup>c</sup>	224	177	401	80	9	89	490
Remanded to Trial Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Set for Motion Calendar	24	14	38	1	22	23	61
Set for Motion on the Merits	61	52	113	0	0	0	113
Set for Oral Argument	119	201	320	5	12	17	337
Set for Pro Tem Oral Arg.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>1,872</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>2,173</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	3	8	11	0	0	0	11
Opinion/Order in Process	116	138	254	3	6	9	263
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>2,137</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>2,447</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	243	261	504	80	52	132	636

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

<sup>c</sup> Includes those personal restraint petitions classified as "record on review complete."

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## Court Activity, Division I, 1987

	Appeals			Personal Restraint	Other Reviews		All Reviews
	Criminal	Civil	Total		Discr. Review	Total	
<b>Filed</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>1,882</b>
<b>Disposed</b>							
Opinion Mandated	431	415	846	16	22	38	884
Published	117	136	253	5	5	10	263
Unpublished	314	279	593	11	17	28	621
Dismissed	138	334	472	563	1	564	1,036
Review not Accepted	2	0	2	0	202	202	204
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	2	10	12	14	3	17	29
Terminated	89	63	152	0	0	0	152
Unpublished Ruling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>665</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>1,491</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>2,314</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>							
Case Stayed	2	27	29	7	7	14	43
Not Ready for Setting	224	139	363	37	17	54	417
Ready for Setting	49	34	83	3	4	7	90
Remanded to Trial Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Set for Motion Calendar	8	0	8	0	0	0	8
Set for Motion on the Merits	39	30	69	0	0	0	69
Set for Oral Argument	59	99	158	5	3	8	166
Set for Pro Tem Oral Arg.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>793</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	3	4	7	0	0	0	7
Opinion/Order in Process	73	76	149	2	3	5	154
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>954</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	104	92	196	7	18	25	221

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.



# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, Division II, 1987

	Appeals			Personal Restraint	Other Reviews		All Reviews
	Criminal	Civil	Total		Discr. Review	Total	
<b>Filed</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>1,002</b>
<b>Disposed</b>							
Opinion Mandated	286	258	544	6	7	13	557
Published	36	59	95	1	6	7	102
Unpublished	250	199	449	5	1	6	455
Dismissed	54	147	201	320	13	333	534
Review not Accepted	3	7	10	0	55	55	65
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	3	7	10	5	3	8	18
Terminated	1	2	3	5	12	17	20
Unpublished Ruling	49	28	77	24	1	25	102
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>397</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>1,297</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>							
Case Stayed	0	10	10	4	0	4	14
Not Ready for Setting	162	166	328	33	10	43	371
Ready for Setting <sup>c</sup>	151	109	260	70	2	72	332
Remanded to Trial Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Set for Motion Calendar	16	14	30	1	9	10	40
Set for Motion on the Merits	4	7	11	0	0	0	11
Set for Oral Argument	29	65	94	0	2	2	96
Set for Pro Tem Oral Arg.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>864</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opinion/Order in Process	18	37	55	0	1	1	56
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>920</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	97	99	196	44	16	60	256

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

<sup>c</sup> Includes those personal restraint petitions classified as "record on review complete."

# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, Division III, 1987

	Appeals			Personal Restraint	Other Reviews		All Reviews
	Criminal	Civil	Total		Discr. Review	Total	
<b>Filed</b>	194	269	463	151	86	237	700
<b>Disposed</b>							
Opinion Mandated	72	123	195	5	4	9	204
Published	43	68	111	2	3	5	116
Unpublished	29	55	84	3	1	4	88
Dismissed	26	76	102	172	6	178	280
Review not Accepted	0	2	2	0	37	37	39
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	1	3	4	0	3	3	7
Terminated	0	8	8	16	12	28	36
Unpublished Ruling	42	33	75	0	6	6	81
<b>Total Disposed <sup>b</sup></b>	<b>141</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>647</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>							
Case Stayed	2	5	7	1	5	6	13
Not Ready for Setting	130	133	263	36	15	51	314
Ready for Setting <sup>c</sup>	24	34	58	7	3	10	68
Remanded to Trial Court	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Set for Motion Calendar	0	0	0	0	13	13	13
Set for Motion on the Merits	18	15	33	0	0	0	33
Set for Oral Argument	31	37	68	0	7	7	75
Set for Pro Tem Oral Arg.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>516</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	0	4	4	0	0	0	4
Opinion/Order in Process	25	25	50	1	2	3	53
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>573</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	42	70	112	29	18	47	159

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

<sup>c</sup> Includes those personal restraint petitions classified as "record on review complete."

# The Court of Appeals

## History of Filings, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Division I</b>									
Criminal Appeals	518	535	3.2%	562	5.0%	568	1.0%	573	0.9%
Civil Appeals	715	725	1.3%	662	-8.6%	577	-12.8%	704	22.0%
Personal Restraint Petitions	145	256	76.5%	448	75.0%	625	39.5%	432	-30.9%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	166	133	-19.8%	144	8.2%	188	30.5%	173	-8.0%
<b>Total Filings, Division I</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,649</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>1,816</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>1,882</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
<b>Division II</b>									
Criminal Appeals	205	267	30.2%	339	26.9%	303	-10.6%	316	4.2%
Civil Appeals	339	340	2.0%	352	3.5%	352	-0.0%	380	7.9%
Personal Restraint Petitions	75	202	169.3%	315	55.9%	426	35.2%	219	-48.5%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	67	60	-10.4%	79	31.6%	102	29.1%	87	-14.7%
<b>Total Filings, Division II</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>24.8%</b>	<b>1,183</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>-15.3%</b>
<b>Division III</b>									
Criminal Appeals	172	119	-30.8%	150	26.0%	174	16.0%	194	11.4%
Civil Appeals	355	287	-19.1%	287	-0.0%	277	-3.4%	269	-2.8%
Personal Restraint Petitions	95	135	42.1%	155	14.8%	233	50.3%	151	-35.1%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	58	70	20.6%	97	38.5%	81	-16.4%	86	6.1%
<b>Total Filings, Division III</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>-10.1%</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>
<b>Court Of Appeals, Total</b>									
Criminal Appeals	895	921	2.9%	1,051	14.1%	1,045	-0.5%	1,083	3.6%
Civil Appeals	1,409	1,352	-4.0%	1,301	-3.7%	1,206	-7.3%	1,353	12.2%
Personal Restraint Petitions	315	593	88.2%	918	54.8%	1,284	39.8%	802	-37.5%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	291	263	-9.6%	320	21.6%	371	15.9%	346	-7.0%
<b>Total Filings, Court Of Appeals</b>	<b>2,910</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>3,590</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>3,906</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>3,584</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>

# The Court of Appeals

## History Of Dispositions, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Division I</b>									
Criminal Appeals	566	543	-4.0%	479	-11.7%	430	-10.2%	665	54.7%
Civil Appeals	599	673	12.3%	746	10.8%	687	-7.9%	826	20.2%
Personal Restraint Petitions	139	241	73.3%	319	32.3%	512	60.5%	594	16.0%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	138	151	9.4%	121	-19.8%	132	9.0%	229	72.7%
<b>Total Dispositions, Division I</b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>2,314</b>	<b>31.4%</b>
<b>Division II</b>									
Criminal Appeals	182	216	18.6%	232	7.4%	321	38.3%	397	23.6%
Civil Appeals	347	326	-6.0%	337	3.3%	345	2.3%	449	30.1%
Personal Restraint Petitions	76	129	69.7%	246	90.6%	317	28.8%	360	13.5%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	70	62	-11.4%	81	30.6%	92	13.5%	91	-1.0%
<b>Total Dispositions, Division II</b>	<b>675</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>20.6%</b>
<b>Division III</b>									
Criminal Appeals	162	130	-19.7%	166	27.6%	143	-13.8%	141	-1.3%
Civil Appeals	336	334	-0.5%	333	-0.2%	294	-11.7%	245	-16.6%
Personal Restraint Petitions	87	132	51.7%	136	3.0%	189	38.9%	193	2.1%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	68	57	-16.1%	81	42.1%	93	14.8%	68	-26.8%
<b>Total Dispositions, Division III</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>-0.0%</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>-10.0%</b>
<b>Court Of Appeals, Total</b>									
Criminal Appeals	910	889	-2.3%	877	-1.3%	894	1.9%	1,203	34.6%
Civil Appeals	1,282	1,333	3.9%	1,416	6.2%	1,326	-6.3%	1,520	14.6%
Personal Restraint Petitions	302	502	66.2%	701	39.6%	1,018	45.2%	1,147	12.7%
Notices Of Discretionary Review	276	270	-2.1%	283	4.8%	317	12.0%	388	22.4%
<b>Total Dispositions, Court of Appeals</b>	<b>2,770</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>3,277</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>3,555</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>4,258</b>	<b>19.8%</b>

# The Court of Appeals

## History Of Pending Cases <sup>a</sup>, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Division I</b>									
Criminal Appeals	595	603	1.3%	744	23.3%	790	6.1%	457	-42.2%
Civil Appeals	973	972	-0.1%	941	-3.1%	698	-25.8%	409	-41.4%
Personal Restraint Petitions	72	93	29.1%	222	138.7%	331	49.0%	54	-83.7%
Notices of Discretionary Review	71	57	-19.7%	70	22.8%	78	11.4%	34	-56.4%
<b>Total Pending Cases, Division I</b>	<b>1,711</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>-49.7%</b>
<b>Division II</b>									
Criminal Appeals	371	407	9.7%	503	23.5%	451	-10.3%	380	-15.7%
Civil Appeals	483	488	1.0%	515	5.5%	485	-5.8%	408	-15.8%
Personal Restraint Petitions	29	81	179.3%	158	95.0%	230	45.5%	108	-53.0%
Notices of Discretionary Review	13	21	61.5%	24	14.2%	28	16.6%	24	-14.2%
<b>Total Pending Cases, Division II</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>-22.9%</b>
<b>Division III</b>									
Criminal Appeals	193	180	-6.7%	166	-7.7%	190	14.4%	230	21.0%
Civil Appeals	387	325	-16.0%	277	-14.7%	260	-6.1%	253	-2.6%
Personal Restraint Petitions	32	25	-21.8%	50	100.0%	61	22.0%	45	-26.2%
Notices of Discretionary Review	19	28	47.3%	38	35.7%	32	-15.7%	45	40.6%
<b>Total Pending Cases, Division III</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>-11.5%</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
<b>Court of Appeals, Total</b>									
Criminal Appeals	1,159	1,190	2.6%	1,413	18.7%	1,431	1.2%	1,067	-25.4%
Civil Appeals	1,843	1,785	-3.1%	1,733	-2.9%	1,443	-16.7%	1,070	-25.9%
Personal Restraint Petitions	133	199	49.6%	430	116.0%	622	44.6%	207	-66.7%
Notices of Discretionary Review	103	106	2.9%	132	24.5%	138	4.5%	103	-25.4%
<b>Total Pending Cases, Court of Appeals</b>	<b>3,238</b>	<b>3,280</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>3,708</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>3,634</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>2,447</b>	<b>-32.7%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Does not include "Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated."

# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, All Divisions, All Reviews, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>2,910</b>	<b>3,129</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>3,590</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>3,906</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>3,584</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>
<b>Opinion Mandated</b>									
Published	437	381	-12.8%	421	10.4%	429	1.9%	481	12.1%
Unpublished	803	859	6.9%	858	-0.1%	766	-10.7%	1,164	52.0%
Dismissed	1,192	1,290	8.2%	1,386	7.4%	1,745	25.9%	1,850	6.0%
Review Not Accepted	188	188	-0.0%	180	-4.2%	183	1.6%	308	68.3%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	80	126	57.5%	82	-34.9%	79	-3.6%	54	-31.7%
Terminated/Unpublished Rulings	50	128	156.0%	333	160.1%	341	2.4%	391	14.7%
<b>Total Disposed <sup>b</sup></b>	<b>2,770</b>	<b>2,994</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>3,277</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>3,555</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>4,258</b>	<b>19.8%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	49	67	36.7%	232	246.2%	143	-38.3%	70	-51.1%
Not Ready For Setting	1,403	1,290	-8.0%	1,603	24.2%	1,622	1.1%	1,102	-32.1%
Ready For Setting <sup>c</sup>	1,037	1,264	21.8%	1,105	-12.5%	712	-35.5%	490	-31.2%
Remanded To Trial Court	12	9	-25.0%	6	-33.3%	1	-83.3%	0	-100.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	16	51	218.7%	141	176.4%	156	10.6%	174	11.5%
Set for Oral Argument	494	453	-8.2%	407	-10.1%	564	38.5%	337	-40.3%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>3,011</b>	<b>3,134</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>3,494</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>3,193</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>	<b>2,173</b>	<b>-32.1%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	2	1	-50.0%	4	300.0%	4	-0.0%	11	175.0%
Opinion/Order In Process	225	145	-35.5%	210	44.8%	432	105.7%	263	-39.1%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>3,238</b>	<b>3,280</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>3,708</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>3,634</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>2,447</b>	<b>-32.7%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	490	547	11.6%	442	-19.1%	815	84.3%	636	-22.0%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

<sup>c</sup> Includes those personal restraint petitions classified as "record on review complete."

# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, All Divisions, Criminal Appeals, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>921</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>1,051</b>	<b>14.1%</b>	<b>1,045</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>1,083</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated									
Published	184	151	-17.9%	145	-3.9%	143	-1.3%	196	37.0%
Unpublished	474	469	-1.0%	443	-5.5%	354	-20.0%	593	67.5%
Dismissed	200	206	3.0%	198	-3.8%	231	16.6%	218	-5.6%
Review Not Accepted	8	6	-25.0%	3	-50.0%	9	200.0%	5	-44.4%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	14	22	57.1%	10	-54.5%	16	60.0%	6	-62.5%
Terminated/Unpublished Rulings	25	27	8.0%	74	174.0%	137	85.1%	181	32.1%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>910</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>1,203</b>	<b>34.6%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	8	11	37.5%	15	36.3%	18	20.0%	4	-77.8%
Not Ready For Setting	586	564	-3.7%	716	26.9%	599	-16.3%	516	13.9%
Ready For Setting	240	342	42.5%	447	30.7%	332	-25.7%	224	-32.5%
Remanded To Trial Court	4	5	25.0%	2	-60.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	4	6	50.0%	44	633.3%	78	77.2%	85	9.0%
Set for Oral Argument	213	218	2.3%	113	-48.1%	234	107.0%	119	-49.2%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>1,146</b>	<b>8.6%</b>	<b>1,337</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>1,261</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>-24.8%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	2	1	-50.0%	1	-0.0%	3	200.0%	3	0.0%
Opinion/Order In Process	102	43	-57.8%	75	74.4%	167	122.6%	116	-30.5%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>1,159</b>	<b>1,190</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>1,431</b>	<b>1.2%</b>	<b>1,067</b>	<b>-25.4%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	200	202	1.0%	159	-21.2%	281	76.7%	243	-13.5%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, All Divisions, Civil Appeals, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>1,352</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>1,301</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>	<b>1,206</b>	<b>-7.3%</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>12.2%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated									
Published	221	204	-7.6%	244	19.6%	255	4.5%	263	3.1%
Unpublished	290	348	20.0%	390	12.0%	388	-0.5%	533	37.4%
Dismissed	695	640	-7.9%	524	-18.1%	491	-6.2%	557	13.4%
Review Not Accepted	11	22	100.0%	12	-45.4%	9	-25.0%	9	0.0%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	46	85	84.7%	60	-29.4%	56	-6.6%	20	-64.3%
Terminated/Unpublished									
Rulings	11	30	172.7%	179	496.6%	124	-30.7%	134	8.1%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>1,333</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>6.2%</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>-6.3%</b>	<b>1,520</b>	<b>14.6%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	26	51	96.1%	39	-23.5%	39	-0.0%	42	7.7%
Not Ready For Setting	665	552	-16.9%	617	11.7%	538	-12.8%	438	18.6%
Ready For Setting	763	835	9.4%	596	-28.6%	250	-58.0%	177	-29.2%
Remanded To Trial Court	5	1	-80.0%	1	-0.0%	0	-100.0%	0	0.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	1	29	--.-%	71	144.8%	47	-33.8%	66	40.4%
Set for Oral Argument	268	222	-17.1%	275	23.8%	317	15.2%	201	-36.6%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>1,728</b>	<b>1,690</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>	<b>1,599</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>	<b>1,191</b>	<b>-25.5%</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>-22.4%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	0	0	0.0%	3	0.0%	1	-66.6%	8	700.0%
Opinion/Order In Process	115	95	-17.3%	131	37.8%	251	91.6%	138	-45.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>1,785</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>	<b>1,733</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>1,443</b>	<b>-16.7%</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>-25.9%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	156	237	51.9%	182	-23.2%	316	73.6%	261	-17.4%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.



# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, All Divisions, Personal Restraint Petitions, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>88.2%</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>54.8%</b>	<b>1,284</b>	<b>39.8%</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>-37.5%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated									
Published	15	4	-73.3%	8	100.0%	5	-37.5%	8	60.0%
Unpublished	21	30	42.8%	13	-56.6%	10	-23.0%	19	90.0%
Dismissed	246	389	58.1%	621	59.6%	956	53.9%	1,055	10.4%
Review Not Accepted	3	0	-100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	7	12	71.4%	9	-25.0%	5	-44.4%	19	280.0%
Terminated/Unpublished Rulings	10	62	520.0%	48	-22.5%	39	-18.7%	45	15.4%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>302</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>39.6%</b>	<b>1,018</b>	<b>45.2%</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>12.7%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	14	1	-92.8%	158	--.-%	79	-50.0%	12	-84.8%
Not Ready For Setting	90	120	33.3%	212	76.6%	406	91.5%	106	-73.9%
Ready For Setting <sup>c</sup>	22	67	204.5%	44	-34.3%	123	179.5%	80	-35.0%
Remanded To Trial Court	2	3	50.0%	3	-0.0%	1	-66.6%	0	-100.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	0	1	0.0%	5	400.0%	1	-80.0%	1	0.0%
Set for Oral Argument	2	6	200.0%	8	33.3%	7	-12.5%	5	-28.6%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>52.3%</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>117.1%</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>43.4%</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>-66.9%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Opinion/Order In Process	3	1	-66.6%	0	-100.0%	5	-100.0%	3	-40.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>49.6%</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>116.0%</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>44.6%</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>-66.7%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	30	59	96.6%	46	-22.0%	116	152.1%	80	-31.0%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

<sup>c</sup> Includes those personal restraint petitions classified as "record on review complete."

# The Court of Appeals

## Court Activity, All Divisions, Notices Of Discretionary Review, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filed</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>
<b>Disposed</b>									
Opinion Mandated									
Published	17	22	29.4%	24	9.0%	26	8.3%	14	-46.1%
Unpublished	18	12	-33.3%	12	-0.0%	14	16.6%	19	35.7%
Dismissed	51	55	7.8%	43	-21.8%	67	55.8%	20	-70.2%
Review Not Accepted	166	160	-3.6%	165	3.1%	165	-0.0%	294	-78.2%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	13	7	-46.1%	3	-57.1%	2	-33.3%	9	350.0%
Terminated/Unpublished									
Rulings	4	9	125.0%	32	255.5%	41	28.1%	31	-24.4%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>276</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>12.0%</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>22.4%</b>
<b>Pending at Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	1	4	300.0%	20	400.0%	7	-65.0%	12	71.4%
Not Ready For Setting	62	54	-12.9%	58	7.4%	79	36.2%	42	-46.8%
Ready For Setting	12	20	66.6%	18	-10.0%	7	-61.1%	9	28.6%
Remanded To Trial Court	1	0	-100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Set for Motion Calendar	11	15	36.3%	21	40.0%	30	42.8%	22	-26.6%
Set for Oral Argument	11	7	-36.3%	11	57.1%	6	-45.4%	12	100.0%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2.0%</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-24.8%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Opinion/Order In Process	5	6	20.0%	4	-33.3%	9	125.0%	6	-33.3%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>24.5%</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>-25.4%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	104	49	-52.8%	55	12.2%	102	85.4%	52	-49.0%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Court of Appeals

## Average Days Between Events For Criminal Appeals Disposed By Opinion, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Division I</b>									
Filing Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	44	50	13.6%	42	-16.0%	46	9.5%	38	-17.4%
Stmt. Of Arrgmts.- Rpt.of Proc	57	69	21.0%	63	-1.4%	95	39.7%	67	-29.5%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	106	127	19.8%	120	-5.5%	156	30.0%	157	0.6%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	106	105	-9.0%	108	2.8%	113	4.6%	106	-6.2%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	151	123	-18.5%	138	12.1%	204	47.8%	199	-2.5%
Oral Argument-Opinion	87	115	32.1%	85	-26.0%	99	16.4%	107	8.1%
Opinion-Mandate	108	112	3.7%	89	-20.5%	75	-15.7%	86	14.7%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Division I</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>-7.1%</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>22.9%</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
<b>Division II</b>									
Filing-Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	65	79	21.5%	50	-36.7%	51	2.0%	53	3.9%
Stmt. Of Arrgmts.-Rpt. Of Proc	51	52	1.9%	49	-5.7%	50	2.0%	58	16.0%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	118	102	-13.5%	104	1.9%	97	-6.7%	107	10.3%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	101	101	-0.0%	92	-8.9%	116	26.0%	134	15.5%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	368	431	17.1%	497	15.3%	463	-6.8%	274	-40.8%
Oral Argument-Opinion	79	66	-16.4%	43	-34.8%	69	60.4%	48	-30.4%
Opinion-mandate	110	83	-24.5%	71	-14.4%	81	14.0%	89	9.8%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Division II</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>802</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>-22.8%</b>
<b>Division III</b>									
Filing-Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	54	45	-16.6%	44	-2.2%	45	2.2%	43	-4.4%
Stmt.of Arrgmts.-Rpt.of Proc	60	56	-6.6%	70	25.0%	63	-10.0%	88	39.6%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	103	85	-17.4%	97	14.1%	99	2.0%	87	-12.1%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	78	61	-21.7%	69	13.1%	70	1.4%	72	2.8%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	209	218	4.3%	280	28.4%	236	-15.7%	208	-11.8%
Oral Argument-Opinion	64	74	15.6%	77	4.0%	70	-9.0%	69	-1.4%
Opinion-Mandate	80	76	-5.0%	66	-13.1%	72	9.0%	88	22.2%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Division III</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>-8.8%</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>
<b>Court of Appeals, Total</b>									
Filing-Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	48	54	12.5%	45	-16.6%	47	4.4%	42	-10.6%
Stmt. Of Arrgmts.-Rpt. Of Proc	57	64	12.2%	63	-1.5%	74	17.4%	67	-9.4%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	108	114	5.5%	111	-2.6%	121	9.0%	133	9.9%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	100	97	-3.0%	96	-1.0%	106	10.4%	110	3.7%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	204	214	4.9%	266	24.2%	310	16.5%	222	-28.3%
Oral Argument-Opinion	81	97	19.7%	72	-25.7%	82	13.8%	86	4.8%
Opinion-Mandate	104	100	-3.8%	80	-20.0%	77	-3.7%	87	12.9%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Court of Appeals</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>11.8%</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>-10.1%</b>

# The Court of Appeals

## Average Days Between Events For Civil Appeals Disposed By Opinion, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Division I</b>									
Filing Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	65	63	-3.0%	62	-1.5%	55	-11.2%	56	1.8%
Stmt. Of Arrgmts.- Rpt. of Proc	99	88	-11.1%	91	3.4%	115	26.3%	106	-7.8%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	84	79	-5.9%	91	15.1%	68	-25.2%	77	13.2%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	71	84	18.3%	87	3.5%	79	-9.1%	73	-7.5%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	419	531	26.7%	577	8.6%	523	-9.3%	386	-26.1%
Oral Argument-Opinion	94	91	-3.1%	81	-10.9%	107	32.0%	130	21.4%
Opinion-Mandate	95	84	-11.5%	85	1.1%	72	-15.2%	123	70.8%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Division I</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>17.2%</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>	<b>753</b>	<b>-13.2%</b>
<b>Division II</b>									
Filing-Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	90	79	-12.2%	48	-39.2%	41	-14.5%	44	7.3%
Stmt. Of Arrgmts.-Rpt. Of Proc	88	78	-11.3%	54	-30.7%	37	-31.4%	61	64.8%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	110	83	-24.5%	98	18.0%	86	-12.2%	91	5.8%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	60	56	-6.6%	61	8.9%	69	13.1%	78	13.0%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	411	499	21.4%	558	11.8%	604	8.2%	399	-33.9%
Oral Argument-opinion	77	81	5.1%	71	-12.3%	70	-1.4%	72	2.8%
Opinion-Mandate	84	70	-16.6%	85	21.4%	78	-8.2%	99	26.9%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Division II</b>	<b>784</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>883</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>-21.6%</b>
<b>Division III</b>									
Filing-Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	47	50	6.3%	51	2.0%	52	1.9%	45	-13.4%
Stmt. of Arrgmts.-Rpt. of Proc	60	62	3.3%	64	3.2%	77	20.3%	60	-22.0%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	74	73	-1.3%	76	4.1%	78	2.6%	69	-11.5%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	54	62	14.8%	61	-1.6%	62	1.6%	63	1.6%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	253	310	22.5%	300	-3.2%	240	-20.0%	211	-12.0%
Oral Argument-opinion	63	77	22.2%	82	6.4%	75	-8.5%	72	-4.0%
Opinion-Mandate	66	73	10.6%	70	-4.1%	69	-1.4%	83	27.5%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Division III</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>-12.4%</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>
<b>Court Of Appeals, Total</b>									
Filing-Stmt. Of Arrgmts.	64	62	-3.1%	55	-11.2%	50	-9.0%	50	0.0%
Stmt. Of Arrgmts.-Rpt. Of Proc	83	77	-7.2%	75	-2.5%	86	14.6%	81	-5.8%
Rpt. Of Proc.-App. Brief	90	78	-13.3%	88	12.8%	76	-13.6%	80	5.2%
App. Of Brief-Resp. Brief	63	71	12.6%	74	4.2%	72	-2.7%	72	-0.0%
Resp. Brief-Oral Argument	369	456	23.5%	494	8.3%	478	-3.2%	342	-28.4%
Oral Argument-Opinion	80	85	6.2%	79	-7.0%	91	15.1%	99	8.7%
Opinion-Mandate	84	78	-7.1%	81	3.8%	73	-9.8%	107	46.5%
<b>Filing-Opinion, Court Of Appeals</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>810</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>-15.7%</b>

# The Court of Appeals

## History Of Activity, All Reviews, Division I, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Disposed</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,649</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>1,816</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>1,958</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>1,882</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
Opinion Mandated									
Published	216	208	-3.7%	196	-5.7%	224	14.2%	263	17.4%
Unpublished	441	473	7.2%	483	2.1%	396	-18.0%	621	56.8%
Dismissed	620	732	18.0%	736	0.5%	973	32.2%	1,036	6.5%
Review Not Accepted	93	100	7.5%	71	-29.0%	54	-23.9%	204	277.8%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	50	60	20.0%	31	-48.3%	40	29.0%	29	27.5%
Terminated/Unpublished Rulings	13	31	138.4%	137	341.9%	65	-52.5%	152	133.9%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>1,442</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>11.5%</b>	<b>1,665</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>2,314</b>	<b>31.4%</b>
<b>Pending At Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	14	43	207.1%	111	158.1%	70	-36.9%	43	-38.6%
Not Ready for Setting	901	798	-11.4%	994	24.5%	969	-2.5%	417	-57.0%
Ready for Setting	397	606	52.6%	449	-25.9%	211	-53.0%	90	-57.4%
Remanded to Trial Court	9	4	-55.5%	4	-0.0%	0	---	0	---
Set for Motion Calendar	0	0	---	41	---	57	39.0%	77	35.1%
Set for Oral Argument	248	226	-8.8%	244	7.9%	344	40.9%	166	-51.7%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>1,569</b>	<b>1,677</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>1,651</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>-52.0%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	1	0	---	0	---	0	---	7	---
Opinion/Order in Process	141	48	-65.9%	134	179.1%	246	83.5%	154	-37.4%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>1,711</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>-49.7%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	236	273	15.6%	180	-34.0%	416	131.1%	221	-46.9%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Court of Appeals

## History Of Activity, All Reviews, Division II, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Disposed</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>26.6%</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>24.8%</b>	<b>1,183</b>	<b>9.0%</b>	<b>1,002</b>	<b>-15.3%</b>
Opinion Mandated									
Published	96	78	-18.7%	93	19.2%	101	8.6%	102	0.9%
Unpublished	180	209	16.1%	212	1.4%	242	14.1%	455	88.0%
Dismissed	323	323	-0.0%	416	28.7%	501	20.4%	534	6.5%
Review Not Accepted	7	46	557.1%	56	21.7%	64	14.2%	65	1.5%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	14	36	157.1%	35	-2.7%	30	-14.2%	18	-40.0%
Terminated/Unpublished Rulings	8	27	237.5%	78	188.8%	135	73.0%	122	-9.6%
<b>Total Disposed<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>675</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>8.5%</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>19.9%</b>	<b>1,297</b>	<b>20.6%</b>
<b>Pending At Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	9	10	11.1%	79	690.0%	56	-29.1%	14	-75.0%
Not Ready for Setting	240	278	15.8%	345	24.1%	371	7.5%	371	-0.0%
Ready for Setting	437	490	12.1%	571	16.5%	393	-31.1%	332	-15.5%
Remanded to Trial Court	0	4	---	1	-75.0%	0	---	0	---
Set for Motion Calendar	0	23	---	70	204.3%	62	-11.4%	51	-17.7%
Set for Oral Argument	176	150	-14.7%	102	-32.0%	194	90.1%	96	-50.5%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>955</b>	<b>10.7%</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>22.3%</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>-19.7%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	0	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---
Opinion/Order in Process	34	42	23.5%	32	-23.8%	118	268.7%	56	-52.5%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>997</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>1,200</b>	<b>20.3%</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>-0.5%</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>-22.9%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	187	175	-6.4%	161	-8.0%	270	67.7%	256	-5.1%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.

# The Court of Appeals

## History Of Activity, All Reviews, Division iii, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Disposed</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>-10.1%</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>-8.4%</b>
Opinion Mandated									
Published	125	95	-24.0%	132	38.9%	104	-21.2%	116	11.5%
Unpublished	182	177	-2.7%	163	-7.9%	128	-21.4%	88	-31.2%
Dismissed	249	235	-5.6%	234	-0.4%	271	15.8%	280	3.3%
Review Not Accepted	47	42	-10.6%	53	26.1%	65	22.6%	39	-40.0%
Transferred/Certified <sup>a</sup>	16	30	87.5%	16	-46.6%	9	-43.7%	7	-22.2%
Terminated/Unpublished Rulings	29	70	141.3%	118	68.5%	141	19.4%	117	-17.0%
<b>Total Disposed <sup>b</sup></b>	<b>653</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>-0.0%</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>-10.0%</b>
<b>Pending At Year End</b>									
Case Stayed	26	14	-46.1%	42	200.0%	17	-59.5%	13	-23.5%
Not Ready for Setting	262	214	-18.3%	264	23.3%	282	6.8%	314	11.3%
Ready for Setting	203	168	-17.2%	85	-49.4%	108	27.0%	68	-37.0%
Remanded to Trial Court	3	1	-66.6%	1	-0.0%	1	-0.0%	0	---
Set for Motion Calendar	16	28	75.0%	30	7.1%	37	23.3%	46	24.3%
Set for Oral Argument	70	77	10.0%	61	-20.7%	26	-57.3%	75	188.4%
<b>Total Awaiting Hearing</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>-13.4%</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>-3.7%</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>9.6%</b>
Opinion/Order Stayed	1	1	-0.0%	4	300.0%	4	-0.0%	4	0.0%
Opinion/Order in Process	50	55	10.0%	44	-20.0%	68	54.5%	53	-22.0%
<b>Total Pending Decision</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>-11.5%</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
Opinion/Order Filed but Not Yet Mandated	67	99	47.7%	101	2.0%	129	27.7%	159	23.2%

<sup>a</sup> Includes both those matters transferred to other divisions and those certified to the Supreme Court.

<sup>b</sup> Includes cases opened in error.





It is appealing to portray the work of the courts in terms of the number of cases tried or disposed of during a particular period of time. It is common practice to examine the number of filings along with the number of cases awaiting trial and the length of time it takes to get to trial. These are legitimate measures of the court's activities.

One needs to be careful, however, in the conclusions drawn from such popular statistics. Every case, no matter how small, is important to the litigants. In dealing with numbers there comes a tendency to overlook the basic purpose of providing a fair hearing and resolution to every person who comes into contact with the system. There is no such thing as a "small case" to a litigant. It is worthwhile to pause occasionally and be aware of the court's mission, the administration of justice. In doing so, the superior court may need to resist somewhat the pressures to "hurry up" imposed on the system by ever-increasing numbers of cases and novel ideas for pushing people through the system faster. At the same time courts need to be open to every reasonable opportunity for expediting justice consistent with the high level of concern rightfully due every case.

With each session of the Legislature there comes pressure to create new causes of action and to fashion new remedies for real or perceived wrongs. The response of the Legislature frequently spawns litigation geometrically. Innovative lawsuits together with legal challenges triggered by such new legislation frequently escalates beyond the best estimates of staff researchers in terms of legal activity and budget considerations.

The new antiharassment law adopted by the 1987 Legislature is but one example of a wholly new cause of action which the superior court system was required to absorb during the past year. This law was adopted in an attempt to provide a forum and a lawful remedy for those cases involving "harassment" claims. These claims, usually characterized by emotion and a level of intensity, generally involve people without lawyers who sometimes do not appreciate the importance of civility and order in court proceedings. Such cases require considerable energy and time on the part of the judges and for the most part have to be accommodated without additional resources.

# The Superior Courts



**Norman W. Quinn, President  
Superior Court Judges' Association**

The superior court system continues to utilize almost every available means of alternative dispute resolution. This includes mandatory arbitration, settlement conferences, tighter case management, mediation, and similar measures. The question increasingly posed by all of this extra effort is whether this society, or any for that matter, can afford to maintain the levels of litigation now existing and forthcoming. It is imperative meanwhile to continue implementing every reasonable means to contain not only the numbers of suits, but the management of them, particularly in the area of complex multiple party actions.

The citizens of this state are fortunate to have a dedicated group of trial judges on the superior court bench. Every indication points to serious commitment on the part of the trial judges to provide expeditious and fair handling of all matters coming before the courts. The judges, through their biannual continuing education efforts, are kept up to date on the latest developments of the law as well as appropriate aspects of the social sciences.

The Superior Court Judges' Association has an active statewide committee structure, together with a Board of Trustees, as its governing body. The Association has become increasingly active in review of proposed legislation, as it might bear on operation of the courts in upcoming years. Through its various committees, the Association reviews those bills and makes recommendations to its Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees then acts on these recommendations by either indicating support, opposition, or no position. The Association only takes a position on those measures which would directly affect the operation of the court or the administration of justice. The judiciary represents a coequal branch of government. Accordingly, the superior court judges do not deem it appropriate to comment on other legislation which is within the province of the Legislature.

Aside from all this, much is taken for granted in terms of the administration of the court. The following pages portray some of the administrative activity of the superior courts, in addition to the trial of cases.

# The Superior Courts

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## Jurisdiction

Superior courts are referred to as general jurisdiction trial courts because there is no limit on the types of civil or criminal cases heard. Civil cases in superior court include torts, commercial matters, property rights, domestic relations, paternity, adoption, probate, mental illness, domestic violence, administrative law reviews, and various other petitions.

Superior courts also have authority to hear cases appealed from courts of limited jurisdiction. Most superior court proceedings are recorded so that there is a written record if a case is appealed. The appellate court can then properly review the proceedings. Appeals may be made to the Court of Appeals. In some cases, they go directly to the Supreme Court.

All superior courts are grouped into districts. There are 30 judicial districts in the state. Counties with large populations usually comprise one district, while in less populated areas two or more counties comprise a district. A superior court is located in each of Washington's 39 counties. In multi-county districts, judges rotate between counties as needed. Each county courthouse has a separate staff.

Juvenile court is a division of the superior court established by law. Juvenile courts deal with youths under the age of 18 who commit offenses, or who are abused or neglected (dependent). Like adults, juvenile offenders are sentenced according to a uniform set of guidelines. Taking into account the seriousness of the offenses committed and the history of the subject's prior offenses, the guidelines establish a range of sentences, which may include terms of confinement and/or community supervision.

Dependent children are usually placed under the care of the state's Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). The court frequently places such children outside the home for varying periods of time.

## Judiciary

### Education

The judges, clerks, and administrators of the superior courts utilize education committees to plan seminars and conferences to meet the needs of each association. The committees plan cooperatively with the Board for Trial Court Education to ensure quality programming.

**Superior Court Judges:** Topics for superior court judges during 1987 included the following: trial procedures--decision-making, jury management, objections to evidence, and discretionary powers of the judge; substantive topics--child support and tort reform; jurisprudence--gender and justice, legal reasoning, statutory interpretations, and constitutional interpretations.

**County Clerks:** The county clerks' educational program included the following: personal computers in the courts--receipt and trust accounting, and calendaring; office/court management--fraud, office procedures, records management, unemployment cost control, child support collection, security,

client surveys, domestic violence, decreased revenues, and increased expenditures.

The Washington Association of County Officials established a program with the University of Washington to enhance the professionalism, productivity, management skills, and personal growth of county officials so they may better serve the public. County clerks participate in this program and those who successfully fulfill the classroom training and experience requirements graduate from the University of Washington with a County Officials' Training and Certification.

**Superior Court Administrators:** The 1987 educational topics for superior court administrators were as follows: communication skills--effective oral communication and effective writing; personal computers in the courts--arbitration, calendaring, spreadsheets, and databases; court management--role of administrators, budget development, leadership and the administrator, effective financial management, and running the courts like a business. A Court Management Certification Program is also being developed for court administrators.

**Juvenile Court Administrators:** Juvenile court administrators' education included the following: juvenile suicide prevention, court/school liaison, detention standards, labor/management relationships, sexual harassment, mediation, and patterns of change in juvenile institutions.

## Administration

### Technical Assistance

The following is a brief synopsis of the technical assistance efforts conducted by the Office of the Administrator for the Courts during 1987 at the request of the superior and juvenile courts.

Facilities planning was the focus of the study for Thurston County. The study produced recommendations regarding the need for additional jury space and court administrator's space.

The study focused on workflow procedures in the Thurston County Clerk's office. Recommendations included establishing a records destruction program, redesigning the office space, and reorganizing the workflow.

In Thurston County Juvenile Court, the focus of the study was the operation of the court's calendar. Some of the following recommendations were included: establishing setting guidelines, facilitating a pre-hearing conference, scheduling hearing times, and increasing the amount of judicial time spent hearing juvenile court cases.

Operation of the court's calendar was also the focus of a study in the Island-San Juan Judicial District. The recommendations in this report focused on calendar procedures and case scheduling.

## Judicial Staffing

Judgeships for each superior court district are established by legislation and are subject to approval by the county governments in the judicial district. Superior court judges are elected to four-year terms. Vacancies between elections are filled by appointment of the Governor, and the newly-appointed judge serves until the next general election. To qualify for the position, a person must be an attorney admitted to practice in Washington.

There is a presiding judge in each county or judicial district who handles specific administrative functions and acts as spokesman for the court. Duties of the presiding judge vary from county to county.

Some courts employ court commissioners to ease the judges' caseload. Court commissioners are usually attorneys licensed to practice in Washington. Working under the direction of the presiding judge, the court commissioner assumes many of the same powers and duties of a superior court judge. The commissioner does not, however, preside over criminal cases or jury trials. Matters heard by the court commissioner include probate, uncontested marriage dissolutions, the signing of court orders for noncontested matters, and other judicial duties as required by the judge.

Court reporters take stenographic notes in court to be later transcribed as the record of the proceeding. In addition, some court reporters assume additional duties as secretary to one or more judges.

Responsibilities and designation of a court bailiff vary from one court to another, depending upon the needs of the court served. The bailiff's primary duties are to call the court to order, to maintain order in the courtroom, and to attend to the needs and guidance of jurors. In some counties, bailiffs with legal training serve as legal assistants to the judge.

The county clerk is a constitutional officer with administrative, financial, and quasi-judicial duties. The clerk, who is elected and in some charter counties appointed, collects fees, maintains court records, draws and maintains jury panels, docket judgments, acts as trustee of court monies, and issues writs and certifications. At all civil and criminal proceedings, the clerk must be present to take court minutes, to mark and safeguard exhibits, and to otherwise as-

sist the judge. The clerk uses the statewide Judicial Information System for case indexing, for docketing, and for accounting information.

Court administrator functions vary depending upon the policies of the court served. Generally, the court administrator is responsible for notification of jurors, supervision of court staff, assistance to the presiding judge in budget planning for the court, assignment of cases, and implementation of general court policies.

## Judgeship Needs and Weighted Caseloads

In 1976 the weighted caseload system was established to estimate judicial position needs based on filings, average processing time per filing, and judicial time available for working on case related matters. The more judges in the court, the greater the percentage of time available for case related matters presumably because of economies of scale.

There are compelling reasons why a particular court may be under-staffed, yet additional judgeships are not indicated by the weighted caseload system. For example, courts without administrators or appropriate support staffing may have less case time available because judges must perform more non-case related activities. Courts that are extremely busy may not be able to devote time to examining case management methodologies because all the available time is spent on processing cases. Also, particular courts may be faced with caseloads that require more time than average because of concentrations of military, government, or large corporate headquarters. Finally, pending caseloads from prior years may sustain a permanent backlog of cases even though the current filing rate does not indicate additional judgeships.

Conversely, there are compelling reasons why a superior court may have more judges than indicated by the weighted caseload system. Courts in large, sparsely populated areas may require a judge to avoid long travel time for attorneys and litigants. A county may wish to have its own judge as a service to its population, rather than consolidating with another county.

In summary, judicial position estimates from the weighted caseload system should be viewed as one piece of information to be evaluated in determining judgeships in a superior court district.

## Judicial Positions

The Legislature, in response to superior court requests, has the authority to increase the maximum number of superior court judges in each judicial district. The

addition of these judicial positions is conditional upon the county's legislative authority documenting its approval to assume the expenses associated with the positions including court facilities. Each county has the option of phasing in the additional positions over several years.

The 1987 Legislature increased the maximum number of superior court judges in King County by seven, for a total of 46 judges. The Legislature also added an additional judgeship to Chelan-Douglas judicial district for a total of three judges. Each county has the option of phasing in these positions on or before January 1, 1990.

King County authorized three judges to start in 1988 while Chelan-Douglas County has not yet authorized its additional judgeship.

During 1987 Pierce County filled the two approved positions approved by the Legislature in 1985, while Mason County and Clark County each filled the position approved in 1986.

Two more superior courts, Pierce County Superior Court and Whatcom County Superior Court, created full time court administrator positions. This brings the total number of administrators to 21, with at least 3 administrators performing multiple functions such as clerk or bailiff.

The following presents the history of judicial position needs for all superior courts based on the weighted caseload methodology. The growth in position needs is a direct function of the increase in superior court filings. Since 1976 position needs have grown from 111 to 177 (in 1987). The estimate for 200 judicial positions in 1986 is inflated because of the large in-

### Statewide Judicial Position Needs History, 1976-1987

Year	Judicial Position Needs
1976	111
1977	117
1978	120
1979	141
1980	156
1981	150
1982	149
1983	145
1984	148
1985	170
1986	200 <sup>a</sup>
1987	177

<sup>a</sup> inflated by tort filing bulge.

# The Superior Courts

## Judicial Position Needs Analysis Statewide Summary

Case Type	Filing Weight	1985		1986		1987	
		Filings	Judicial Needs	Filings	Judicial Needs	Filings	Judicial Needs
<b>Criminal</b>							
Person	394.8	4,347	25.6	4,455	26.2	4,376	25.8
Property	113.0	7,086	11.9	7,904	13.3	7,470	12.6
Other Criminal	82.1	6,452	7.9	7,334	9.0	9,225	11.3
Criminal Appeals	87.0	1,017	1.3	1,070	1.4	1,277	1.7
<b>Total Criminal</b>		<b>18,902</b>	<b>46.7</b>	<b>20,763</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>22,348</b>	<b>51.4</b>
<b>Civil</b>							
Tort	172.0	9,747	25.0	19,515	50.0	8,007	20.5
Commercial	76.1	14,996	17.0	15,571	17.7	14,352	16.3
Property/Condemn	42.3	12,161	7.7	12,203	7.7	13,719	8.7
Civil Appeals	144.9	610	1.3	635	1.4	656	1.4
Admin Law Review	217.4	966	3.1	868	2.8	1,102	3.6
Other Civil	42.1	11,699	7.3	15,460	9.7	17,532	11.0
Domestic/Paternity	50.5	43,757	32.9	43,647	32.9	46,114	34.7
Probate	13.2	13,368	2.6	13,594	2.7	13,419	2.6
Guardianship	36.7	2,394	1.3	2,425	1.3	2,518	1.4
Adoption	12.4	2,714	0.5	2,792	0.5	2,698	0.5
Mental Illness	24.0	10,093	3.6	9,223	3.3	9,725	3.5
<b>Total Civil</b>		<b>93,936</b>	<b>102.3</b>	<b>107,899</b>	<b>130.0</b>	<b>101,482</b>	<b>104.2</b>
<b>Juvenile</b>							
Offender	47.2	17,525	12.3	17,701	12.5	17,670	12.4
Dependency	119.6	4,767	8.5	4,813	8.6	5,002	8.9
<b>Total Juvenile</b>		<b>22,292</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>22,514</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>22,672</b>	<b>21.3</b>
<b>State Total</b>		<b>163,699</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>179,210</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>174,862</b>	<b>177</b>

crease in tort filings that resulted from implementation of the Tort Reform Act on August 1, 1986. Tables in the county statistics chapter of the Annual Report demonstrate the history of judicial position needs for each superior court district based on the weighted caseload methodology.

The above is a comparison of the judicial position needs for 1985, 1986, and 1987. For each case type, the weighted caseload estimate of the minutes to process that case type (filing weight), the filings, and finally, the judicial positions needed to process each case type are given.

In 1987, 51.4 judicial position needs (29 percent) were attributable to criminal filings. In particular, the "Other Criminal" category, which includes controlled substance offenses, was the only criminal case type to have increased in position needs during 1987. Civil cases created a need for 104.2 positions or 59 percent of the total position needs, with domestic/paternity filings creating the single largest need estimate (34.7), followed by tort filing needs (20.5). Juvenile filings re-

quired 21.3 position needs or 12 percent of the 177 total position needs.

The Tort Reform Act of 1986 doubled the number of tort filings in 1986. Because the weighted caseload system uses filings to compute judicial position needs, the number of judicial position needs for 1986 is 200 positions, as compared to 170 position needs in 1985. In 1986 there were 50 position needs for tort filings, as compared to 25 position needs in 1985 and 20 position needs in 1987. The impact on judicial time because of these tort cases will be, at most, 25 position needs.

### Constitutional Amendment For Retired Judges As Judge Pro Tempore

Prior to January 1, 1988 the parties to an action in superior court were required to consent in writing to a judge pro tempore. Voter approval of a constitutional amendment to Article IV, Section 9 of the Washington State Constitution, now allows a superior court judge who retired while hearing a case to continue as a pro tempore judge without written agreement of the parties. The judge must have

made discretionary rulings in order to continue as a pro tempore judge. This eliminates the concern that substitution of judges would result in disruption, delay, and lengthening of the trial process.

### Superior Court Staffing

A survey for 1987 year-end staffing levels was conducted to provide a statewide perspective of staffing for superior courts and county clerk offices. Except for judgeships, the staffing levels are full time equivalents based on a 35-

#### Statewide Superior Court Staffing

Judgeships	133.0
Court Commissioners	27.5
Judgeships and Court Commissioners	160.5
Court Reports	131.0
Court Administrators	17.9
Administrative Staff	235.9
Total Administration	253.8
Clerk's Office	611.8

## Ratio of Staffing FTEs to Judges and Judges plus Commissioners

Staffing	Judges	Judges + Commiss.
Court Commissioners	0.21	N/A
Court Reporters	0.98	N/A
Court Administration	1.91	1.58
Clerk's Office	4.60	3.81
Admin.& Clerks	6.51	5.39

hour work week. Staffing for juvenile probation and detention services, because of the range of possible functions provided, was not included in the survey.

Each court divides the functions needed to support its operation according to its resources and organizational structure. For example, in smaller courts the court reporter functions as administrative staff to the judge. Another example is that court administration may provide some functions performed by the county clerk's office in other courts. No attempt was made to allocate FTEs by function, rather the FTEs were allocated by organization. The County Statistical Tables section contains staffing for each county and judicial district.

In reviewing statewide staffing, there is nearly a one-to-one correspondence between judges and court reporters. A few courts rely on electronic recording rather than employing court reporters. There are 253.8 FTEs for court administration (administrators plus staff). For every judge statewide there are 1.9 administrative FTEs and 4.60 clerk's office FTEs. For all judges and court commissioners combined (160.5 FTEs) there are 1.58 administrative FTEs and 3.81 clerk's office FTEs.

## Technology in the Courts

### Video Recording in the Courtroom

The Supreme Court signed a temporary order allowing Clark County Superior Court to act as a pilot site/program to utilize videotape in creating the official court record. The system, currently implemented in Judge John Skimas' Vancouver, Washington courtroom, involves five voice-activated cameras. Two tapes are produced: one for the file and the other for creating videotape copies.

This Washington pilot project is fashioned after a similar 1985 experiment conducted in the state of Kentucky which resulted in the installation of videotaping systems in numerous Kentucky courts.

The project's goal is to evaluate the speed and cost effectiveness of videotaping in relation to traditional transcription

for review. Transcript production for one trial can cost thousands of dollars and can take months to produce. A copy of the videotape can be produced within 24-48 hours and can cost as little as \$15.00 for a six-hour tape.

### Superior Court Personal Computer (PC) Calendaring

Two areas of interest for automation in the courts include personal computers (PCs) and automated case calendaring. A pilot project called "PC Calendaring," explored both PCs and calendaring in the Thurston and Spokane Superior County Courts.

The project developed a PC-based system to process basic information to support decision making on date assignments in the preparation of calendars and notices. The required information came from court documents and existing SCOMIS data. There are plans to have SCOMIS data "downloaded" electronically to the PC.

Two conclusions can be drawn thus far:

- 1) Initial direct training and support save time by reducing the learning curve for the set-up and operation of PC systems.
- 2) Calendaring procedures differ widely among courts; each court reviewing the system felt changes would be necessary for their particular method of calendaring.

### New Sites

In the 1987-1989 biennium, legislated funding provided for Judicial Information Systems (JIS) services in five additional counties: Columbia, Ferry, Klickitat, Wahkiakum, and San Juan. With the close cooperation of the courts, an accelerated implementation schedule resulted in all five counties having the Superior Court Management Information System (SCOMIS) installed by November 1987. As a result, SCOMIS now serves all but two of the counties in the state.

Equipment to access the Juvenile Court Information System (JUVIS) was installed in Ferry County. This installation means that JUVIS services are available in all juvenile courts in the state.

### Juvenile Detention Module

Studies have identified the need for a better method to keep track of juveniles in detention. In 1987 a project to create a new detention module for the Juvenile Information System (JUVIS) was initiated. The Juvenile Detention Module Task Force was chaired by Corinne Newman, administrator of Thurston County Youth Services. Funding for task force travel expenses and training was provided by the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.

The system will capture the following information about juveniles in detention facilities: times of entry and departure, activities while in detention, reasons for detention and release, and alerts about the juvenile's behavior. JIS has expanded its hours to provide 24-hour availability of the system on weekends and 18 hours a day (6:00 a.m. till midnight) during the week.

The system will provide the detention staff with better information for immediate operational decisions, and will capture data for management statistics. The detention module will be installed on March 1, 1988. Training for detention staff will occur during February.

# The Superior Courts

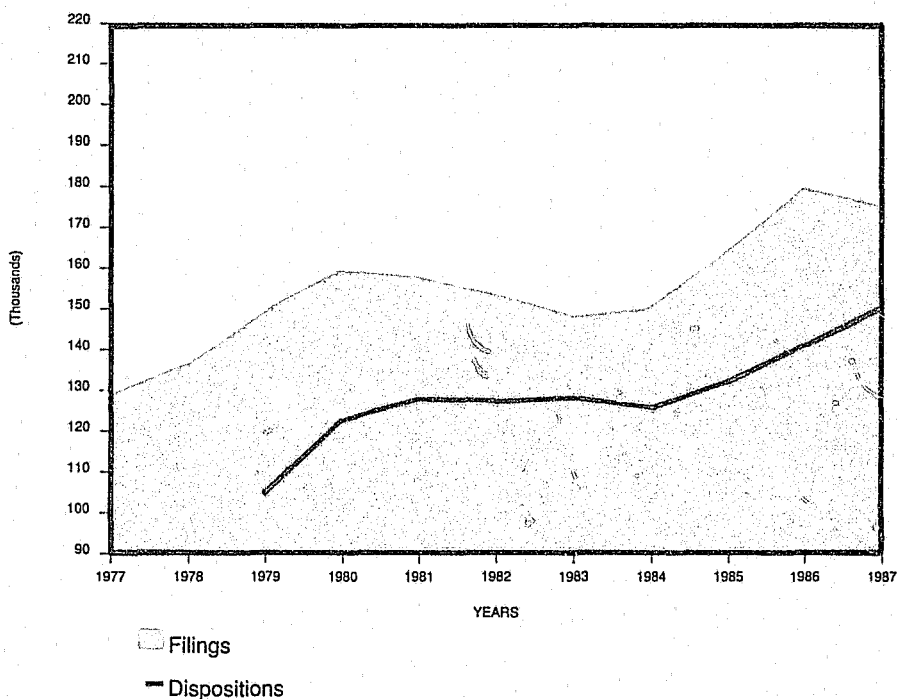
## Caseload Overview

Although total superior court filings decreased during 1987 below the 1986 level, 1987 filings still exceeded 1985 levels by 11,163 cases (6.8 percent). The excessive tort cases filed prior to the implementation of the Tort Reform Act of 1986 account for 1987 filings being less than 1986 filings.

Dispite the decline in filings, dispositions increased during 1987, particularly for criminal and civil cases. This may have resulted from the continuing efforts of the courts to adjudicate cases and the county clerk offices to ensure the recording of disposition information. Many of the "tort bulge" cases filed during July 1986 were also disposed during 1987, increasing civil dispositions.

Trial activity continues its declining trend for civil and criminal (including juvenile) cases. Trials have decreased from 10,203 in 1983 to 7,272 in 1987, a 28.7 reduction over a five year period.

Total Filings and Dispositions, Superior Courts, 1977-1987



Statewide reports of dispositions not available before 1979.

# The Superior Courts

## Court Activity By Type Of Case, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Civil <sup>a</sup>	82,943	86,020	3.7%	93,936	9.2%	107,899	14.8%	101,482	-5.9%
Criminal	16,686	16,437	-1.4%	18,902	14.9%	20,764	9.8%	22,348	7.6%
Probate	12,756	13,136	2.9%	13,368	1.7%	13,594	1.6%	13,419	-1.2%
Guardianship	2,114	2,418	14.3%	2,394	-0.9%	2,425	1.2%	2,518	3.8%
Adoption	5,011	2,822	-43.6%	2,714	-3.8%	2,792	2.8%	2,698	-3.3%
Mental Illness	7,198	7,906	9.8%	10,093	27.6%	9,223	-8.6%	9,725	5.4%
Juv. Offender	16,242	15,884	-2.2%	17,525	10.3%	17,701	1.0%	17,670	-0.1%
Juv. Dependency	4,832	5,088	5.2%	4,767	-6.3%	4,813	0.9%	5,002	3.9%
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>147,782</b>	<b>149,711</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>163,699</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>179,211</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>174,862</b>	<b>-2.4%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Civil <sup>a</sup>	76,109	74,895	-1.5%	75,215	0.4%	82,968	10.3%	92,807	11.8%
Criminal	16,529	14,621	-11.5%	16,343	11.7%	17,128	4.8%	19,398	13.2%
Probate	8,874	9,121	2.7%	10,918	19.7%	9,551	-12.5%	9,524	-0.2%
Guardianship	513	526	2.5%	529	0.5%	577	9.0%	609	5.5%
Adoption	3,945	2,430	-38.4%	2,203	-9.3%	2,348	6.5%	2,197	-6.4%
Mental Illness	4,044	5,617	38.8%	6,633	18.0%	6,967	5.0%	5,651	-18.8%
Juv. Offender	14,891	13,613	-8.5%	15,244	11.9%	15,891	4.2%	15,112	-4.9%
Juv. Dependency	2,989	4,641	55.2%	4,903	5.6%	5,195	5.9%	4,740	-8.7%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>127,894</b>	<b>125,464</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>131,988</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>140,625</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>150,038</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
<b>Trials</b>									
Civil Jury	972	918	-5.5%	795	-13.3%	705	-11.3%	674	-4.3%
Civil Non-Jury	5,044	4,163	-17.4%	3,709	-10.9%	3,595	-3.0%	3,518	-2.1%
Criminal Non-Jury	930	784	-15.6%	693	-11.6%	554	-20.0%	373	-32.6%
Criminal Jury	1,151	1,199	4.1%	1,351	12.6%	1,310	-3.0%	1,178	-10.0%
Probate	60	73	21.6%	54	-26.0%	42	-22.2%	42	-0.0%
Guardianship	21	20	-4.7%	29	45.0%	18	-37.9%	27	50.0%
Adoption	71	13	-81.6%	8	-38.4%	17	112.5%	24	41.1%
Mental Illness	8	28	250.0%	167	496.4%	9	-94.6%	18	100.0%
Juv. Offender	1,946	1,654	-15.0%	1,632	-1.3%	1,543	-5.4%	1,418	-8.1%
<b>Total Trials</b>	<b>10,203</b>	<b>8,852</b>	<b>-13.2%</b>	<b>8,438</b>	<b>-4.6%</b>	<b>7,793</b>	<b>-7.6%</b>	<b>7,272</b>	<b>-6.6%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes paternity cases in 1984-1986, formerly counted under adoptions in the "Other" category.



# The Superior Courts

## Criminal Matters

### Sentencing Reform Act Implementation

On July 1, 1984 the state of Washington implemented the Sentencing Reform Act (SRA) of 1981. Offenders who have committed crimes on or after SRA implementation are sentenced according to a uniform set of sentencing guidelines. If substantial and compelling circumstances exist, judges can depart from the guidelines and impose an exceptional sentence.

Two alternatives to standard and exceptional sentencing include First-time Offender Waiver and Special Sexual Offender Sentencing Alternative.

First-time, non-violent offenders with no prior felony convictions may have the presumptive sentencing range waived and instead receive up to 90 days in jail and other sentence conditions. The use of the First-time Offender sentence is to order treatment or other special conditions not available to the sentencing judge.

Persons convicted of sex offenses, except first and second degree rape, who have no prior felony sex convictions may have a sentence within the standard range suspended (stayed). In these cases, up to six months of jail confinement may be imposed in addition to other sentence conditions.

The accompanying table illustrates the implementation of SRA guidelines for felony convictions during fiscal 1987. In summary, 98 percent of the 8,525 standard sentences were within the guideline ranges and standard sentences represent 73.7 percent of the 11,510 convictions. Exceptional sentences account for less than 4 percent of the total conviction.

Type Of Sentencing	Within	Above	Below	Total	
Standard	8,366 (98.1%)	41 (0.5%)	118 (1.4%)	8,525 (100%)	(73.7%)
Exceptional	22 (5.2%)	156 (37.1%)	242 (57.6%)	420 (100%)	(3.6%)
First-time	1,636 (75.2%)	37 (1.7%)	503 (23.1%)	2,176 (100%)	(18.9%)
Offender	17 (4.4%)	0 (0.0%)	372 (95.6%)	389 (100%)	(3.4%)
Special Sex	10,041 (87.2%)	234 (2.0%)	1,235 (10.7%)	11,510 (100%)	(100%)

Source: Sentencing Guidelines Commission

tions. Over 75 percent of first-time offenders have sentences within the guidelines, while 4.4 percent of Special Sex Offenders are sentenced within the range.

### Criminal Caseload

Criminal filings increased for the third consecutive year, reaching record levels in 1987. Growth in controlled substances filings largely account for this increase in total filings. In contrast, the number of filings declined for sex crimes, aggravated assault, burglary, and larceny/theft.

Controlled substance filings rose 52.8 percent in 1987, representing the largest category increase for the second consecutive year. These additional cases were proportionally distributed among the counties.

Criminal dispositions continued the upward trend started in 1985, with record numbers for the second year in a row. The 15.9 percent rise in criminal convictions was primarily responsible for the increase in dispositions.

The number of criminal defendants sentenced continued to rise for the third straight year. Sentences to state institutions increased by 27.2 percent, while those receiving jail or jail and probation jumped 13.1 percent.

Although the total number of criminal proceedings reached record levels in 1987, jury and non-jury trials continued to decline. All other types of pre-disposition and post-disposition proceedings increased substantially for the third consecutive year.

Criminal Activity, 1987	
<b>Filings</b>	
Homicide	247
Sex Crimes	1,545
Robbery	788
Aggravated Assault	1,796
Burglary	3,288
Larceny-Theft	3,488
Motor Vehicle Theft	694
Controlled Substances	4,772
Other Felony	4,453
Total Felony Filings	21,071
Appeals from Lower Courts	1,277
<b>Total Criminal Filings</b>	<b>22,348</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>	
Arraignments	19,355
Pre-Disposition Hearings	56,569
Non-Jury Trials	373
Jury Trials	1,178
Disposition Hearings	17,107
Post-Disposition Hearings	23,297
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>117,879</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>	
Convictions - Guilty Pleas	14,212
Convictions - Court Decisions	
After Trial	256
Convictions - Jury Verdicts	
After Trial	723
<b>Total Convictions</b>	<b>15,191</b>
Change of Venue/Jurisdiction	206
Decisions on Lower Court Appeals	675
Dismissals/Deferred Prosecution	3,115
Acquittals	184
Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity	27
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>19,398</b>
<b>Sentences</b>	
Probation Only	2,143
Jail or Jail and Probation	10,261
State Institution	2,498
Total Sentenced	14,902
Revocations of Sentence	341

# The Superior Courts

## Criminal Activity, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Homicide	225	258	14.6%	258	-0.0%	243	-5.8%	247	1.6%
Sex Crimes	883	1,441	63.1%	1,701	18.0%	1,682	-1.1%	1,545	-8.1%
Robbery	0	689	--%	712	3.3%	677	-4.9%	788	16.3%
Aggravated Assault	1,400	1,387	-0.9%	1,676	20.8%	1,853	10.5%	1,796	-3.0%
Burglary	2,607	2,735	4.9%	3,281	19.9%	3,653	11.3%	3,288	-9.9%
Larceny/Theft	0	2,911	--%	3,243	11.4%	3,614	11.4%	3,488	-3.4%
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	388	--%	562	44.8%	637	13.3%	694	8.9%
Controlled Substances	2,402	2,128	-11.4%	2,630	23.5%	3,121	18.6%	4,772	52.8%
Other Felonies	3,99C	3,532	-11.4%	3,822	8.2%	4,213	10.2%	4,453	5.6%
Robbery/Theft	4,140	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
<b>Total Felony Filings</b>	<b>15,647</b>	<b>15,469</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>17,885</b>	<b>15.6%</b>	<b>19,693</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>21,071</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
Lower Court Appeals	1,039	968	-6.8%	1,017	5.0%	1,070	5.2%	1,277	19.3%
<b>Total Criminal Filings</b>	<b>16,686</b>	<b>16,437</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>18,902</b>	<b>14.9%</b>	<b>20,764</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>22,348</b>	<b>7.6%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Change of Venue <sup>a</sup>	164	111	-32.3%	143	28.8%	199	39.1%	206	3.5%
Lower Court Appeal Decision	0	741	--%	664	-10.3%	741	11.5%	675	-8.9%
Dismissal/Deferred Prosecution	3,654	2,703	-26.0%	2,846	5.2%	2,848	0.0%	3,115	9.3%
Acquittal <sup>b</sup>	507	245	-51.6%	250	2.0%	198	-20.8%	184	-7.0%
Not Guilty-Insanity	0	38	--%	27	-28.9%	43	59.2%	27	-37.2%
Conviction <sup>c</sup>	11,723	10,515	-10.3%	12,377	17.7%	13,099	5.8%	15,191	15.9%
Not Specified	481	268	-44.2%	36	-86.5%	0	-86.5%	0	-86.5%
<b>Total Dispositions <sup>d</sup></b>	<b>16,529</b>	<b>14,621</b>	<b>-11.5%</b>	<b>16,343</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>17,128</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>19,398</b>	<b>13.2%</b>
<b>Sentences</b>									
Probation Only	3,107	2,390	-23.0%	2,212	-7.4%	2,090	-5.5%	2,143	2.5%
Jail/Jail & Probation	6,474	6,735	4.0%	8,421	25.0%	9,069	7.6%	10,261	13.1%
State Institution	2,142	1,882	-12.1%	1,813	-3.6%	1,963	8.2%	2,498	27.2%
<b>Total Defendants Sentenced</b>	<b>11,723</b>	<b>11,007</b>	<b>-6.1%</b>	<b>12,446</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>13,122</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>14,902</b>	<b>13.5%</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Non-Jury Trial	930	784	-15.6%	693	-11.6%	554	-20.0%	373	-32.6%
Jury Trial	1,151	1,199	4.1%	1,351	12.6%	1,310	-3.0%	1,178	-10.0%
Arraignment	17,780	14,296	-19.5%	15,962	11.6%	17,416	9.1%	19,355	11.1%
Pre-Disposition Hearing	29,950	33,491	11.8%	42,563	27.0%	47,695	12.0%	56,569	18.6%
Disposition Hearing	11,136	12,162	9.2%	13,931	14.5%	15,129	8.5%	17,107	13.0%
Post-Disposition Hearing	12,748	15,492	21.5%	17,447	12.6%	19,978	14.5%	23,297	16.6%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>73,695</b>	<b>77,424</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>91,947</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>102,082</b>	<b>11.0%</b>	<b>117,879</b>	<b>15.4%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes remands to lower courts in 1983.

<sup>b</sup> Includes dismissals after start of trial in 1983.

<sup>c</sup> Includes some decisions on lower court appeals in 1983.

<sup>d</sup> Due to changes in classification and definitions, dispositions before 1984 are not comparable to those after 1984.

# The Superior Courts

## Civil Matters

### Arbitration

Chapter 212, Laws of 1987, defines the dollar limitations for cases to be eligible for arbitration. As of July 1, 1988 the basic mandatory arbitration limit for superior court cases was increased from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and the maximum ceiling for cases eligible for arbitration was raised from \$25,000 to \$35,000. Minimum qualifications for arbitrators were established. The statute which required counties to have implemented a mandatory arbitration program to obtain additional superior court judicial positions was repealed.

The implementation of arbitration in a superior court is authorized by a two-thirds vote of a county's judges. The following chart lists judicial districts currently utilizing mandatory arbitration at the locally determined monetary limit indicated.

Judicial District	Arbitration Limit
Chelan/Douglas	\$25,000
Clark	\$25,000
King	\$25,000
Kitsap	*\$25,000
Pierce	\$25,000
Snohomish	\$25,000
Spokane	\$25,000
Thurston	\$25,000
Whatcom	*\$25,000
Yakima	*\$25,000

\* \$35,000 effective 7/1/88

The Improvement of Court Administration Committee of the Superior Court Judges' Association initiated a study of mandatory arbitration. The objective of the study is to examine arbitration effectiveness and ways to improve the arbitration process.

The study of mandatory arbitration or other alternative dispute resolution programs may include the evaluation of these factors: type of dispute, valuation of case, method of resolution, success of resolution (not appealed), litigant/attorney satisfaction, caseload, time from hearing/filing to disposition, number of sessions required, length of sessions, and costs.

### Tort Reform

The Tort Reform Act of 1986 substantially revised the law in personal injury and wrongful death actions filed on or after August 1, 1986. The impact of the tort reform legislation on the superior court system remains a major area of concern.

Tort Filings Disposed 18 Months after Filing						
	Study Groups					
	March/May		July		August-October	
Disposed	1,307	50.5%	4,268	40.0%	556	47.7%
Undisposed Filings	1,282	49.5%	6,407	60.0%	609	52.3%
	2,589	100.0%	10,675	100.0%	1,165	100.0%

Type of Tort Disposition 18 Months after Filing						
	Study Groups					
	March/May		July		August-October	
Dismissed	584	44.7%	2,416	56.6%	229	41.2%
Settled	566	43.3%	1,564	36.6%	227	40.8%
Uncontested/Default	99	7.6%	139	3.3%	63	11.3%
Summary Jud.	28	2.1%	78	1.8%	21	3.8%
Adjudicated	30	2.3%	71	1.7%	16	2.9%
Total Disposed	1,307	100.0%	4,268	100.0%	556	100.0%

To better understand the impact of the Tort Reform Act, a study analyzing cases filed before and after August 1 was performed. The progress of the huge number of cases filed during July 1986, just prior to Tort Reform implementation, is of particular interest.

**Sampling:** Using SCOMIS, tort cases filed in the following three time periods were analyzed: March through May 1986; July 1986; and August through October 1986. The disposition of each sample case was determined 18 months after filing. By comparing the proportion of dispositions for each period, inferences about cases filed in the sample time frames can be made.

**Results:** The following results are based on chi-square tests for statistical significance using conservative methods that minimize unwarranted associations. There was no difference in the proportion of filings disposed between the March-May sample and the August-October sample (based on chi-square tests for statistical significance).

In comparing March-May filings and then August-October filings to July's, a significantly larger proportion of July filings had yet to reach disposition, based on identical 18-month follow-up periods.

Type of disposition proportions were compared between the March-May sample and the August-October samples. Only those cases disposed by Uncontested/Default Judgments differed between the two samples. Significantly more of the August-October filings were disposed by Uncontested/Default Judgment dispositions than in March-May.

When March-May was compared to July filings, all but two disposition categories, Summary Judgment and Adjudicated by Trial, were found to be statistically different between periods. Those two

categories combined represent less than five percent of dispositions for either period.

Significantly more of the March-May cases either settled or had Uncontested/Default Judgment dispositions than in July, while more July cases were dismissed than in the March-May group.

For the comparison of July and August-October, significantly more cases were disposed by Uncontested/Default Judgment and Summary Judgment dispositions than in July, while significantly more July cases were dismissed.

**Summary:** Fewer of the July filings have reached disposition than filings prior to and subsequent to that month. July had more cases dismissed. Since July, more cases are disposed by Uncontested/Default Judgments and summary judgments than before.

**Conclusion:** One explanation of these results is that the majority of July's cases were rushed to beat the August 1 deadline, postponing discovery until after the filing, delaying court processing of the case, and causing fewer cases to be disposed. Another explanation is that many of the July cases would normally not have been filed and were filed solely as a contingency to take advantage of the old tort laws. As a result, more of these cases are not being actively pursued and are being dismissed.

Cases disposed by way of Uncontested/Default Judgments increased after the law change. It has been suggested this may reflect a new willingness on the defendant's part to ignore civil litigation if it is believed that damages are now limited.

Finally, cases adjudicated by trial were proportionately consistent throughout the three study periods. Based on the tradi-

tional portion of disposition resulting from trial, over 500 additional trials may be demanded statewide. Since this additional demand is equivalent to one year's worth of trials, an overload of the system may be imminent.

Additional issues created by the Tort Reform Act which could significantly impact superior courts include:

- (1) the constitutionality of several major tort reform provisions; and
- (2) procedural uncertainties created by the Act.

The cap placed on non-economic damages by the Act and the apportionment of damages among entities at fault required by the Act both raise constitutional issues. Until these issues are resolved by the appellate courts, the final resolution of a number of cases that will be tried under the Tort Reform Act will be in question. Procedurally, the Act is unclear whether derivative actions now must be joined with an action for the primary injury, whether there will be longer trials due to the provisions of the Act requiring damages to be apportioned among all entities at fault, and whether the apportionment of damages provision will reduce the incentive to settle.

In 1987 the Legislature enacted additional provisions affecting the tort system. Chapter 212, Laws of 1987 included changes to the following areas: frivolous lawsuits; liability changes; health care limitations; accelerated waiver of the physician-patient privilege; workers' compensation liens; attorney's fees; and settlement agreements.

## Protection From Civil Harassment

The Antiharassment Act of 1987 was enacted by the Legislature to provide victims of harassment "with a speedy and inexpensive method of obtaining civil antiharassment protection orders preventing all further unwanted contact between the victim and the perpetrator." The following is a summary of the Act:

The Act creates an action, known as a petition for an order for protection, in cases of unlawful harassment. The action is commenced in superior court by filing a petition which alleges the existence of harassment. The clerk of the court is to make available simplified forms and instructions required by the Act. The Office of the Administrator for the Courts is required to develop and prepare model forms and instructions.

The filing fee for a petition is \$78, unless the petitioner files an application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis. If the court determines a petitioner lacks the funds to pay the costs of filing, the petitioner is granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and no filing fee or any

other court related fees, including fees for service, may be charged to the petitioner.

Upon receipt of a petition, the court must order a hearing to be held no later than 14 days from the date of the order. The responding party must be served within 5 court days prior to the hearing. The court may set a new hearing date if timely service cannot be made.

When filing a petition for a civil antiharassment protection order, the petitioner may also obtain an ex parte temporary antiharassment order. An ex parte temporary antiharassment order may be granted without notice to the respondent if an affidavit is filed showing reasonable proof that the petitioner has been unlawfully harassed, and that the petitioner will suffer greater irreparable harm if the temporary antiharassment protection order is not granted.

In granting an ex parte temporary antiharassment protection order or a civil antiharassment protection order, the court may take the following measures:

- (a) Restrain the respondent from making any attempts to contact the petitioner;
- (b) Restrain the respondent from making any attempts to keep the petitioner under surveillance; and
- (c) Require the respondent to stay a stated distance from the petitioner's residence and workplace.

A civil antiharassment protection order may be effective up to a year and an ex parte temporary order may be effective up to 14 days. Any willful disobedience of either order subjects the respondent to criminal penalties and the respondent may also be found in contempt of court. The statute also provides for the modification or termination of an order for protection upon application and notice, and after a hearing.

Approximately 1200 civil harassment cases have been filed since the law was enacted. This is far fewer than the 8000 domestic violence cases filed per year in superior courts. However, this is new legislation and filings may increase as the law becomes better known. Civil harassment is similar to domestic violence in that county clerks and judges spend considerable time and effort assisting the plaintiff through the process.

## Enforcement Of Judgments

Changes to Chapter 442, Laws of 1987 reorganize the enforcement of judgments and collect it under one title of the code. The law contains the following headings: General Provisions; Homesteads; Personal Exemptions; Executions; Adverse Claims; Sales on Executions; Redemptions; Attachments; Pre-judgment Gar-

nishment; and Garnishment. The relationship with federal laws on exemption is clarified. Application of this title governing executions, stays, and sales is extended to district courts, except those provisions relating to real property.

## Alternative Dispute Resolution Projects

The Legislature appropriated a total of \$150,000 for the Office of the Administrator for the Courts to contract for the performance of a two-year demonstration project on alternative dispute resolution using the model center approach adopted by the Legislature in RCW 7.75. This general fund appropriation specifies the funding be used for programs in Everett and Seattle, subject to commitments from Snohomish and King Counties, and the cities each match one half of the \$150,000 appropriation.

To date, one program in Seattle and one in Everett are in the process of obtaining commitments for local matching funds.

## Civil Caseload

Total civil filings declined for the first time in five years. The 5.9 percent decrease from last year can be primarily attributed to the inflated 1986 tort filings that preceded enactment of the Tort Reform Act.

As expected, tort filings declined significantly from 1986 levels. The 58.9 percent decrease in these filings resulted in the lowest number of tort filings in five years.

After a three year decline, administrative law review filings increased by almost 27 percent in 1987.

Although the steady growth of property rights filings waned in 1986, a 12.4 percent increase in these cases produced the highest level in five years.

Total civil dispositions increased substantially for the second consecutive year, despite the overall drop in civil filings in 1987.

The growth in dismissed civil cases continued for the second successive year, up 45 percent in 1987. These increased dismissals were proportionally distributed among tort, commercial, property rights, other petitions and complaints, and administrative law review reporting categories.

The 45 percent increase in civil judgments after trial is due largely to domestic relations and paternity cases.

Civil jury and non-jury trials dropped slightly in 1987, continuing their six-year decline.

# The Superior Courts

<b>Civil Activity, 1987</b>									
	<b>Tort</b>	<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Property Rights</b>	<b>Domestic Relations/ Paternity</b>	<b>Adminis- trative Law Review</b>	<b>Other Petitions Complaints</b>	<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>Appeals From Lower Courts</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Filings</b>	<b>8,007</b>	<b>14,352</b>	<b>13,719</b>	<b>46,114</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>17,532</b>	<b>100,826</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>101,482</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Pre-Disposition Hearings	7,385	6,169	3,422	22,507	321	7,600	47,404	299	47,703
Non-Jury Trials	192	455	277	2,101	198	211	3,434	84	3,518
Jury Trials	453	59	20	6	83	42	663	11	674
Disposition Hearings	2,148	2,498	5,414	27,119	203	9,209	46,591	249	46,840
Post Disposition Hearings	726	1,848	803	14,151	86	1,237	18,851	35	18,886
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>10,904</b>	<b>11,029</b>	<b>9,936</b>	<b>65,884</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>18,299</b>	<b>116,943</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>117,621</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Change of Venue/Jurisdiction	88	58	8	195	4	30	383	0	383
Lower Court Appeal Decisions	2	2	0	2	72	37	115	164	279
Default Judgments/Uncontested	565	3,396	6,035	18,590	14	5,066	33,666	13	33,679
<b>Dismissals</b>	<b>5,801</b>	<b>6,130</b>	<b>3,718</b>	<b>5,393</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>6,159</b>	<b>27,592</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>27,815</b>
Settlements/Agreed Judgments	3,953	2,504	908	13,961	108	685	22,119	28	22,147
Summary Judgments	219	591	249	11	10	117	1,197	2	1,199
Judgments After Trial	454	577	880	3,337	197	1,824	7,269	36	7,305
<b>Total Dispositions<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>11,082</b>	<b>13,258</b>	<b>11,798</b>	<b>41,489</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>13,918</b>	<b>92,341</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>92,807</b>

<sup>a</sup> 572 disposed civil cases were reported in aggregate form; total dispositions equal 93,379.

# The Superior Courts

## Civil Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Torts	8,420	9,009	6.9%	9,747	8.1%	19,515	100.2%	8,007	-58.9%
Commercial	14,565	13,916	-4.4%	14,996	7.7%	15,571	3.8%	14,352	-7.8%
Property Rights	8,957	10,270	14.6%	12,161	18.4%	12,203	0.3%	13,719	12.4%
Domestic Relations <sup>a</sup>	41,330	44,053	6.5%	43,757	-0.6%	43,647	-0.2%	46,114	5.6%
Admin Law Review	1,040	988	-5.0%	966	-2.2%	868	-10.1%	1,102	26.9%
Other Petitions/Complnts	7,951	7,154	-10.0%	11,699	63.5%	15,460	32.1%	17,532	13.4%
Lower Court Appeals	680	630	-7.3%	610	-3.1%	635	4.0%	656	3.3%
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>82,943</b>	<b>86,020</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>93,936</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>107,899</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>101,482</b>	<b>-5.9%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Change of Venue <sup>b</sup>	555	455	-18.0%	462	1.5%	410	-11.2%	383	-6.5%
Lower Court Appeal Decision	0	435	--	268	-38.3%	333	24.2%	279	-16.2%
Default Judgment/Uncontested	21,795	23,715	8.8%	29,756	25.4%	29,590	-0.5%	33,679	13.8%
Dismissal	8,655	16,669	92.5%	16,072	-3.5%	19,177	19.3%	27,815	45.0%
Settlement/Agreed Judgment <sup>c</sup>	21,445	19,519	-8.9%	17,016	-12.8%	20,791	22.1%	22,147	6.5%
Summary Judgment	1,523	1,406	-7.6%	1,255	-10.7%	1,222	-2.6%	1,199	-1.8%
Judgment after Trial <sup>d</sup>	12,500	4,419	-64.6%	4,476	1.2%	5,037	12.5%	7,305	45.0%
Not Specified <sup>e</sup>	9,636	8,277	-14.1%	5,911	-28.5%	6,408	8.4%	572	-91.0%
<b>Total Dispositions <sup>f</sup></b>	<b>76,109</b>	<b>74,895</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>	<b>75,216</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>82,968</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>93,379</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Non-Jury Trial	5,044	4,163	-17.4%	3,709	-10.9%	3,595	-3.0%	3,518	-2.1%
Jury Trial	972	918	-5.5%	795	-13.3%	705	-11.3%	674	-4.3%
Pre-Disposition Hearing	51,056	42,736	-16.2%	44,975	5.2%	46,189	2.6%	47,703	3.2%
Disposition Hearing	29,534	36,197	22.5%	41,888	15.7%	44,708	6.7%	46,840	4.7%
Post-Disposition Hearing	12,300	14,917	21.2%	15,311	2.6%	17,292	12.9%	18,886	9.2%
<b>Total Proceedings <sup>g</sup></b>	<b>98,906</b>	<b>98,931</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>106,678</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>112,489</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>117,621</b>	<b>4.5%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes paternity cases in 1984-1986, formerly counted under adoption.

<sup>b</sup> Includes remands to lower courts in 1983.

<sup>c</sup> Includes pretrial dismissals in 1983.

<sup>d</sup> Includes decisions rendered after a hearing but without a trial in some courts in 1983.

<sup>e</sup> Includes 933 paternity in 1984 which were disposed as "Closed by Court Order," revised from figures reported in 1985 *Annual Report of the Courts of Washington*.

<sup>f</sup> Due to changes in classification and definitions, dispositions in 1984-1986 should not be compared to those in prior years.

<sup>g</sup> Due to improvements in the reporting of hearings, proceedings in 1984-1986 should not be compared to those in prior years.

# The Superior Courts

## Other Civil Matters

### Release of Patients in Mental Health System

As part of the continuing changes made to tort laws initiated by the Legislature in 1986 and continued in 1987, Chapter 212 changed the liability of mental health facilities. The state, a unit of local government, and evaluation and treatment facilities are not civilly or criminally liable for the good faith release of persons held under the Involuntary Treatment Act (Chapter 71.05 RCW) if the release was done without gross negligence.

### Revising Involuntary Treatment Procedures

Washington State's Involuntary Treatment ACT (ITA) of 1959 permits, by court order, the involuntary treatment of a person who is gravely disabled or presents a likelihood of serious harm to self or others as a result of a mental disorder. Mental health professionals are responsible for commitments of individuals who are within the scope of this act. The initial commitment is for 72 hours with additional treatment periods of 14, 90, and 180 days.

In Chapter 439, Laws of 1987, the ITA was amended to reflect a comprehensive approach to treatment of mentally ill adults in intensive but less restrictive settings. A 90-day less restrictive treatment alternative replaces the present 14-day less restrictive treatment program. The petitioner must show why treatment less restrictive than detention is not appropriate.

A pilot program to be initiated in three counties during 1988 was created to determine the effect of case management services on persons conditionally released or committed to less restrictive treatment.

The physician-patient or psychologist-client privileges were modified, giving the court discretion to waive the privilege based solely on the need for protection of the detained person or the public.

The time period a person may be detained at an alcohol and treatment facility was increased from 48 to 72 hours. A petition for commitment of a person alleged to be incapacitated by alcohol must be heard by the court within 3 to 7 days after the date the petition is filed.

### Other Civil Matters Caseload

No perceptible increase in the total number of other civil case filings was observed in 1987. Overall, these filings have remained quite stable and have ex-

Other Civil Case Activity, 1987						
	Probate	Guardianship	Adoption	Subtotals	Mental Illness	Totals
<b>Filings</b>	<b>13,419</b>	<b>2,518</b>	<b>2,698</b>	<b>18,635</b>	<b>9,725</b>	<b>28,360</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>						
Hearings	8,662	4,153	2,662	15,477	14,566	30,043
Trials	42	27	24	93	18	111
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>8,704</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>2,686</b>	<b>15,570</b>	<b>14,584</b>	<b>30,154</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>						
Change of Venue/ Jurisdiction	6	28	3	37	57	94
Dismissals	12	52	42	106	1,363	1,469
Uncontested/Declaration of Completion	8,578	142	382	9,102	1,764	10,866
Closed by Court	928	387	1,770	3,085	2,467	5,552
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>9,524</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>2,197</b>	<b>12,330</b>	<b>5,651</b>	<b>17,981</b>

hibited only minor variations over the last several years.

Despite a 5.4 percent increase in mental illness filings, dispositions for this category declined by 18.8 percent in 1987. The reduction in mental illness dispositions contributed to a decrease in total dispositions for the second consecutive year.

Other civil case trial activity rebounded from the sharp decline experienced last year, up 29 percent in 1987.

Total proceedings increased 6.1 percent this year, due largely to a 15.6 percent jump in mental illness hearings.

# The Superior Courts

## Other Case Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Probate	12,756	13,136	2.9%	13,368	1.7%	13,594	1.6%	13,419	-1.2%
Guardianship	2,114	2,418	14.3%	2,394	-0.9%	2,425	1.2%	2,518	3.8%
Adoption <sup>a</sup>	5,011	2,822	-43.6%	2,714	-3.8%	2,792	2.8%	2,698	-3.3%
Mental Illness	7,198	7,906	9.8%	10,093	27.6%	9,223	-8.6%	9,725	5.4%
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>27,079</b>	<b>26,282</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>28,569</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>28,034</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>	<b>28,360</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Probate	8,874	9,121	2.7%	10,918	19.7%	9,551	-12.5%	9,524	-0.2%
Guardianship	513	526	2.5%	529	0.5%	577	9.0%	609	5.5%
Adoption <sup>a</sup>	3,945	2,430	-38.4%	2,203	-9.3%	2,348	6.5%	2,197	-6.4%
Mental Illness	4,044	5,617	38.8%	6,633	18.0%	6,967	5.0%	5,651	-18.8%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>17,376</b>	<b>17,694</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>20,283</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>19,443</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>	<b>17,981</b>	<b>-7.5%</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Trial	160	134	-16.2%	258	92.5%	86	-66.6%	111	29.0%
Probate Hearing	9,914	10,170	2.5%	9,244	-9.1%	8,939	-3.2%	8,662	-3.0%
Guardianship Hearing	3,514	4,025	14.5%	3,617	-10.1%	4,110	13.6%	4,153	1.0%
Adoption Hearing	4,653	2,675	-42.5%	2,560	-4.2%	2,687	4.9%	2,662	-0.9%
Mental Illness Hearing	8,664	9,471	9.3%	9,326	-1.5%	12,598	35.0%	14,566	15.6%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>26,905</b>	<b>26,475</b>	<b>-1.5%</b>	<b>25,005</b>	<b>-5.5%</b>	<b>28,420</b>	<b>13.6%</b>	<b>30,154</b>	<b>6.1%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes paternity cases in 1983.



# The Superior Courts

## Juvenile Matters

### Education

Juvenile Court Administrators' 1987 education included: juvenile suicide prevention, court/school liaison, detention standards, labor/management relationships, sexual harassment, mediation, and patterns of change in juvenile institutions.

### Dependency Hearings

In 1977 the Legislature required that, unless a guardianship has been established, a review of a dependency order must be held every six months to determine if the child should be returned home (RCW 13.34.130[3]). Each year the number of dependency hearings increases faster than dependency filings. There are several factors which may be contributing to this continuing increase in hearings.

The increase in dependency hearings could result from increases in the population of dependent juveniles. Since six-month dependency reviews are conducted for the entire dependent juvenile population, dependency hearings will correspondingly increase with increases in the dependent juvenile population. The number of children out of their home has increased from approximately 4900 in 1981 to 6000 in 1987.

Another reason for increased caseloads is that a more legalized review atmosphere has generated more conflict over dependency decisions. Closer scrutiny by both Department of Social and Health Services and the parents is said to be occurring.

A related explanation is that increased efforts to keep children in the home has generated increased conflict between parents. This conflict results in a larger number of reviews to ensure the child's well-being.

Also, some juvenile courts are accelerating the first review to be held six months following dependent care status instead of six months after disposition. This complies with federal standards. More reviews occur because they are held before the dependency is terminated, which is often less than six months after disposition.

Finally, 1987 legislation places increased emphasis on child abuse prevention, and more children are dependent to protect their welfare.

### Technical Assistance

In Thurston County Juvenile Court, the operation of the court's calendar was the focus of a technical assistance study. Some of the recommendations included

establishing setting guidelines, facilitating a pre-hearing conference, scheduling hearing times, and increasing the amount of judicial time spent hearing juvenile court cases.

### Detention Standards

During the 1986 session, the Washington State Legislature passed Engrossed Senate Bill 4738, requiring the Juvenile Disposition Standards Commission to propose detention standards to the Legislature by November 1, 1987. The Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators (WAJCA) supported this legislation in 1986, and in 1987 the administrators and their staff played an integral role in the development of the standards proposed to the Legislature. As they have been deliberately excluded by the Legislature, juvenile detention physical plant and staffing levels are not addressed in the proposed standards. However, the standards do provide uniform direction in several areas including intake and health care. The WAJCA has elected to use the standards as guidelines for detention facilities.

### Juvenile Detention Module

In 1987 a project to create a new detention module for the Juvenile Information System (JUVIS) was initiated. The Juvenile Detention Module Task Force was chaired by Corinne Newman, Administrator of Thurston County Youth Services. Funding for task force travel expenses and training was provided by the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.

The system will capture the following information about juveniles in detention facilities: times of entry and departure, activities while in detention, reasons for detention and release, and alerts about the juvenile's behavior. JIS has expanded its hours to provide 24-hour availability of the system on weekends and 18 hours a day (6:00 a.m. till midnight) during the week.

The system will provide the detention staff with better information for immediate operational decisions, as well as capture data for management statistics. The detention module will be installed on March 1, 1988. Training for detention staff will occur during February.

### Kehoe/Rowan Detention Study

In the spring of 1986 the Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee requested assistance from the American Correction Association in evaluating three selected juvenile detention centers. Mr. Charles J. Kehoe and Mr. Joseph R. Rowan, noted specialists in this field, conducted the studies. Following these evaluations the same offer was made to the remaining detention facilities in the state. In August 1987 a summary report

of these studies was released. The general findings of the summary report entitled: *Juvenile Detention In Washington State: State Of The State Report* concluded "When comparing juvenile detention in Washington State to other states and nationally recognized standards, one finds that Washington is neither at the top nor the bottom, but probably somewhere in the middle." The report further stated, "As a rule, juvenile detention facilities were found to be underfunded and understaffed. Despite this lack of resources, however, most employees demonstrated a genuine care and concern for residents in the facilities."

### Linkage

In the fall of 1986 the WAJCA initiated the Legislative Linkage Program. The mission of the linkage meetings, as adopted by the meeting participants, is "to promote communication between organizations and individuals concerned with issues relating to children and families who are involved or at risk of being involved in the juvenile system, and to develop working relationships for legislative and budget purposes." Linkage meetings were held throughout the 1987 legislative session, and, after a layoff over the summer, resumed in October in preparation for the 1988 session.

Some of the twenty agencies participating in the linkage program include the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Public Defenders Association, Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, Washington Council on Crime and Delinquency, Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, Association of Washington Cities, and the Washington State Association of Counties.

### Expansion of Consolidated Juvenile Services (CJS)

In 1987 the WAJCA embarked on a planning process developing proposals for the upgrading of the CJS program. CJS had its beginnings with the initiation of the Probation Subsidy Program in 1970. It was modified and expanded in the early '80s, after having achieved success in pilot projects initiated in three demonstration counties in 1980. This record of achievement in dealing successfully with offenders in the community and providing cost-effective services while still protecting the community, makes the expansion proposal timely. CJS monies currently fund a vast array of locally-based programs including diagnostic evaluations, parole supervision, restitution programs, diversion programs, prevention programs, and local commitment (2-2-2) programs, to list only a few.

Since initiating the CJS expansion project this past summer, the Association has been involved in planning meetings with representatives from the DSHS

Division of Juvenile Rehabilitation to further the process. It is believed the eventual outcome of the proposal will be a juvenile justice system providing a full continuum of services at the local level, resulting in reduction in the number of youth being sent from the community to reside in state institutions.

## Parenting Act of 1987

The Parenting Act of 1987, Chapter 460, Laws of 1987, which became effective January 1, 1987, will result in substantial changes in the processing of dissolution matters where minor children are involved. The act requires the filing of a proposed parenting plan with all petitions for dissolution and subsequent responses. The parenting plan identifies major decision making areas in child rearing and requires the parents to identify if one or both parents will have decision making authority in each of these areas. The act eliminates the use of the terms "custody" and "visitation," and instead incorporates a residential schedule into the parenting plan. The residential schedule delineates in which parent's home the child will reside on given days of the year. The legislation also calls for a non-judicial dispute resolution process relating to implementation of the parenting plan.

## Child Support Enforcement Legislation

Three pieces of legislation, one affecting child support modification, one establishing the Child Support Schedule Commission, and the last creating the Washington State Support Registry, were passed in 1987. These actions are directly related to recommendations from the final report of the Governor's Task Force on Support Enforcement. In addition, the 1987 legislative session established a child abuse registry in the records division of the Washington State Patrol.

**Child Support Modification:** Chapter 430, Laws of 1987 permits an order of child support to be modified without a substantial change of circumstance, if it has been one year or more since the entry of the order and if one or more of the following conditions exists:

- the order in practice works a severe economic hardship on either party or the child; or
- a party requires an adjustment because the child is no longer in the age category used to determine the current support amount; or
- support is required beyond the eighteenth birthday to complete school; or
- an automatic adjustment of support provision needs to be added.

The law establishes a hearing by affidavit procedure for modification of child support orders and permits the court to require annual adjustments on child support orders based upon changes in various factors.

**Child Support Schedule Commission:** Chapter 440, Laws of 1987 established the Child Support Schedule Commission to recommend a child support schedule and to propose changes in the schedule to the legislature no later than November 1, 1987. The legislation also set forth various basis for the schedule.

**Washington State Support Registry:** Chapter 435, Laws of 1987 created the Washington State Support Registry. The registry is to be a centralized collection and distribution center operated by the Office of Support Enforcement (OSE) for processing child support payments.

The law mandates child support payments be made to the registry unless the court approves an alternative payment plan. Within five days of entry, the clerk of the court is required to send to the Office of Support Enforcement all orders providing for payment to the registry. Employers are required to report to the registry information regarding when new employees are hired and when an employee for whom a payment is being made is no longer employed. The legislation also requires OSE and the Department of Employment Security to devise a single reporting process to provide for prompt and timely employer reporting.

**Child Abuse Registry:** Chapter 486, Laws of 1987 provides for the creation of a child abuse registry in the records division of the Washington State Patrol. The legislation requires the employer to check with the child abuse registry when a prospective employee or volunteer will have regularly scheduled, unsupervised access to children. A background check through the registry is also required upon the initial application for teaching certification.

The registry is to obtain information through required reporting of criminal offender records information. In addition, the statute directs the Supreme Court to adopt a rule requiring courts to notify the State Patrol of any dependency or domestic relations action in which the court makes specific findings of physical or sexual abuse, or exploitation. The statute also requires the Department of Licensing to report when a disciplinary board action makes specific findings of physical or sexual abuse, or exploitation of a child.

## Juvenile Offender Caseload

Although juvenile offender filings remained constant, the number of dispositions and sentences declined in 1987.

The 6.1 percent decrease in convictions had the largest influence on the decline of juvenile offender total dispositions. Of the 10,860 convictions, 9,851, or 91 percent, were guilty pleas, and 1,009 were convictions by court decision.

In contrast to the downward trend for decline of jurisdiction dispositions, a 30.5 percent increase in decline of jurisdiction dispositions was observed in 1987.

While the total number of defendants sentenced decreased by 13.2 percent this year, a greater proportional reduction occurred in sentences to state institutions.

Juvenile offender trials continued to steadily decline, dropping 8.1 percent since 1986.

## Juvenile Dependency Caseload

Juvenile dependency filings and total proceedings increased slightly in 1987, though dispositions declined by 8.7 percent.

Each dependency disposition in 1987 averaged four proceedings.

Of the juvenile dependency cases decided upon, 51.6 percent were approved and 48.4 percent were dismissed.

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<b>Juvenile Offender Activity, 1983 - 1987</b>									
	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>	<b>16,242</b>	<b>15,884</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	<b>17,525</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>17,701</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>17,670</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Decline of Jurisdiction	289	185	-35.9%	191	3.2%	134	-29.8%	175	30.5%
Dismissal	2,760	2,841	2.9%	3,166	11.4%	3,943	24.5%	3,847	-2.4%
Acquittal <sup>a</sup>	429	254	-40.7%	324	27.5%	240	-25.9%	230	-4.1%
Conviction	11,377	10,333	-9.1%	11,543	11.7%	11,574	0.2%	10,860	-6.1%
Not Specified	36	0	--%	20	--%	0	--%	0	--%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>14,891</b>	<b>13,613</b>	<b>-8.5%</b>	<b>15,244</b>	<b>11.9%</b>	<b>15,891</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>15,112</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>
<b>Sentences</b>									
Community Sentence	9,842	9,561	-2.8%	10,022	4.8%	10,247	2.2%	9,029	-11.8%
State Institution	1,535	1,589	3.5%	1,568	-1.3%	1,828	16.5%	1,451	-20.6%
<b>Total Defendants Sentenced</b>	<b>11,377</b>	<b>11,150</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>11,590</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>12,075</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>10,480</b>	<b>-13.2%</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Trial	1,946	1,654	-15.0%	1,632	-1.3%	1,543	-5.4%	1,418	-8.1%
Pre-Adjudication Hearing	0	12,776	--%	17,565	37.4%	17,184	-2.1%	18,453	7.3%
Guilty Plea Only Hearing	0	2,131	--%	2,233	4.7%	2,478	10.9%	2,090	-15.6%
Guilty Plea/Sentencing Hearing	0	5,854	--%	4,997	-14.6%	4,606	-7.8%	4,249	-7.7%
Separate Disposition Hearing	0	4,858	--%	7,179	47.7%	7,813	8.8%	7,222	-7.5%
Post-Disposition Hearing	5,312	7,944	49.5%	8,901	12.0%	9,104	2.2%	9,166	0.6%
Pre-Disposition Hearing	14,423	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
Other Hearing	8,005	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>29,686</b>	<b>35,217</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>42,507</b>	<b>20.7%</b>	<b>42,728</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>42,598</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Includes dismissals after start of trial in 1983.

# The Superior Courts

## Juvenile Dependency Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>	<b>4,832</b>	<b>5,088</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>4,767</b>	<b>-6.3%</b>	<b>4,813</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>5,002</b>	<b>3.9%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Change of Venue	68	58	-14.7%	107	84.4%	50	-53.2%	79	58.0%
Dismissal	0	2,492	--%	2,630	5.5%	2,605	-0.9%	2,255	-13.4%
Petition Approved	0	2,029	--%	2,133	5.1%	2,533	18.7%	2,406	-5.0%
Without Fact Finding	1,583	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
After Fact Finding	637	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
Not Specified	701	62	-91.1%	33	-46.7%	7	-78.7%	0	-78.7%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>2,989</b>	<b>4,641</b>	<b>55.2%</b>	<b>4,903</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>5,195</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>4,740</b>	<b>-8.7%</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Pre-Fact Finding Hearing	0	3,404	--%	3,952	16.0%	3,724	-5.7%	4,143	11.2%
Fact Finding Only Hearing	0	775	--%	794	2.4%	717	-9.6%	846	17.9%
Fact Finding & Disposition Hearing	0	1,147	--%	1,255	9.4%	1,365	8.7%	1,186	-13.1%
Separate Disposition Hearing	0	951	--%	961	1.0%	885	-7.9%	915	3.3%
Post Disposition Hearing	7,164	9,939	38.7%	11,446	15.1%	11,864	3.6%	11,873	0.0%
Shelter Care Hearing	3,307	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
Fact Finding Hearing	1,575	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
Other Hearing	1,856	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%	0	--%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>13,902</b>	<b>16,216</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>18,408</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>18,555</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>18,963</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

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County  
Statistical  
Tables

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## Cases Filed, 1987

County/ Court	Civil	Criminal	Juvenile Offender	Juvenile Dependency	Probate	Guard- ianship	Adoption	Mental Illness	1987 Total	1986 Total	Percent Change
Adams	200	88	16	3	39	5	10	24	385	361	6.6%
Asotin	330	90	57	13	49	7	7	35	588	705	-16.6%
Columbia	71	16	25	1	22	1	2	6	144	138	4.3%
Garfield	31	14	3	0	8	1	2	1	60	75	-20.0%
Judicial District	432	120	85	14	79	9	11	42	792	918	-13.7%
Benton	1,998	454	421	112	227	59	61	253	3,585	3,829	-6.4%
Franklin	731	360	160	55	83	7	17	82	1,495	1,418	5.4%
Judicial District	2,729	814	581	167	310	66	78	335	5,080	5,247	-3.2%
Chelan	1,280	271	274	53	188	22	26	65	2,179	2,083	4.6%
Douglas	226	133	91	22	67	3	17	5	564	576	-2.1%
Judicial District	1,506	404	365	75	255	25	43	70	2,743	2,659	3.2%
Clallam	990	133	233	238	219	26	44	69	1,952	1,993	-2.1%
Clark	5,144	1,332	812	334	464	145	128	255	8,614	8,406	2.5%
Cowlitz	1,624	733	369	98	185	50	37	155	3,251	3,370	-3.5%
Ferry	120	41	42	18	16	0	0	0	237	224	5.8%
Pend Oreille	179	44	26	28	30	4	5	8	324	292	11.0%
Stevens	488	103	89	57	96	5	21	43	892	979	-8.9%
Judicial District	787	188	157	103	132	9	26	51	1,453	1,495	-2.8%
Grant	1,025	291	230	48	121	28	31	173	1,947	2,003	-2.8%
Grays Harbor	1,342	348	394	106	193	24	36	58	2,501	2,563	-2.4%
Island	972	83	76	44	198	37	40	38	1,488	1,364	9.1%
San Juan	192	26	34	12	48	8	4	3	327	280	16.8%
Judicial District	1,164	109	110	56	246	45	44	41	1,815	1,644	10.4%
Jefferson	371	112	103	43	87	7	12	24	759	801	-5.2%
King	32,299	5,986	6,222	1,519	4,434	812	861	2,732	54,865	58,379	-6.0%
Kitsap	3,169	611	758	156	475	100	95	189	5,553	5,761	-3.6%
Kittitas	487	162	94	34	84	16	6	2	885	835	6.0%
Klickitat	321	153	75	26	40	7	15	17	654	629	4.0%
Skamania	236	91	22	10	22	2	6	9	398	412	-3.4%
Judicial District	557	244	97	36	62	9	21	26	1,052	1,041	1.1%
Lewis	1,229	332	305	165	205	26	42	99	2,403	2,465	-2.5%
Lincoln	1,147	60	25	4	72	1	5	3	1,317	1,160	13.5%
Mason	683	153	168	28	146	8	21	0	1,207	1,342	-10.1%
Okanogan	569	232	213	24	104	9	14	0	1,165	1,183	-1.5%
Pacific	370	137	97	32	80	8	16	22	762	749	1.7%
Wahkiakum	45	20	24	7	8	5	0	0	109	134	-18.7%
Judicial District	415	157	121	39	88	13	16	22	871	883	-1.4%
Pierce	14,356	3,595	1,186	402	1,321	386	383	2,165	23,794	23,840	-0.2%
Skagit	1,572	308	216	67	263	39	32	93	2,590	2,592	-0.1%
Snohomish	9,778	1,561	1,210	375	950	207	192	547	14,820	14,324	3.5%
Spokane	7,136	833	1,242	428	1,245	219	216	1,581	12,900	14,061	-8.3%
Thurston	3,703	665	802	116	394	48	87	178	5,993	5,896	1.6%
Walla Walla	961	380	149	88	253	14	26	101	1,972	1,878	5.0%
Whatcom	2,154	603	518	69	274	38	73	62	3,791	3,890	-2.5%
Whitman	325	54	29	10	121	11	15	26	591	647	-8.7%
Yakima	3,628	1,740	860	157	598	123	93	602	7,801	7,574	3.0%
State	101,482	22,348	17,670	5,002	13,419	2,518	2,698	9,725	174,862	179,211	-2.4%



# The Superior Courts

## History Of Judicial Position Needs Based On Weighted Caseload Methodology

	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Adams	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5
Asotin/Columbia/Garfield	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.0
Benton/Franklin	4.2	5.6	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.5	4.5	5.2	6.0	5.2
Chelan	1.4	2.6								
Chelan/Douglas			2.7	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8
Clallam					2.4	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.1	1.9
Clallam/Jefferson	2.9	3.8	4.1	4.0						
Clark	5.0	5.9	7.9	6.7	6.5	6.7	7.3	9.6	10.3	9.6
Cowlitz	2.8	2.6	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.7	4.1	3.7
Douglas/Grant	2.3									
Ferry/Okanogan	1.6	2.1	1.7							
Ferry/Stevens/Pend Oreille				1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.7	1.5
Grant			2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9
Grays Harbor	2.9	3.2	3.3	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.8	2.4
Island/San Juan	1.8	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.4	1.6
Jefferson					0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.0
King	34.6	40.1	44.5	42.8	43.4	42.5	45.0	52.4	66.0	55.4
Kitsap	3.6	4.9	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.5	5.8	6.2	5.4
Kittitas	0.8	0.9	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3
Klickitat/Skamania	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.5
Lewis	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.4
Lincoln	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	1.2	1.2	1.4
Mason										1.5
Mason/Thurston	4.5	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.8	6.5	7.3	8.3	
Okanogan				1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.6	1.7
Pacific/Wahkiakum	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2
Pend Oreille/Stevens	1.1	1.2	1.3							
Pierce	14.6	19.4	20.1	19.8	18.9	18.7	18.3	21.3	25.8	22.3
Skagit	2.3	2.1	2.8	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.2	2.5	2.8	2.5
Snohomish	7.5	9.4	11.1	10.1	9.7	9.7	10.4	12.6	15.2	14.5
Spokane	9.3	10.3	10.8	10.9	11.2	10.3	9.6	11.2	14.1	10.8
Thurston										6.1
Walla Walla	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.1
Whatcom	2.9	3.3	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.6	4.2	4.7	4.2
Whitman	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6
Yakima	5.8	6.3	7.1	6.4	6.1	6.5	7.0	7.6	8.6	8.5
State Total	120	141	156	150	149	145	148	170	200	177

# The Superior Courts

## Superior Courts Staffing

County/ District	Judges <sup>f</sup>	Commissioners	Court Reporter	Adminis- trators	Admin Staff	Clerk's Office	Work Week
Adams	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	4.1	2.8	35.0
Asotin						2.7	35.0
Columbia						1.1	35.0
Garfield						1.4	40.0
Judicial District <sup>a</sup>	1.0	0.2	1.1	0.0	0.0	5.2	40.0
Benton						19.4	40.0
Franklin						7.5	37.5
Judicial District	5.0	1.6	5.7	1.1	6.9	26.9	40.0
Chelan						10.3	40.0
Douglas						3.5	40.0
Judicial District	2.0	1.4	2.3	0.0	2.3	14.4	40.0
Clallam	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.6	0.0	5.1	35.0
Clark <sup>e</sup>	6.0	1.1	4.6	1.1	12.6	33.1	40.0
Cowlitz <sup>e</sup>	3.0	0.1	3.2	0.0	1.3	12.7	37.5
Ferry						2.3	40.0
Pend Oreille						3.2	37.5
Stevens						3.4	37.5
Judicial District	2.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.2	8.9	37.5
Grant	2.0	1.1	2.3	0.0	1.1	10.3	40.0
Grays Harbor	2.0	0.3	2.3	1.1	3.3	9.1	40.0
Island						5.0	35.0
San Juan						3.4	40.0
Judicial District	2.0	0.2	2.0	1.0	1.0	8.4	35.0
Jefferson <sup>a</sup>	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	35.0
King	39.0	5.6	39.0	1.0	111.0	143.5	35.0
Kitsap	5.0	0.7	5.7	1.1	8.4	22.7	38.7
Kittitas	1.0	0.1	1.0	1.0	0.0	3.0	35.0
Klickitat						3.0	35.0
Skamania						3.4	40.0
Judicial District	1.0	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.0	6.4	37.5
Lewis <sup>e</sup>	2.0	0.5	2.3	1.1	0.5	10.5	40.0
Lincoln	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	5.1	3.4	40.0
Mason <sup>a</sup>	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	1.4	5.7	40.0
Okanogan <sup>b</sup>	1.0	0.3	1.1	0.0	1.1	6.4	40.0
Pacific						4.6	40.0
Wahkiakum						2.5	35.0
Judicial District <sup>b</sup>	1.0	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.1	7.1	40.0
Pierce <sup>c,e</sup>	15.0	4.0	15.0	1.0	26.0	32.6	35.0
Skagit	2.0	0.5	2.0	1.0	2.5	8.6	35.0
Snohomish <sup>e</sup>	9.0	1.0	8.0	1.0	12.4	38.6	35.0
Spokane	10.0	4.3	10.7	1.1	16.7	39.6	37.5
Thurston <sup>e</sup>	5.0	0.9	5.7	1.1	7.7	22.3	40.0
Walla Walla <sup>b</sup>	2.0	0.1	2.0	0.0	0.0	6.6	35.0
Whatcom <sup>e</sup>	3.0	1.5	3.0	0.3	1.3	12.4	35.0
Whitman	1.0	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.1	3.4	40.0
Yakima	5.0	1.1	5.4	1.1	8.8	21.4	37.5
STATE	133.0	27.5	131.0	17.9	235.9	611.8	--

<sup>a</sup> Clerk's Office Supports Court Administration

<sup>b</sup> Court Reporter Supports Court Administration

<sup>c</sup> Superior Court Staff Supports Clerk Office Functions

<sup>d</sup> Superior Court Staff Supports Juvenile Clerk Functions

<sup>e</sup> Juvenile Court Staff Supports Juvenile Clerk Functions

<sup>f</sup> Judges reflect resident judgeships, not FTEs

Full Time Equivalency based on 35 Hour Work Week.

# The Superior Courts

## History of Criminal Filings, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	% Chg	1985	% Chg	1986	% Chg	1987	% Chg
Adams	96	57	-40.6%	83	45.6%	77	-7.2%	88	14.2%
Asotin	92	87	-5.4%	116	33.3%	91	-21.5%	90	-1.0%
Columbia	27	36	33.3%	26	-27.7%	22	-15.3%	16	-27.2%
Garfield	5	9	80.0%	8	-11.1%	14	75.0%	14	-0.0%
Judicial District	124	132	6.4%	150	13.6%	127	-15.3%	120	-5.5%
Benton	355	264	-25.6%	330	25.0%	412	24.8%	454	10.1%
Franklin	235	216	-8.0%	232	7.4%	299	28.8%	360	20.4%
Judicial District	590	480	-18.6%	562	17.0%	711	26.5%	814	14.4%
Chelan	201	205	1.9%	244	19.0%	244	-0.0%	271	11.0%
Douglas	69	67	-2.8%	63	-5.9%	67	6.3%	133	98.5%
Judicial District	270	272	0.7%	307	12.8%	311	1.3%	404	29.9%
Clallam	106	139	31.1%	114	-17.9%	119	4.3%	133	11.7%
Clark	934	1,012	8.3%	1,205	19.0%	1,179	-2.1%	1,332	12.9%
Cowlitz	433	538	24.2%	608	13.0%	628	3.2%	733	16.7%
Ferry	35	31	-11.4%	31	-0.0%	38	22.5%	41	7.8%
Pend Oreille	43	38	-11.6%	23	-39.4%	32	39.1%	44	37.5%
Stevens	85	71	-16.4%	75	5.6%	97	29.3%	103	6.1%
Judicial District	163	140	-14.1%	129	-7.8%	167	29.4%	188	12.5%
Grant	263	240	-8.7%	217	-9.5%	258	18.8%	291	12.7%
Grays Harbor	249	236	-5.2%	323	36.8%	252	-21.9%	348	38.0%
Island	116	65	-43.9%	81	24.6%	90	11.1%	83	-7.7%
San Juan	37	36	-2.7%	32	-11.1%	28	-12.5%	26	-7.1%
Judicial District	153	101	-33.9%	113	11.8%	118	4.4%	109	-7.6%
Jefferson	96	92	-4.1%	102	10.8%	133	30.3%	112	-15.7%
King	4,246	4,230	-0.3%	4,870	15.1%	5,803	19.1%	5,986	3.1%
Kitsap	413	463	12.1%	688	48.5%	604	-12.2%	611	1.1%
Kittitas	103	147	42.7%	112	-23.8%	133	18.7%	162	21.8%
Klickitat	87	74	-14.9%	69	-6.7%	101	46.3%	153	51.4%
Skamania	56	53	-5.3%	99	86.7%	71	-28.2%	91	28.1%
Judicial District	143	127	-11.1%	168	32.2%	172	2.3%	244	41.8%
Lewis	298	271	-9.0%	320	18.0%	304	-5.0%	332	9.2%
Lincoln	52	45	-13.4%	51	13.3%	52	1.9%	60	15.3%
Mason	153	172	12.4%	187	8.7%	186	-0.5%	153	-17.7%
Okanogan	131	136	3.8%	178	30.8%	176	-1.1%	232	31.8%
Pacific	114	137	20.1%	128	-6.5%	144	12.5%	137	-4.8%
Wahkiakum	39	24	-38.4%	27	12.5%	20	-25.9%	20	-0.0%
Judicial District	153	161	5.2%	155	-3.7%	164	5.8%	157	-4.2%
Pierce	2,726	2,339	-14.1%	2,557	9.3%	3,110	21.6%	3,595	15.5%
Skagit	264	153	-42.0%	264	72.5%	254	-3.7%	308	21.2%
Snohomish	980	1,073	9.4%	1,322	23.2%	1,400	5.9%	1,561	11.5%
Spokane	1,124	1,017	-9.5%	1,197	17.6%	1,023	-14.5%	833	-18.5%
Thurston	473	558	17.9%	651	16.6%	662	1.6%	665	0.4%
Walla Walla	275	261	-5.0%	312	19.5%	315	0.9%	380	20.6%
Whatcom	508	540	6.2%	597	10.5%	706	18.2%	603	-14.5%
Whitman	48	66	37.5%	60	-9.0%	65	8.3%	54	-16.9%
Yakima	1,119	1,239	10.7%	1,300	4.9%	1,555	19.6%	1,740	11.8%
State	16,686	16,437	-1.4%	18,902	14.9%	20,764	9.8%	22,348	7.6%

# The Superior Courts

## Criminal Cases Filed By Type of Case, 1987

County/ Court	Homicide	Sex Crimes	Robbery	Aggr. Assault	Burglary	Theft/ Larceny	Motor Vehicle Theft	Controlled Substan.	Other	Sub- Total	Lower Court Appeals	Total
Adams	1	5	3	7	14	8	5	34	9	86	2	88
Asotin	0	7	3	10	20	17	6	5	22	90	0	90
Columbia	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	6	4	16	0	16
Garfield	0	0	0	1	6	3	0	1	2	13	1	14
Judicial District	0	8	3	12	26	23	7	12	28	119	1	120
Benton	10	30	5	30	86	75	8	114	77	435	19	454
Franklin	7	6	3	26	56	34	9	177	34	352	8	360
Judicial District	17	36	8	56	142	109	17	291	111	787	27	814
Chelan	5	20	7	13	43	42	11	70	39	250	21	271
Douglas	1	10	3	9	23	31	2	27	24	130	3	133
Judicial District	6	30	10	22	66	73	13	97	63	380	24	404
Clallam	3	10	3	16	33	16	0	12	33	126	7	133
Clark	15	104	43	163	189	306	35	250	204	1,309	23	1,332
Cowlitz	4	49	16	47	102	132	33	210	140	733	0	733
Ferry	0	2	0	3	7	3	1	7	16	39	2	41
Pend Oreille	1	4	0	9	7	10	6	1	6	44	0	44
Stevens	2	6	0	9	25	15	5	23	16	101	2	103
Judicial District	3	12	0	21	39	28	12	31	38	184	4	188
Grant	1	12	16	30	68	45	14	38	52	276	15	291
Grays Harbor	6	15	3	16	66	40	9	88	65	308	40	348
Island	1	14	2	2	20	14	0	12	13	78	5	83
San Juan	0	1	0	3	6	2	1	3	7	23	3	26
Judicial District	1	15	2	5	26	16	1	15	20	101	8	109
Jefferson	0	8	3	26	20	9	6	3	29	104	8	112
King	88	392	338	447	865	948	221	1,236	814	5,349	637	5,986
Kitsap	9	60	8	57	73	106	28	79	137	557	54	611
Kittitas	2	11	2	20	28	20	8	30	33	154	8	162
Klickitat	1	5	1	10	13	14	15	45	41	145	8	153
Skamania	1	10	0	9	19	15	1	24	11	90	1	91
Judicial District	2	15	1	19	32	29	16	69	52	235	9	244
Lewis	1	36	2	25	50	73	8	34	95	324	8	332
Lincoln	0	10	4	3	15	8	4	3	8	55	5	60
Mason	2	11	3	22	25	43	0	18	29	153	0	153
Okanogan	2	16	2	46	43	32	13	59	19	232	0	232
Pacific	1	9	1	16	19	19	4	10	38	117	20	137
Wahkiakum	0	3	0	6	1	1	0	4	2	17	3	20
Judicial District	1	12	1	22	20	20	4	14	40	134	23	157
Pierce	23	169	125	250	448	548	72	830	1,060	3,525	70	3,595
Skagit	5	15	7	23	42	54	7	47	47	247	61	308
Snohomish	8	191	56	133	264	209	41	387	188	1,477	84	1,561
Spokane	16	98	51	47	138	100	11	33	286	780	53	833
Thurston	1	47	6	41	101	139	17	134	116	602	63	665
Walla Walla	6	27	5	29	48	49	8	142	64	378	2	380
Whatcom	5	42	9	49	84	119	21	84	165	578	25	603
Whitman	2	2	0	1	3	4	3	17	19	51	3	54
Yakima	17	87	58	141	218	182	60	475	489	1,727	13	1,740
State	247	1,545	788	1,796	3,288	3,488	694	4,772	4,453	21,071	1,277	22,348

# The Superior Courts

## Criminal Dispositions and Sentences, 1987

County Court	Chg of Venue	Lower Court Appeal	Dism. Defer. Prosec	Acquit	Not Guilty Insnty	Convicted Guilty Plea	Court Decisn	Jury Verdict	Total Conv.	Total Disp.	Prob. Only	Prob. & Jail	State Inst.	Total Sent.	Sent. Revoc.
Adams	15	0	17	0	0	49	0	2	51	83	1	43	6	50	0
Asotin	0	0	21	0	0	54	0	6	60	81	16	35	4	55	0
Columbia	0	0	0	0	0	16	2	4	22	22	1	7	1	9	0
Garfield	0	1	0	0	0	6	0	0	6	7	4	4	1	9	0
Judicial District	0	1	21	0	0	76	2	10	88	110	21	46	6	73	0
Benton	1	2	28	6	0	335	2	28	365	402	8	284	77	369	3
Franklin	0	10	18	4	1	292	1	22	315	348	5	201	109	315	0
Judicial District	1	12	46	10	1	627	3	50	680	750	13	485	186	684	3
Chelan	0	8	24	2	0	210	0	5	215	249	26	161	26	213	1
Douglas	0	1	12	1	0	88	2	0	90	104	9	74	7	90	2
Judicial District	0	9	36	3	0	298	2	5	305	353	35	235	33	303	3
Clallam	0	0	8	1	0	72	10	14	96	105	22	68	5	95	4
Clark	0	2	489	1	1	792	5	27	824	1,317	74	739	86	899	23
Cowlitz	0	0	198	16	2	405	8	42	455	671	30	350	75	455	7
Ferry	0	0	4	1	0	29	2	3	34	39	1	34	3	38	2
Pend Oreille	1	0	8	1	0	22	0	0	22	32	5	18	0	23	0
Stevens	4	4	10	0	0	83	0	1	84	102	12	65	6	83	0
Judicial District	5	4	22	2	0	134	2	4	140	173	18	117	9	144	2
Grant	23	9	64	5	2	152	8	17	177	280	6	161	25	192	2
Grays Harbor	3	7	19	2	3	224	4	16	244	278	0	0	0	0	5
Island	0	9	7	1	0	69	0	1	70	87	5	56	8	69	2
San Juan	1	2	4	1	0	12	0	1	13	21	0	12	1	13	1
Judicial District	1	11	11	2	0	81	0	2	83	108	5	68	9	82	3
Jefferson	3	1	34	0	0	66	1	2	69	107	5	50	16	71	0
King	1	468	492	38	8	4,001	110	299	4,410	5,417	643	2,915	835	4,393	141
Kitsap	15	19	53	0	0	387	5	16	408	495	32	299	76	407	8
Kittitas	0	0	37	3	0	83	4	5	92	132	17	60	15	92	0
Klickitat	0	2	22	2	0	80	0	4	84	110	28	46	6	80	4
Skamania	0	0	41	1	0	30	1	4	35	77	6	32	2	40	0
Judicial District	0	2	63	3	0	110	1	8	119	187	34	78	8	120	4
Lewis	21	5	64	6	0	233	2	14	249	345	14	187	51	252	11
Lincoln	1	2	9	1	0	37	0	1	38	51	10	28	0	38	0
Mason	1	0	20	1	0	126	1	7	134	156	8	101	25	134	3
Okanogan	0	0	21	1	0	166	0	3	169	191	13	137	17	167	0
Pacific	4	5	31	4	0	41	5	7	53	97	5	32	13	50	14
Wahkiakum	0	2	9	0	0	9	0	0	9	20	1	9	0	10	3
Judicial District	4	7	40	4	0	50	5	7	62	117	6	41	13	60	17
Pierce	0	10	527	17	4	2,255	5	42	2,302	2,860	843	1,067	332	2,242	74
Skagit	5	24	44	1	0	166	3	8	177	251	0	156	22	178	2
Snohomish	0	61	214	47	1	880	25	54	959	1,282	102	611	184	897	10
Spokane	4	1	64	2	1	521	4	24	549	621	12	437	122	571	1
Thurston	0	3	73	4	1	498	2	13	513	594	14	404	85	503	0
Walla Walla	24	0	93	1	0	173	4	8	185	303	21	128	25	174	2
Whatcom	36	8	26	0	3	375	7	2	384	457	34	314	40	388	3
Whitman	2	0	14	0	0	33	1	0	34	50	5	30	1	36	5
Yakima	41	9	296	13	0	1,142	32	21	1,195	1,554	105	906	191	1,202	8
State	206	675	3,115	184	27	14,212	256	723	15,191	19,398	2,143	10,261	2,498	14,902	341

# The Superior Courts

Criminal Proceedings, 1987

County/ Court	Jury Trials	Non-Jury Trials	Total Trials	Arraign- ments	Pre- Disp. Hearing	Disp. Hearing	Post Disp. Hearing	Total Hearing
Adams	1	0	1	32	92	76	22	223
Asotin	4	0	4	72	155	52	39	322
Columbia	1	1	2	13	20	7	14	56
Garfield	0	2	2	7	10	3	5	27
Judicial District	5	3	8	92	185	62	58	405
Benton	50	3	53	523	948	429	629	2,582
Franklin	29	5	34	311	1,154	338	348	2,185
Judicial District	79	8	87	834	2,102	767	977	4,767
Chelan	4	2	6	328	755	246	414	1,749
Douglas	1	2	3	87	168	95	26	379
Judicial District	5	4	9	415	923	341	440	2,128
Clallam	21	3	24	98	648	102	240	1,112
Clark	46	6	52	1,254	3,690	1,365	2,360	8,721
Cowlitz	56	12	68	553	2,225	581	1,032	4,459
Ferry	7	3	10	39	66	39	48	202
Pend Oreille	0	0	0	31	67	25	24	147
Stevens	1	0	1	77	115	97	54	344
Judicial District	8	3	11	147	248	161	126	693
Grant	29	8	37	233	578	197	473	1,518
Grays Harbor	23	4	27	253	1,134	284	482	2,180
Island	2	2	4	58	122	84	68	336
San Juan	1	1	2	20	58	14	26	120
Judicial District	3	3	6	78	180	98	94	456
Jefferson	9	2	11	81	374	109	453	1,028
King	425	128	553	4,924	19,308	4,932	5,182	34,899
Kitsap	36	11	47	471	1,915	454	1,642	4,529
Kittitas	25	2	27	148	250	109	102	636
Klickitat	8	2	10	141	95	36	44	326
Skamania	7	1	8	60	275	26	36	405
Judicial District	15	3	18	201	370	62	80	731
Lewis	20	9	29	309	1,042	296	878	2,554
Lincoln	4	0	4	55	106	41	31	237
Mason	11	1	12	145	479	155	426	1,217
Okanogan	2	3	5	185	191	200	30	611
Pacific	15	7	22	68	435	63	129	717
Wahkiakum	1	11	12	13	43	19	68	155
Judicial District	16	18	34	81	478	82	197	872
Pierce	66	29	95	3,051	5,592	1,745	1,170	11,653
Skagit	8	3	11	228	953	201	205	1,598
Snohomish	113	33	146	1,477	4,507	1,055	1,181	8,365
Spokane	44	18	62	1,099	2,663	1,035	1,668	6,527
Thurston	22	10	32	540	1,645	545	636	3,398
Walla Walla	9	2	11	434	806	205	252	1,708
Whatcom	25	4	29	355	1,446	556	748	3,134
Whitman	4	2	6	50	165	39	88	348
Yakima	48	41	89	1,532	2,274	1,252	2,024	7,171
State	1,178	373	1,551	19,355	56,569	17,107	23,297	117,879

# The Superior Courts

## History of Civil Filings 1983-1987

	1983	1984	% Chg	1985	% Chg	1986	% Chg	1987	% Chg
Adams	204	183	-10.2%	200	9.2%	191	-4.5%	200	4.7%
Asotin	406	401	-1.2%	427	6.4%	429	0.4%	330	-23.0%
Columbia	73	80	9.5%	80	-0.0%	63	-21.2%	71	12.6%
Garfield	46	46	-0.0%	26	-43.4%	32	23.0%	31	-3.1%
Judicial District	525	527	0.3%	533	1.1%	524	-1.6%	432	-17.5%
Benton	1,992	2,036	2.2%	2,170	6.5%	2,202	1.4%	1,998	-9.2%
Franklin	978	750	-23.3%	722	-3.7%	741	2.6%	731	-1.3%
Judicial District	2,970	2,786	-6.1%	2,892	3.8%	2,943	1.7%	2,729	-7.2%
Chelan	1,135	1,141	0.5%	1,188	4.1%	1,259	5.9%	1,280	1.6%
Douglas	290	198	-31.7%	223	12.6%	308	38.1%	226	-26.6%
Judicial District	1,425	1,339	-6.0%	1,411	5.3%	1,567	11.0%	1,506	-3.8%
Clallam	888	867	-2.3%	898	3.5%	1,062	18.2%	990	-6.7%
Clark	3,972	4,188	5.4%	4,986	19.0%	5,152	3.3%	5,144	-0.1%
Cowlitz	1,453	1,601	10.1%	1,663	3.8%	1,721	3.4%	1,624	-5.6%
Ferry	122	113	-7.3%	122	7.9%	127	4.0%	120	-5.5%
Pend Oreille	160	154	-3.7%	201	30.5%	168	-16.4%	179	6.5%
Stevens	485	458	-5.5%	525	14.6%	566	7.8%	488	-13.7%
Judicial District	767	725	-5.4%	848	16.9%	861	1.5%	787	-8.5%
Grant	1,123	995	-11.3%	1,121	12.6%	1,138	1.5%	1,025	-9.9%
Grays Harbor	1,376	1,428	3.7%	1,313	-8.0%	1,455	10.8%	1,342	-7.7%
Island	942	885	-6.0%	820	-7.3%	871	6.2%	972	11.5%
San Juan	152	190	25.0%	156	-17.8%	179	14.7%	192	7.2%
Judicial District	1,094	1,075	-1.7%	976	-9.2%	1,050	7.5%	1,164	10.8%
Jefferson	309	327	5.8%	371	13.4%	441	18.8%	371	-15.8%
King	26,811	28,160	5.0%	30,411	7.9%	36,554	20.1%	32,299	-11.6%
Kitsap	2,595	2,893	11.4%	3,108	7.4%	3,286	5.7%	3,169	-3.5%
Kittitas	408	445	9.0%	403	-9.4%	430	6.6%	487	13.2%
Klickitat	344	304	-11.6%	413	35.8%	347	-15.9%	321	-7.4%
Skamania	213	189	-11.2%	204	7.9%	247	21.0%	236	-4.4%
Judicial District	557	493	-11.4%	617	25.1%	594	-3.7%	557	-6.2%
Lewis	1,017	1,120	10.1%	1,243	10.9%	1,348	8.4%	1,229	-8.8%
Lincoln	118	670	467.7%	975	45.5%	988	1.3%	1,147	16.0%
Mason	506	583	15.2%	668	14.5%	698	4.4%	683	-2.1%
Okanogan	736	814	10.5%	673	-17.3%	687	2.0%	569	-17.1%
Pacific	453	390	-13.9%	348	-10.7%	379	8.9%	370	-2.3%
Wahkiakum	84	54	-35.7%	61	12.9%	59	-3.2%	45	-23.7%
Judicial District	537	444	-17.3%	409	-7.8%	438	7.0%	415	-5.2%
Pierce	10,111	10,845	7.2%	12,684	16.9%	15,078	18.8%	14,356	-4.7%
Skagit	1,565	1,231	-21.3%	1,419	15.2%	1,596	12.4%	1,572	-1.5%
Snohomish	6,067	6,770	11.5%	7,556	11.6%	9,209	21.8%	9,778	6.1%
Spokane	7,199	6,320	-12.2%	6,708	6.1%	8,171	21.3%	7,136	-12.6%
Thurston	2,598	2,898	11.5%	3,135	8.1%	3,634	15.9%	3,703	1.8%
Walla Walla	925	852	-7.8%	852	-0.0%	901	5.7%	961	6.6%
Whatcom	1,947	1,886	-3.1%	2,081	10.3%	2,178	4.6%	2,154	-1.1%
Whitman	380	337	-11.3%	386	14.5%	344	-10.8%	325	-5.5%
Yakima	2,760	3,218	16.5%	3,396	5.5%	3,660	7.7%	3,628	-0.8%
State	82,943	86,020	3.7%	93,936	9.2%	107,899	14.8%	101,482	-5.9%

# The Superior Courts

Civil Cases Filed By Type of Case, 1987

County/ Court	Torts	Commerical	Property Rights	Domestic Relations Paternity	Admin Law Review	Other Petitions Complaints	Appeals Lower Courts	Total Civil Filings	Other Matters Filed
Adams	9	38	19	107	6	18	3	200	33
Asotin	14	24	17	233	3	38	1	330	106
Columbia	4	21	0	37	1	7	1	71	5
Garfield	2	6	0	16	1	1	5	31	3
Judicial District	20	51	17	286	5	46	7	432	114
Benton	128	300	132	1,068	17	342	11	1,998	258
Franklin	44	66	74	366	17	164	0	731	91
Judicial District	172	366	206	1,434	34	506	11	2,729	349
Chelan	82	144	128	661	29	234	2	1,280	125
Douglas	21	46	23	78	0	54	4	226	71
Judicial District	103	190	151	739	29	288	6	1,506	196
Clallam	45	95	77	487	12	267	7	990	164
Clark	346	452	707	2,725	39	862	13	5,144	723
Cowlitz	100	139	148	902	22	280	33	1,624	248
Ferry	2	4	12	88	1	12	1	120	20
Pend Oreille	24	15	12	83	0	45	0	179	22
Stevens	17	52	54	260	7	90	8	488	79
Judicial District	43	71	78	431	8	147	9	787	121
Grant	25	132	96	507	19	240	6	1,025	188
Grays Harbor	48	107	138	630	18	386	15	1,342	285
Island	35	133	65	596	1	135	7	972	111
San Juan	6	33	25	94	3	30	1	192	38
Judicial District	41	166	90	690	4	165	8	1,164	149
Jefferson	18	41	39	157	1	112	3	371	71
King	3,946	5,965	5,848	12,050	338	3,949	203	32,299	2,513
Kitsap	175	394	368	1,597	0	599	36	3,169	472
Kittitas	30	66	36	256	5	87	7	487	105
Klickitat	3	53	9	214	0	40	2	321	56
Skamania	5	41	17	123	2	46	2	236	28
Judicial District	8	94	26	337	2	86	4	557	84
Lewis	50	81	124	634	15	318	7	1,229	249
Lincoln	3	18	4	1,085	3	30	4	1,147	15
Mason	32	80	73	333	3	150	12	683	3
Okanogan	4	11	34	310	7	199	4	569	96
Pacific	16	25	25	207	4	93	0	370	32
Wahkiakum	11	1	1	31	0	0	1	45	11
Judicial District	27	26	26	238	4	93	1	415	43
Pierce	911	1,587	2,420	6,212	106	3,057	63	14,356	955
Skagit	101	175	145	818	27	296	10	1,572	264
Snohomish	653	1,365	1,331	4,334	106	1,934	55	9,778	945
Spokane	337	1,327	511	3,489	64	1,354	54	7,136	567
Thurston	203	426	409	1,645	178	825	17	3,703	572
Walla Walla	67	98	63	453	10	265	5	961	112
Whatcom	279	185	208	1,143	5	309	25	2,154	124
Whitman	18	67	25	147	5	51	12	325	30
Yakima	193	539	302	1,938	27	613	16	3,628	385
State	8,007	14,352	13,719	46,114	1,102	17,532	656	101,482	10,175



# The Superior Courts

## Civil Cases Disposed By Type of Case, 1987

County/ Court	Torts	Commerical	Property Rights	Domestic Relations Paternity	Admin Law Review	Other Petitions Complaints	Appeals Lower Courts	Total Civil Disposed
Adams	18	26	15	76	6	11	2	154
Asotin	13	29	25	196	2	29	3	297
Columbia	1	10	0	19	0	2	0	32
Garfield	1	0	0	13	0	0	2	16
Judicial District	15	39	25	228	2	31	5	345
Benton	247	368	222	1,109	14	309	5	2,274
Franklin	92	88	60	276	9	142	0	667
Judicial District	339	456	282	1,385	23	451	5	2,941
Chelan	110	117	50	592	6	174	1	1,050
Douglas	20	30	16	57	2	45	1	171
Judicial District	130	147	66	649	8	219	2	1,221
Clallam	68	71	56	379	2	190	2	768
Clark	364	259	274	2,060	20	767	10	3,754
Cowlitz	170	114	102	803	8	258	15	1,470
Ferry	1	2	3	116	2	3	1	128
Pend Oreille	13	12	19	94	0	49	0	187
Stevens	34	60	28	253	5	72	0	452
Judicial District	48	74	50	463	7	124	1	767
Grant	56	109	76	402	10	220	2	875
Grays Harbor	120	103	142	538	7	252	11	1,173
Island	38	93	43	943	1	110	5	1,233
San Juan	8	22	21	79	1	30	1	162
Judicial District	46	115	64	1,022	2	140	6	1,395
Jefferson	32	48	30	183	4	100	0	397
King	4,922	5,711	5,520	10,925	288	2,649	175	30,190
Kitsap	284	459	316	2,006	3	578	37	3,683
Kittitas	20	32	19	123	0	32	3	229
Klickitat	8	34	13	170	2	30	5	262
Skamania	15	27	18	116	1	31	2	210
Judicial District	23	61	31	286	3	61	7	472
Lewis	99	82	111	576	7	308	5	1,188
Lincoln	3	19	5	1,020	3	31	1	1,082
Mason	44	78	52	260	6	116	5	561
Okanogan	7	11	10	154	0	25	0	207
Pacific	24	26	25	122	1	76	0	274
Wahkiakum	23	0	2	74	0	2	6	107
Judicial District	47	26	27	196	1	78	6	381
Pierce	1,593	1,474	1,986	6,130	77	2,669	43	13,972
Skagit	175	355	174	1,121	17	350	12	2,204
Snohomish	905	1,353	1,416	4,490	63	1,783	53	10,063
Spokane	609	874	176	1,996	29	779	21	4,484
Thurston	295	491	388	1,368	184	742	13	3,481
Walla Walla	90	58	36	350	3	206	6	749
Whatcom	240	95	93	693	1	148	6	1,276
Whitman	26	41	17	159	4	22	2	271
Yakima	294	477	239	1,448	8	578	10	3,054
State	11,082	13,258	11,798	41,489	796	13,918	466	92,807

# The Superior Courts

Civil Case Activity, 1987

County/ Court	Chg Of Venue	Lower Court Appeals	Default Judgmt Uncont	Dispositions By Type				Judgmt After Trial	Total Disposed	Jury Trials	Proceedings By Type			Post Disp Hearing
				Dismiss	Settled	Summary Judgmt	Non- Jury Trials				Pre- Disp Hearing	Disp Hearing		
Adams	5	0	73	58	3	3	12	154	3	5	65	119	15	
Asotin	11	0	182	82	14	3	5	297	1	3	118	99	43	
Columbia	0	2	21	5	1	1	2	32	2	1	59	16	7	
Garfield	0	0	13	2	0	0	1	16	1	0	1	3	1	
Judicial District	11	2	216	89	15	4	8	345	4	4	178	118	51	
Benton	10	0	299	1,174	29	1	761	2,274	19	146	899	1,138	242	
Franklin	5	0	235	282	110	11	24	667	9	73	258	409	95	
Judicial District	15	0	534	1,456	139	12	785	2,941	28	219	1,157	1,547	337	
Chelan	5	1	442	334	172	8	88	1,050	10	117	445	652	328	
Douglas	6	1	73	77	2	6	6	171	0	9	63	93	36	
Judicial District	11	2	515	411	174	14	94	1,221	10	126	508	745	364	
Clallam	1	1	265	282	160	10	49	768	10	90	1,418	493	142	
Clark	6	4	1,791	945	809	30	169	3,754	34	234	2,443	2,476	909	
Cowlitz	4	5	527	436	256	7	235	1,470	16	49	1,076	853	610	
Ferry	3	2	46	64	0	2	11	128	0	9	44	50	30	
Pend Oreille	2	0	99	50	28	2	6	187	1	12	128	97	21	
Stevens	7	1	134	140	137	5	28	452	4	27	115	187	58	
Judicial District	12	3	279	254	165	9	45	767	5	48	287	334	109	
Grant	2	1	309	269	219	28	47	875	10	59	730	522	435	
Grays Harbor	7	4	478	394	188	17	85	1,173	13	52	916	413	235	
Island	7	8	779	335	48	7	49	1,233	4	54	408	524	179	
San Juan	1	0	22	10	112	4	13	162	2	13	117	78	33	
Judicial District	8	8	801	345	160	11	62	1,395	6	67	525	602	212	
Jefferson	4	0	129	143	73	4	44	397	4	37	579	418	236	
King	70	114	8,616	5,907	13,243	540	1,700	30,190	151	829	12,637	15,082	4,610	
Kitsap	15	0	1,629	1,540	454	26	19	3,683	17	137	2,056	1,485	816	
Kittitas	5	0	68	140	10	0	6	229	18	31	259	215	67	
Klickitat	1	3	105	89	46	2	16	262	3	19	87	108	30	
Skamania	2	1	70	58	64	4	11	210	0	19	142	102	15	
Judicial District	3	4	175	147	110	6	27	472	3	38	229	210	45	
Lewis	4	2	516	411	189	3	63	1,188	7	45	912	622	264	
Lincoln	15	1	984	60	1	3	18	1,082	2	20	29	50	28	
Mason	2	2	265	106	146	21	19	561	5	24	368	267	99	
Okanogan	0	0	155	45	3	4	0	207	4	38	200	244	96	
Pacific	2	1	133	72	26	9	31	274	1	30	375	157	142	
Wahkiakum	1	2	16	79	1	4	4	107	2	20	113	67	32	
Judicial District	3	3	149	151	27	13	35	381	3	50	488	224	174	
Pierce	56	4	6,653	5,224	1,354	122	559	13,972	96	211	579	3,856	13	
Skagit	18	4	657	982	341	28	174	2,204	12	107	884	805	225	
Snohomish	42	42	3,644	3,303	2,365	111	556	10,063	45	326	4,215	4,070	1,679	
Spokane	16	2	618	1,952	6	25	1,865	4,484	65	266	8,919	6,080	4,716	
Thurston	26	55	1,531	1,145	355	55	314	3,481	29	117	2,040	1,903	1,034	
Walla Walla	5	7	291	243	142	9	52	749	10	39	484	431	148	
Whatcom	3	1	513	357	327	17	58	1,276	17	137	989	776	491	
Whitman	5	1	144	97	14	4	6	271	13	21	228	174	31	
Yakima	9	7	1,154	923	699	63	199	3,054	34	92	2,305	1,706	695	
State	383	279	33,679	27,815	22,147	1,199	7,305	92,807	674	3,518	47,703	46,840	18,886	

# The Superior Courts

## History of Probate, Guardianship and Adoption Filings, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	& Chg	1985	& Chg	1986	& Chg	1987	& Chg
Adams	64	46	-28.1%	68	47.8%	54	-20.5%	54	-0.0%
Asotin	72	81	12.5%	86	6.1%	73	-15.1%	63	-13.6%
Columbia	35	27	-22.8%	44	62.9%	26	-40.9%	25	-3.8%
Garfield	26	24	-7.6%	30	25.0%	20	-33.3%	11	-45.0%
Judicial District	133	132	-0.7%	160	21.2%	119	-25.6%	99	-16.8%
Benton	431	382	-11.3%	404	5.7%	350	-13.3%	347	-0.8%
Franklin	153	106	-30.7%	127	19.8%	99	-22.0%	107	8.0%
Judicial District	584	488	-16.4%	531	8.8%	449	-15.4%	454	1.1%
Chelan	264	226	-14.3%	247	9.2%	207	-16.1%	236	14.0%
Douglas	91	95	4.3%	82	-13.6%	90	9.7%	87	-3.3%
Judicial District	355	321	-9.5%	329	2.4%	297	-9.7%	323	8.7%
Clallam	285	307	7.7%	254	-17.2%	288	13.3%	289	0.3%
Clark	804	719	-10.5%	746	3.7%	727	-2.5%	737	1.3%
Cowlitz	360	249	-30.8%	258	3.6%	269	4.2%	272	1.1%
Ferry	19	27	42.1%	24	-11.1%	28	16.6%	16	-42.8%
Pend Oreille	45	37	-17.7%	50	35.1%	34	-32.0%	39	14.7%
Stevens	110	110	-0.0%	104	-5.4%	119	14.4%	112	-5.8%
Judicial District	174	174	-0.0%	178	2.2%	181	1.6%	167	-7.7%
Grant	262	201	-23.2%	202	0.4%	194	-3.9%	180	-7.2%
Grays Harbor	298	257	-13.7%	284	10.5%	282	-0.7%	253	-10.2%
Island	198	173	-12.6%	224	29.4%	259	15.6%	275	6.1%
San Juan	47	47	-0.0%	52	10.6%	44	-15.3%	60	36.3%
Judicial District	245	220	-10.2%	276	25.4%	303	9.7%	335	10.5%
Jefferson	101	96	-4.9%	93	-3.1%	107	15.0%	106	-0.9%
King	6,452	5,929	-8.1%	5,979	0.8%	6,166	3.1%	6,107	-0.9%
Kitsap	728	715	-1.7%	683	-4.4%	712	4.2%	670	-5.8%
Kittitas	125	130	4.0%	133	2.3%	134	0.7%	106	-20.8%
Klickitat	70	68	-2.8%	67	-1.4%	84	25.3%	62	-26.1%
Skamania	29	28	-3.4%	24	-14.2%	27	12.5%	30	11.1%
Judicial District	99	96	-3.0%	91	-5.2%	111	21.9%	92	-17.1%
Lewis	297	270	-9.0%	263	-2.5%	257	-2.2%	273	6.2%
Lincoln	99	75	-24.2%	90	20.0%	76	-15.5%	78	2.6%
Mason	192	186	-3.1%	178	-4.3%	201	12.9%	175	-12.9%
Okanogan	86	132	53.4%	134	1.5%	133	-0.7%	127	-4.5%
Pacific	82	92	12.1%	91	-1.0%	96	5.4%	104	8.3%
Wahkiakum	16	16	-0.0%	26	62.5%	18	-30.7%	13	-27.7%
Judicial District	98	108	10.2%	117	8.3%	114	-2.5%	117	2.6%
Pierce	2,178	1,869	-14.1%	2,016	7.8%	1,982	-1.6%	2,090	5.4%
Skagit	365	342	-6.3%	347	1.4%	346	-0.2%	334	-3.4%
Snohomish	1,404	1,290	-8.1%	1,326	2.7%	1,376	3.7%	1,349	-1.9%
Spokane	1,639	1,874	14.3%	1,513	-19.2%	1,681	11.1%	1,680	-0.0%
Thurston	601	556	-7.4%	516	-7.1%	525	1.7%	529	0.7%
Walla Walla	316	283	-10.4%	322	13.7%	395	22.6%	293	-25.8%
Whatcom	456	438	-3.9%	400	-8.6%	413	3.2%	385	-6.7%
Whitman	155	122	-21.2%	147	20.4%	144	-2.0%	147	2.0%
Yakima	926	751	-18.8%	842	12.1%	775	-7.9%	814	5.0%
State	19,881	18,376	-7.5%	18,476	0.5%	18,811	1.8%	18,635	-0.9%

# The Superior Courts

## History of Mental Illness Filings, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	% Chg	1985	% Chg	1986	% Chg	1987	% Chg
Adams	19	32	68.4%	30	-6.2%	16	-46.6%	24	50.0%
Asotin	21	18	-14.2%	20	11.1%	33	65.0%	35	6.0%
Columbia	0	3	--	3	-0.0%	5	66.6%	6	20.0%
Garfield	4	3	-25.0%	8	166.6%	5	-37.5%	1	-80.0%
Judicial District	25	24	-4.0%	31	29.1%	43	38.7%	42	-2.3%
Benton	271	276	1.8%	345	25.0%	253	-26.6%	253	-0.0%
Franklin	74	66	-10.8%	83	25.7%	78	-6.0%	82	5.1%
Judicial District	345	342	-0.8%	428	25.1%	331	-22.6%	335	1.2%
Chelan	70	93	32.8%	92	-1.0%	83	-9.7%	65	-21.6%
Douglas	1	2	100.0%	6	200.0%	10	66.6%	5	-50.0%
Judicial District	71	95	33.8%	98	3.1%	93	-5.1%	70	-24.7%
Clallam	65	56	-13.8%	88	57.1%	70	-20.4%	69	-1.4%
Clark	103	136	32.0%	240	76.4%	148	-38.3%	255	72.2%
Cowlitz	117	125	6.8%	141	12.8%	202	43.2%	155	-23.2%
Ferry	0	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Pend Oreille	1	4	300.0%	3	-25.0%	3	-0.0%	8	166.6%
Stevens	26	30	15.3%	35	16.6%	35	-0.0%	43	22.8%
Judicial District	27	34	25.9%	38	11.7%	38	-0.0%	51	34.2%
Grant	89	99	11.2%	107	8.0%	123	14.9%	173	40.6%
Grays Harbor	53	44	-16.9%	75	70.4%	41	-45.3%	58	41.4%
Island	34	32	-5.8%	41	28.1%	39	-4.8%	38	-2.5%
San Juan	0	0	--	0	--	0	--	3	--
Judicial District	34	32	-5.8%	41	28.1%	39	-4.8%	41	5.1%
Jefferson	18	30	66.6%	42	40.0%	39	-7.1%	24	-38.4%
King	2,035	2,283	12.1%	2,446	7.1%	2,598	6.2%	2,732	5.1%
Kitsap	202	227	12.3%	139	-38.7%	165	18.7%	189	14.5%
Kittitas	0	0	--	0	--	0	--	2	--
Klickitat	4	1	-75%	121	100.0%	18	50.0%	17	-5.5%
Skamania	6	8	33.3%	12	50.0%	11	-8.3%	9	-18.1%
Judicial District	10	9	-10.0%	24	166.6%	29	20.8%	26	-10.3%
Lewis	77	82	6.4%	90	9.7%	79	-12.2%	99	25.3%
Lincoln	11	13	18.1%	10	-23.0%	8	-20.0%	3	-62.5%
Mason	16	21	31.2%	22	4.7%	27	22.7%	0	22.7%
Okanogan	0	2	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Pacific	13	16	23.0%	14	-12.5%	24	71.4%	22	-8.3%
Wahkiakum	0	0	--	0	--	0	--	0	--
Judicial District	13	16	23.0%	14	-12.5%	24	71.4%	22	-8.3%
Pierce	1,639	1,651	0.7%	3,151	90.8%	2,026	-35.7%	2,165	6.8%
Skagit	146	144	-1.3%	107	-25.6%	96	-10.2%	93	-3.1%
Snohomish	458	524	14.4%	625	19.2%	641	2.5%	547	-14.6%
Spokane	952	1,218	27.9%	1,344	10.3%	1,493	11.0%	1,581	5.8%
Thurston	178	178	-0.0%	184	3.3%	204	10.8%	178	-12.7%
Walla Walla	113	124	9.7%	93	-25.0%	74	-20.4%	101	36.4%
Whatcom	66	53	-19.6%	45	-15.0%	39	-13.3%	62	58.9%
Whitman	32	30	-6.2%	30	-0.0%	35	16.6%	26	-25.7%
Yakima	284	282	-0.7%	410	45.3%	502	22.4%	602	19.9%
State	7,198	7,906	9.8%	10,093	27.6%	9,223	-8.6%	9,725	5.4%

# The Superior Courts

## Probate, Guardianship, Adoption and Mental Illness Cases, 1987

County Court	Filings					Dispositions					Trial Total	Hearings				
	Pro-bate	Guard-ianship	Adop-tion	Mental Illness	Total	Pro-bate	Guard-ianship	Adop-tion	Mental Illness	Total		Pro-bate	Guard-ianship	Adop-tion	Mental Illness	Total Hearings
Adams	39	5	10	24	78	23	0	10	6	39	1	50	12	13	0	75
Asotin	49	7	7	35	98	36	3	7	17	63	0	12	8	7	1	28
Columbia	22	1	2	6	31	11	0	0	0	11	0	0	3	1	1	5
Garfield	8	1	2	1	12	6	0	1	0	7	0	1	1	1	0	3
Judicial District	79	9	11	42	141	53	3	8	17	81	0	13	12	9	2	36
Benton	227	59	61	253	600	210	21	56	243	530	3	52	65	60	107	284
Franklin	83	7	17	82	189	54	1	15	63	133	0	7	19	3	27	56
Judicial District	310	66	78	335	789	264	22	71	306	663	3	59	84	63	134	340
Chelan	188	22	26	65	301	126	9	24	19	178	4	174	59	30	0	263
Douglas	67	3	17	5	92	22	0	13	0	35	0	39	6	11	0	56
Judicial District	255	25	43	70	393	148	9	37	19	213	4	213	65	41	0	319
Clallam	219	26	44	69	358	25	7	15	12	59	2	180	66	60	11	317
Clark	464	145	128	255	992	458	36	81	2	577	29	322	239	134	27	722
Cowlitz	185	50	37	155	427	67	1	27	77	172	1	93	64	46	108	311
Ferry	16	0	0	0	16	1	0	0	0	1	1	9	5	0	0	14
Pend Oreille	30	4	5	8	47	22	1	3	5	31	0	14	5	2	0	21
Stevens	86	5	21	43	155	36	2	19	34	91	1	51	19	19	0	89
Judicial District	132	9	26	51	218	59	3	22	39	123	2	74	29	21	0	124
Grant	121	28	31	173	353	99	2	29	76	206	0	88	65	51	0	204
Grays Harbor	193	24	36	58	311	162	11	32	43	248	2	56	17	37	0	110
Island	198	37	40	38	313	168	5	41	9	223	1	114	66	49	5	234
San Juan	48	8	4	3	63	47	3	3	2	55	0	15	9	1	0	25
Judicial District	246	45	44	41	376	215	8	44	11	278	1	129	75	50	5	259
Jefferson	87	7	12	24	130	45	0	8	37	90	1	126	22	17	20	185
King	4,434	812	861	2,732	8,839	3,632	215	717	2,651	7,215	29	4,343	1,333	969	4,601	11,246
Kitsap	475	100	95	189	859	301	20	84	0	405	5	187	170	101	310	768
Kittitas	84	16	6	2	108	58	0	8	2	68	1	26	13	4	2	45
Klickitat	40	7	15	17	79	23	3	15	0	41	0	6	8	12	0	26
Skamania	22	2	6	9	39	9	0	1	0	10	0	8	2	4	0	14
Judicial District	62	9	21	26	118	32	3	16	0	51	0	14	10	16	0	40
Lewis	205	26	42	99	372	88	8	18	2	116	1	45	17	10	0	72
Lincoln	72	1	5	3	81	74	4	4	4	86	0	12	3	4	0	19
Mason	146	8	21	0	175	102	7	16	0	125	0	42	34	17	0	93
Okanogan	104	9	14	0	127	12	2	8	0	22	0	57	17	10	0	84
Pacific	80	8	16	22	126	44	5	12	0	61	0	91	28	15	0	134
Wahkiakum	8	5	0	0	13	7	0	0	0	7	0	19	19	4	0	42
Judicial District	88	13	16	22	139	51	5	12	0	68	0	110	47	19	0	176
Pierce	1,321	386	383	2,165	4,255	796	73	327	377	1,573	0	15	13	12	6,473	6,513
Skagit	263	39	32	93	427	225	11	29	90	355	6	62	64	36	13	175
Snohomish	950	207	192	547	1,896	742	75	158	397	1,372	8	172	240	220	0	632
Spokane	1,245	219	216	1,581	3,261	687	41	178	1,187	2,093	7	1,632	1,118	447	2,123	5,320
Thurston	394	48	87	178	707	336	17	75	185	613	3	190	108	96	114	508
Walla Walla	253	14	26	101	394	236	6	29	2	273	0	22	21	19	53	115
Whatcom	274	38	73	62	447	102	0	39	0	141	2	64	75	32	27	198
Whitman	121	11	15	26	173	125	1	12	10	148	0	143	30	20	1	194
Yakima	598	123	93	602	1,416	307	19	83	99	508	3	123	90	88	542	843
State	13,419	2,518	2,698	9,725	28,360	9,524	609	2,197	5,651	17,981	111	8,662	4,153	2,662	14,566	30,043

# The Superior Courts

## History of Juvenile Offender Filings, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	% Chg	1985	% Chg	1986	% Chg	1987	% Chg
Adams	36	12	-66.6%	35	191.6%	9	-74.2%	16	77.7%
Asotin	20	32	60.0%	64	100.0%	49	-23.4%	57	16.3%
Columbia	24	25	4.1%	3	-88.0%	16	433.3%	25	56.2%
Garfield	1	2	100.0%	5	150.0%	3	-40.0%	3	-0.0%
Judicial District	45	59	31.1%	72	22.0%	68	-5.5%	85	25.0%
Benton	429	442	3.0%	437	-1.1%	497	13.7%	421	-15.2%
Franklin	102	154	50.9%	151	-1.9%	137	-9.2%	160	16.7%
Judicial District	531	596	12.2%	588	-1.3%	634	7.8%	581	-8.3%
Chelan	173	164	-5.2%	245	49.3%	235	-4.0%	274	16.5%
Douglas	80	88	10.0%	76	-13.6%	90	18.4%	91	1.1%
Judicial District	253	252	-0.3%	321	27.3%	325	1.2%	365	1.3%
Clallam	274	214	-21.8%	230	7.4%	251	9.1%	233	-7.1%
Clark	749	814	8.6%	962	18.1%	949	-1.3%	812	-14.4%
Cowlitz	368	360	-2.1%	374	3.8%	409	9.3%	369	-9.7%
Ferry	27	8	-70.3%	29	262.5%	21	-27.5%	42	100.0%
Pend Oreille	40	59	47.5%	36	-38.9%	30	-16.6%	26	-13.3%
Stevens	108	66	-38.8%	63	-4.5%	104	65.0%	89	-14.4%
Judicial District	175	133	-24.0%	128	-3.7%	155	21.0%	157	1.2%
Grant	284	253	-10.9%	256	1.1%	253	-1.1%	230	-9.0%
Grays Harbor	315	434	37.7%	473	8.9%	423	-10.5%	394	-6.8%
Island	84	85	1.1%	68	-20.0%	63	-7.3%	76	20.6%
San Juan	19	28	47.3%	21	-25.0%	20	-4.7%	34	70.0%
Judicial District	103	113	9.7%	89	-21.2%	83	-6.7%	110	32.5%
Jefferson	62	75	20.9%	67	-10.6%	47	-29.8%	103	119.1%
King	5,167	4,902	-5.1%	5,415	10.4%	5,887	8.7%	6,222	5.6%
Kitsap	722	664	-5.2%	897	31.1%	842	-6.1%	758	-9.9%
Kittitas	77	88	14.2%	69	-21.5%	112	62.3%	94	-16.0%
Klickitat	47	69	46.8%	72	4.3%	47	-34.7%	75	59.5%
Skamania	25	36	44.0%	29	-19.4%	43	48.2%	22	-48.8%
Judicial District	72	105	45.8%	101	-3.8%	90	-10.8%	97	7.7%
Lewis	241	223	-7.4%	310	39.0%	286	-7.7%	305	6.6%
Lincoln	32	14	-56.2%	19	35.7%	28	47.3%	25	-10.7%
Mason	148	172	16.2%	202	17.4%	193	-4.4%	168	-12.9%
Okanogan	149	144	-3.3%	209	45.1%	171	-18.1%	213	24.5%
Pacific	127	121	-4.7%	88	-27.2%	84	-4.5%	97	15.4%
Wahkiakum	20	14	-30.0%	39	178.5%	27	-30.7%	24	-11.1%
Judicial District	147	135	-8.1%	127	-5.9%	111	-12.5%	121	9.0%
Pierce	1,680	1,292	-23.0%	1,168	-9.5%	1,170	0.1%	1,186	1.3%
Skagit	202	217	7.4%	334	53.9%	216	-35.3%	216	-0.0%
Snohomish	1,357	1,406	3.6%	1,326	-5.6%	1,306	-1.5%	1,210	-7.3%
Spokane	1,118	1,077	-3.6%	1,323	22.8%	1,311	-0.9%	1,242	-5.2%
Thurston	625	676	8.1%	815	20.5%	761	-6.6%	802	5.3%
Walla Walla	110	109	-0.9%	101	-7.3%	153	51.4%	149	-2.6%
Whatcom	426	546	28.1%	550	0.7%	497	-9.6%	518	4.2%
Whitman	14	23	64.2%	38	65.2%	34	-10.5%	29	-14.7%
Yakima	760	756	-0.5%	926	22.4%	927	0.1%	860	-7.2%
State	16,242	15,884	-2.2%	17,525	10.3%	17,701	1.0%	17,670	-0.1%

# The Superior Court

## Juvenile Offender Filings, Dispositions and Sentences, 1987

County Court	Filings	Juris. Declined	Dismissed	Acquitted	Dispositions			Total Convicted	Total Disposed	Sentencing		
					GUILTY Plea	Court Decision	Total			Community Sentence	State Instit	Total Sent
Adams	16	2	0	0	8	0	8	10	8	0	8	
Asotin	57	3	3	0	49	0	49	55	42	6	48	
Columbia	25	11	6	0	5	0	5	22	2	0	2	
Garfield	3	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	1	0	1	
Judicial District	85	14	9	0	56	0	56	79	45	6	51	
Benton	421	10	120	2	293	29	322	454	259	63	322	
Franklin	160	0	17	0	102	7	109	126	105	4	109	
Judicial District	581	10	137	2	395	36	431	580	364	67	431	
Chelan	274	10	67	0	157	5	162	239	128	24	152	
Douglas	91	5	4	0	65	5	70	79	35	35	70	
Judicial District	365	15	71	0	222	10	232	318	163	59	222	
Clallam	233	1	50	4	79	32	111	166	97	5	102	
Clark	812	39	128	7	527	30	557	731	486	54	540	
Cowlitz	369	8	20	11	212	34	246	285	191	28	219	
Ferry	42	1	2	0	3	3	6	9	18	1	19	
Pend Oreille	26	3	6	0	15	0	15	24	15	0	15	
Stevens	89	1	11	0	85	0	85	97	67	18	85	
Judicial District	157	5	19	0	103	3	106	130	100	19	119	
Grant	230	0	53	3	162	6	168	224	152	16	168	
Grays Harbor	394	2	75	3	297	11	308	388	282	26	308	
Island	76	0	5	0	56	0	56	61	53	3	56	
San Juan	34	2	3	1	19	2	21	27	21	0	21	
Judicial District	110	2	8	1	75	2	77	88	74	3	77	
Jefferson	103	2	29	2	60	4	64	97	58	6	64	
King	6,222	19	2,084	100	2,678	413	3,091	5,294	2,609	482	3,091	
Kitsap	758	0	22	13	407	49	456	491	434	40	474	
Kittitas	94	1	16	0	64	10	74	91	63	11	74	
Klickitat	75	0	16	0	34	4	38	54	43	0	43	
Skamania	22	0	1	0	19	0	19	20	16	3	19	
Judicial District	97	0	17	0	53	4	57	74	59	3	62	
Lewis	305	2	54	1	168	4	172	229	166	6	172	
Lincoln	25	6	1	0	16	0	16	23	14	2	16	
Mason	168	6	12	1	96	1	97	116	55	42	97	
Okanogan	213	9	19	0	125	1	126	154	117	9	126	
Pacific	97	0	16	0	60	6	66	82	44	22	66	
Wahkiakum	24	0	4	0	9	2	11	15	12	4	16	
Judicial District	121	0	20	0	69	8	77	97	56	26	82	
Pierce	1,186	6	32	12	845	75	920	970	624	148	772	
Skagit	216	5	52	0	88	7	95	152	84	11	95	
Snohomish	1,210	4	150	27	771	136	907	1,088	650	93	743	
Spokane	1,242	7	193	23	966	32	998	1,221	783	102	885	
Thurston	802	4	213	4	429	12	441	662	457	51	508	
Walla Walla	149	0	48	1	74	5	79	128	72	7	79	
Whatcom	518	0	39	3	316	32	348	390	327	23	350	
Whitman	29	0	2	0	16	0	16	18	4	15	19	
Yakima	860	6	274	12	474	52	526	818	435	91	526	
State	17,670	175	3,847	230	9,851	1,009	10,860	15,112	9,029	1,451	10,480	

# The Superior Courts

## Juvenile Offender Proceedings, 1987

County Court	Pre-Adjudication	Guilty Plea Only	Guilty Plea Sent	Trial	Separate Disposition	Post Disposition	Total Proceed
Adams	1	0	0	0	11	1	13
Asotin	8	0	0	0	41	5	54
Columbia	32	12	1	0	0	5	50
Garfield	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Judicial District	40	13	2	0	41	10	106
Benton	261	55	214	35	199	231	995
Franklin	120	2	27	7	106	78	340
Judicial District	381	57	241	42	305	309	1,335
Chelan	211	35	3	7	210	147	613
Douglas	30	3	20	0	47	33	133
Judicial District	241	38	23	7	257	180	746
Clallam	334	19	75	23	28	100	579
Clark	1,991	32	495	41	147	1,330	4,036
Cowlitz	400	26	179	46	41	177	869
Ferry	32	8	11	3	4	14	72
Pend Oreille	26	0	10	0	9	16	61
Stevens	29	2	33	0	53	16	133
Judicial District	87	10	54	3	66	46	266
Grant	249	87	69	7	52	260	724
Grays Harbor	270	169	83	0	296	730	1,548
Island	62	0	10	3	50	24	149
San Juan	45	3	17	4	4	4	77
Judicial District	107	3	27	7	54	28	226
Jefferson	249	13	1	0	96	132	491
King	3,762	0	0	645	3,518	2,318	10,243
Kitsap	945	33	375	89	80	338	1,860
Kititas	31	0	0	15	79	54	179
Klickitat	70	1	32	4	13	17	137
Skamania	21	0	10	0	7	2	40
Judicial District	91	1	42	4	20	19	177
Lewis	84	11	15	3	81	184	378
Lincoln	13	14	6	0	14	4	51
Mason	211	0	0	1	126	53	391
Okanogan	139	56	15	0	145	58	413
Pacific	81	3	24	15	43	52	218
Wahkiakum	40	1	3	6	6	28	84
Judicial District	121	4	27	21	49	80	302
Pierce	1,642	384	538	94	401	449	3,508
Skagit	230	48	24	15	88	44	449
Snohomish	947	59	592	175	83	416	2,272
Spokane	2,770	871	95	57	863	335	4,991
Thurston	807	42	474	15	24	332	1,694
Walla Walla	163	0	28	1	74	96	362
Whatcom	624	56	345	36	56	277	1,394
Whitman	40	24	15	0	2	0	81
Yakima	1,483	20	409	71	125	806	2,914
State	18,453	2,090	4,249	1,418	7,222	9,166	42,598



# The Superior Courts

## History of Juvenile Dependency Filings, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	% Chg	1985	% Chg	1986	% Chg	1987	% Chg
Adams	0	8	--	11	37.5%	14	27.2%	3	-78.5%
Asotin	23	16	-30.4%	37	131.2%	30	-18.9%	13	-56.6%
Columbia	8	8	-0.0%	6	-25.0%	6	-0.0%	1	-83.3%
Garfield	0	1	--	0	--	1	--	0	--
Judicial District	31	25	-19.3%	43	72.0%	37	-13.9%	14	-62.1%
Benton	111	109	-1.8%	100	-8.2%	115	15.0%	112	-2.6%
Franklin	52	30	-42.3%	24	-20.0%	64	166.6%	55	-14.0%
Judicial District	163	139	-14.7%	124	-10.7%	179	44.3%	167	-6.7%
Chelan	76	57	-25.0%	75	31.5%	55	-26.6%	53	-3.6%
Douglas	34	27	-20.5%	23	-14.8%	11	-52.1%	22	100.0%
Judicial District	110	84	-23.6%	98	16.6%	66	-32.6%	75	13.6%
Clallam	169	151	-10.6%	155	2.6%	203	30.9%	238	17.2%
Clark	0	300	--	228	-24.0%	251	10.0%	334	33.0%
Cowlitz	164	141	-14.0%	144	2.1%	141	-2.0%	98	-30.4%
Ferry	8	6	-25.0%	8	33.3%	10	25.0%	18	80.0%
Pend Oreille	11	18	63.6%	17	-5.5%	25	47.0%	28	12.0%
Stevens	35	45	28.5%	36	-20.0%	58	61.1%	57	-1.7%
Judicial District	54	69	27.7%	61	-11.5%	93	52.4%	103	10.7%
Grant	41	44	7.3%	46	4.5%	37	-19.5%	48	29.7%
Grays Harbor	81	61	-24.6%	92	50.8%	110	19.5%	106	-3.6%
Island	71	72	1.4%	53	-26.3%	42	-20.7%	44	4.7%
San Juan	6	9	50.0%	8	-11.1%	9	12.5%	12	33.3%
Judicial District	77	81	5.1%	61	-24.6%	51	-16.3%	56	9.8%
Jefferson	30	19	-36.6%	18	-5.2%	34	88.8%	43	26.4%
King	1,403	1,476	5.2%	1,346	-8.8%	1,371	1.8%	1,519	10.7%
Kitsap	149	140	-6.0%	177	26.4%	152	-14.1%	156	2.6%
Kittitas	27	35	29.6%	33	-5.7%	26	-21.2%	34	30.7%
Klickitat	31	37	19.3%	31	-16.2%	32	3.2%	26	-18.7%
Skamania	16	24	50.0%	10	-58.3%	13	30.0%	10	-23.0%
Judicial District	47	61	29.7%	41	-32.7%	45	9.7%	36	-20.0%
Lewis	111	127	14.4%	161	26.7%	191	18.6%	165	-13.6%
Lincoln	1	1	-0.0%	4	300.0%	8	100.0%	4	-50.0%
Mason	63	37	-41.2%	32	-13.5%	37	15.6%	28	-24.3%
Okanogan	30	23	-23.3%	28	21.7%	16	-42.8%	24	50.0%
Pacific	26	22	-15.3%	22	-0.0%	22	-0.0%	32	45.4%
Wahkiakum	5	10	100.0%	5	-50.0%	10	100.0%	7	-30.0%
Judicial District	31	32	3.2%	27	-15.6%	32	18.5%	39	21.8%
Pierce	555	648	16.7%	532	-17.9%	474	-10.9%	402	-15.1%
Skagit	59	67	13.5%	56	-16.4%	84	50.0%	67	-20.2%
Snohomish	600	433	-27.8%	370	-14.5%	392	5.9%	375	-4.3%
Spokane	383	415	8.3%	440	6.0%	382	-13.1%	428	12.0%
Thurston	98	82	-16.3%	102	24.3%	110	7.8%	116	5.4%
Walla Walla	59	77	30.5%	77	-0.0%	40	-48.0%	88	120.0%
Whatcom	74	72	-2.7%	56	-22.2%	57	1.7%	69	21.0%
Whitman	18	5	-72.2%	19	280.0%	25	31.5%	10	-60.0%
Yskima	204	235	15.1%	185	-21.2%	155	-16.2%	157	1.2%
State	4,832	5,088	5.2%	4,767	-6.3%	4,813	0.9%	5,002	3.9%

# The Superior Court

## Juvenile Dependency Case Activity, 1987

Court County	Filings	Chg Of Venue	Dismissed	Petit. Approved	Total Disposed	Pre-Fact Finding	Fact Finding Only	Fact Finding & Disposition	Separate Disposition	Post Disposition	Total Hearing
Adams	3	0	1	1	2	4	1	2	2	23	32
Asotin	13	0	6	14	20	8	0	3	7	60	78
Columbia	1	2	7	1	10	3	0	1	0	9	13
Garfield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Judicial District	14	2	13	15	30	11	0	4	7	70	92
Benton	112	4	110	75	189	18	38	35	93	385	569
Franklin	55	3	31	0	34	22	26	20	31	184	283
Judicial District	167	7	141	75	223	40	64	55	124	569	852
Chelan	53	1	12	32	45	37	3	2	43	175	260
Douglas	22	2	3	8	13	6	1	4	5	20	36
Judicial District	75	3	15	40	58	43	4	6	48	195	296
Clallam	238	6	94	87	187	50	20	68	19	272	429
Clark	334	0	42	253	295	264	0	0	12	1,248	1,524
Cowlitz	98	1	11	77	89	38	14	69	3	259	383
Ferry	18	0	5	12	17	7	6	8	2	22	45
Pend Oreille	28	0	8	18	26	12	0	0	16	20	48
Stevens	57	0	16	40	56	19	2	2	21	61	105
Judicial District	103	0	29	70	99	38	8	10	39	103	198
Grant	48	0	8	34	42	107	0	0	51	152	310
Grays Harbor	106	7	18	80	105	98	0	5	137	304	544
Island	44	0	13	24	37	8	22	2	7	69	108
San Juan	12	0	1	11	12	15	14	2	8	24	63
Judicial District	56	0	14	35	49	23	36	4	15	93	171
Jefferson	43	1	3	29	33	102	12	7	21	114	256
King	1,519	8	1,001	170	1,179	1,812	66	33	133	1,360	3,404
Kitsap	156	0	7	66	73	292	49	18	54	465	878
Kittitas	34	0	16	11	27	12	17	1	8	81	119
Klickitat	26	1	6	13	20	15	3	7	2	19	46
Skamania	10	0	10	0	10	19	0	5	1	30	55
Judicial District	36	1	16	13	30	34	3	12	3	49	101
Lewis	165	1	60	68	129	49	43	0	22	174	288
Lincoln	4	0	5	3	8	2	0	3	0	5	10
Mason	28	0	9	5	14	42	10	0	25	131	208
Okanogan	24	2	3	2	7	17	0	14	13	141	185
Pacific	32	4	5	17	26	4	14	3	0	14	35
Wahkiakum	7	0	5	0	5	12	23	15	1	4	55
Judicial District	39	4	10	17	31	16	37	18	1	18	90
Pierce	402	26	281	255	562	288	87	408	19	2,076	2,878
Skagit	67	0	10	67	77	38	55	15	13	26	147
Snohomish	375	4	100	214	318	464	5	31	84	1,079	1,663
Spokane	428	6	247	455	708	24	266	147	19	1,440	1,896
Thurston	116	0	38	80	118	51	4	76	3	267	401
Walla Walla	88	0	19	35	54	22	5	5	3	46	81
Whatcom	69	0	16	60	76	71	7	45	19	357	499
Whitman	10	0	3	7	10	11	27	14	0	13	65
Yakima	157	0	25	82	107	80	6	116	18	743	963
State	5,002	79	2,255	2,406	4,740	4,143	846	1,186	915	11,873	18,963

# The Superior Courts

## Glossary

A glossary is included to assist in understanding statistical tables.

## Staffing

**Judges** -- The number of resident full time judges in superior court as of year end. This includes all juvenile court judges. This is not the complete FTE count, but the number of full time judges.

**Full Time Equivalency (FTE)** -- The combined number of hours worked by all individuals each week during the last quarter of the year, divided by 35 hours per week. A person that works 35 hours a week equals 1.0 FTE. For example, two people working a 35-hour week and one working a 17.5-hour week are equivalent to 2.5 FTEs.

**Work Week** -- The number of hours that are officially recognized as constituting one week for each county or judicial district.

**Court Commissioner FTE** -- The hours worked by court commissioners, including juvenile court commissioners, but not including hours worked by judges pro tempore or by visiting judges. Hours worked by court commissioners in other court capacities, such as administration, are included in the court commissioner category.

**Court Reporter FTE** -- The hours worked by court reporters. Hours worked by court reporters in other court capacities, such as administration, are included in the court reporter category.

**Court Administrator FTE** -- The hours worked by court administrators. Juvenile court administrators are not included in this category.

Hours spent by court administrators as court commissioners are included in the court administrator category. Hours worked at staff functions by court administrators with no staff are included in the court administrator category. If a court administrator is also an elected or appointed County Clerk, the hours worked are allocated between the court administrator and the court clerk categories.

**Administrative Staff FTE** -- The hours worked performing the duties of assistant administrators, bailiffs, confidential secretaries, judicial assistants, clerks, and secretaries that support court operations. Hours worked by the Clerk's Office staff at this function are allocated to the Clerk's Office category.

**Clerk's Office FTE** -- The hours worked by the elected/appointed County Clerk and all the clerk's office staff including assistant clerks, administrators, courtroom clerks, file clerks, and secretaries.

Hours of clerk's office staff spent performing other superior court or clerk's office duties are included in the clerk's office category. Staff hours spent performing functions outside those of the county clerk or superior court are not included.

## Civil - Case Types

Civil cases usually pertain to the settlement of disputes between individuals, organizations, or groups and have to do with the establishment, recovery, or redress of private and civil rights. Civil law is all law that is not criminal law.

**Tort** -- Cases which seek relief for personal injury to another person or damage to another's property, and which do not involve a contract.

**Commercial** -- Cases involving business and personal contracts, and disputes between businesses not involving contracts.

**Property Rights** -- Cases involving rights to land and to things attached to land.

**Domestic Relations** -- Cases involving marriage dissolutions and attendant disputes regarding support, child custody, and paternity matters.

**Administrative Law Reviews** -- Petitions to the superior court for review of rulings made by state administrative agencies.

**Other Petitions and Complaints** -- Civil matters which are not specifically defined above, including injunctions and various writs, petitions for change of name, and petitions for domestic violence protection orders.

**Appeals From Lower Courts** -- Appeals from district court to the superior court.

**Civil Matters Filed with Clerk** -- Matters handled primarily by the clerk, such as preparing tax warrants or abstracts of judgments to transfer to another court. These matters are normally closed and disposed at the same time they are opened.

## Civil - Filings

The initiation of a case in court by formal submission to the court of a document alleging the facts of a matter and requesting relief.

## Civil - Proceedings

Hearings, bench trials, and jury trials held in open court where at least one of the parties is present and a minute entry is recorded. No matter how many cases were consolidated at the proceeding, only one proceeding is counted. Proceedings that are scheduled but not heard, or continuances that are granted

without discussion before the bench, are not included.

**Trials** -- Contested proceeding held in open court for the purpose of resolving the primary issues of a case. A trial must include both parties present or represented, issues contested, evidence presented, witnesses called, and opening and/or closing arguments made.

**Hearings** -- An appearance in open court, other than a trial. At least one of the parties must appear in a case which is actually heard and for which a minute entry is recorded. A hearing may or may not produce the final resolution or disposition of the original issue of a case.

**Pre-Disposition Hearing** -- All hearings for cases unresolved that do not produce a resolution. Examples include pre-trial conferences, motion hearings, bench warrants ordered in court, hearings to suppress evidence.

**Non-Jury Trial** -- A bench trial before the judge (without a jury) to decide the facts of the original issue of the case. Either a witness must be sworn, the first piece of evidence presented, or the first opening statement started before a hearing is considered a non-jury trial.

**Jury Trial** -- A trial before a jury. A jury trial is counted once, when it starts. A jury trial has started when the following events have taken place: a) the jury has been impaneled, b) voir dire has occurred, and c) the jury has been sworn and is ready to hear evidence. Jury trials are reported regardless of whether or not the jury eventually turns in a verdict.

**Disposition Hearing** -- A non-trial proceeding in which the original issue of a case is resolved. This category does not include trials. Examples include hearings for dismissal, change of venue, default, change of name.

**Post-Disposition Hearing** -- A proceeding for a case in which the original issue was previously resolved. Examples include motion for retrial and motion notwithstanding the verdict.

**Multiple Litigant Hearings** -- Civil cases with more than one litigant which may have separate judgments entered at different points in the case. In these instances the hearing should be counted relative to the disposition of the litigants involved in that hearing. For example, if the hearing disposes of the issues for the litigants represented, then the hearing is considered a disposition hearing regardless of the status of other litigants in the case. Thus, there may be more than one disposition hearing counted for a case, though there can only be one reported disposition per hearing.

**Reopenings** -- Cases reopened without a new case number. Any hearings that

result are counted as post-disposition hearings.

## Civil - Dispositions

A term which signifies a case has either been resolved or transferred. One disposition must be reported for every case filed. A disposition is reported at the time of the filing of a document resolving the issues in a case, or when a case is transferred to another jurisdiction for all subsequent adjudication and proceedings.

Disposition means the original issue in a case has been resolved, whether or not other auxiliary issues come up later. Further actions may still take place, such as civil garnishments or domestic post-dissolution issues. As a guideline, each and every case will have one disposition.

**Multiple Dispositions** -- Instances when cases have their original issues resolved in different ways, resulting in different types of dispositions. In civil cases with multiple litigants, for example, some claims may be dismissed by the parties while others are resolved through a trial. When this occurs, a single disposition that involved court resources to the greatest extent is reported.

**Cases Consolidated For Trial** -- Cases consolidated into a single trial. A separate disposition is reported for each case that has a separate case number.

**Mistrials** -- Trials made void because of an error in proceedings or the inability of the jury to reach a verdict. The case is disposed when the case has been retried and a new judgment is rendered.

**Change of Venue/Jurisdiction** -- Cases transferred from the court of filing to another jurisdiction for all subsequent adjudication and proceedings. Often transferred because the original court of filing is not the proper court for trial or for the convenience of the parties.

**Lower Court Appeals** -- All RALJ appeals sent to the superior court for review are eventually disposed by dismissal (and remand) or a decision to affirm, reverse, or modify the previous ruling. All of these dispositions are reported under this category.

**Default Judgments/Uncontested** -- (1) Cases in which the respondent did not answer to the charges and an Order of Default was handed down as the final disposition of the case; (2) Cases in which the respondent did not answer to the charges, although no Order of Default was handed down as the final disposition of the case; (3) Cases that are filed primarily for court approval rather than to contest issues, such as Change of Name and many types of writs, (if a case is contested, it should be disposed under another, more appropriate, category) or (4) Cases filed under the Domestic Violence Act, when the order is approved

without contested hearing. (Not to be used for approvals of temporary 14-day orders.)

**Dismissals** -- Cases that are dismissed by the court for all parties in the suit, where other categories do not apply. This includes cases dismissed upon the initiation of the clerk after 12 months inactivity, or for want of action by the moving party. It includes cases dismissed before or after a trial has commenced and "Non-Suits." Also included are Domestic Violence Orders of Protection that are dismissed or denied.

**Settlements** -- Cases that are settled (i.e., agreed to by both parties) by means other than through a trial, summary judgment, or default judgment. This could include use of court conferences or arbitration proceedings to achieve the agreement, or simply the agreement of both parties to a settlement outside of the court's involvement. This includes uncontested dissolutions in domestic relations cases.

**Summary Judgments** -- Instances where, upon a motion, the court decides a case. Summary Judgments are commonly granted when the court finds there are no material facts in dispute and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law.

**Judgments After Trial** -- The judgment for a case following a completed jury or non-jury trial. This also includes cases filed under the Domestic Violence Act, when the order is approved after a contested hearing has been held. (Not to be used for approvals of temporary 14-day orders.)

## Criminal - Case Types

**Homicide** -- Cases involving a charge of murder, manslaughter, excusable homicide, or justifiable homicide.

**Sex Crimes** -- Cases involving a charge of sexual exploitation of a minor, incest, rape, statutory rape, or indecent liberties.

**Robbery** -- Cases involving a charge of theft of property by the use of force, violence, or fear of injury to a person or his property.

**Aggravated Assault** -- Cases involving a charge of assault or intent to cause another person physical harm; this includes malicious harassment and coercion.

**Burglary** -- Cases involving a charge of burglary or criminal trespass.

**Larceny/Theft** -- Cases involving a charge of theft of property (other than a motor vehicle), larceny, possession of stolen property, or extortion.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** -- Cases involving a charge of taking a motor vehicle without permission.

**Controlled Substances** -- Cases involving a charge of violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act or violation of regulations regarding prescription drugs.

**Other Crimes** -- Cases involving any other criminal charges filed in superior court which are not specifically defined above, including misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors.

**Appeals From Lower Courts** -- Cases involving the appeal of a judgment rendered on a criminal charge in a court of limited jurisdiction.

## Criminal - Filings

A filing is the initiation of a case in court by formal submission to the court of a document alleging the facts of a matter and requesting relief. In criminal matters, a separate filing is reported for each defendant when the charging document is formally submitted. Thus, a single criminal case number will include as many filings as there are defendants.

Criminal filings are categorized by the most serious original charge against the defendant as follows: homicide, sex crime, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny/ theft, motor vehicle theft, controlled substance, and other.

**Reopenings** -- A case reopened after the initial judgment and/or sentencing. A reopening is not considered a new filing unless a new case number is assigned. This rule includes cases brought before the court on a petition to modify or to revoke probation.

## Criminal - Proceedings

**Arraignment** -- A separate hearing conducted in open court that consists of reading the complaint to the defendant or stating the substance of the charge, and advising the defendant of his/her rights for the purpose of allowing the defendant to enter a plea.

**Pre-Disposition Hearings** -- A hearing where all charges against a criminal defendant have not been previously resolved, and the hearing does not produce a resolution. Examples include pre-trial conferences, motion hearings, bench warrants ordered in court, and hearings to suppress evidence.

**Non-Jury Trial** -- A bench trial before the judge (without a jury) at which the defendant contests the charges made against him/her. A witness must be sworn before a hearing may be counted as a non-jury trial. Introduction of exhibits and stipulation to the record are not sufficient criteria for counting a hearing as a non-jury trial.

# The Superior Courts

**Jury Trial** -- A trial before a jury at which the defendant contests the charges. A jury trial is counted once, when it starts. A jury trial has started when the following events have taken place: (a) the jury has been impaneled, (b) voir dire has occurred, and (c) the jury has been sworn and is ready to hear evidence. Jury trials are reported regardless of whether or not the jury eventually turns in a verdict.

**Disposition Hearings** -- A non-trial proceeding at which the final charges against a defendant are disposed or at which sentencing occurs. This category does not include trials. Examples include hearings for sentencing, dismissal, and change of venue.

**Post-Disposition Hearings** -- A proceeding for a case where the defendant was sentenced earlier. Examples include sentence revocation or review, motion for retrial, and motion notwithstanding the verdict. If a case is reopened without a new case number, then any hearings that result are counted as post-disposition hearings. Common examples include a case brought before the court on a petition to modify or to revoke probation.

## Criminal - Dispositions

**Change of Venue/Jurisdiction** -- Cases in which defendants are transferred from the court of filing to another jurisdiction by order of the court for all subsequent proceedings (e.g., for the convenience of the parties or because of the inability to get an impartial hearing). This category also includes Waivers of Extradition and Governor's Warrants.

**Decisions on Lower Court Appeals** -- Decisions made by the superior court on cases appealed from lower courts. All RALJ appeals sent to the superior court for review should be eventually disposed by dismissal (and remand) or a decision to affirm, reverse, or modify the previous ruling.

**Dismissals/Deferred Prosecution** -- Defendants for whom all charges are dismissed, including dismissals initiated by the prosecutor, and cases for which prosecution is deferred. Deferred Prosecution dispositions should be entered at the time deferral is decided, rather than waiting until the deferment period is completed.

**Acquittals** -- Defendants acquitted of all charges, usually following the completion of a trial with a formal jury verdict or court judgment of "not guilty."

**Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity** -- Defendants acquitted by reason of insanity, usually following the completion of a trial with a formal jury verdict or court judgment.

**Convicted-Guilty Plea** -- Defendants who plead guilty to any or all charges before or during a trial.

**Convicted-Court Decision After Trial** -- Defendants who are found guilty of any or all charges after the completion of a non-jury trial.

**Convicted-Jury Verdict After Trial** -- Defendants who are found guilty of any or all charges after the completion of a jury trial.

## Criminal - Defendants Sentenced

**Probation Only** -- Defendants who are not sentenced to spend time in either a state institution or jail under RCW 9.95.200 and 9.95.210. This category also includes deferred sentences.

**Jail or Jail and Probation** -- Instances when the defendant is sentenced to jail but not to a state institution. If a jail sentence plus some probationary period is given, or if the defendant is given credit for jail time served as part of the sentence, then the sentence is included in this category.

**State Institution** -- A sentencing given whereby the defendant is sentenced to a state institution, whether or not an additional jail or probationary period is included.

**Revocations of Sentence** -- A document (counted at the time of filing) that orders the revocation of probation, of a deferred sentence, or of a suspended sentence. It should be counted once for each time a defendant's sentence is revoked.

## Probate, Guardianship, Adoption, Mental Illness - Case Types

**Probate** -- Cases involving the registration, validity, or execution of a will or disposition of an estate for which there is no will. Filed under RCW 11.20.020.

**Guardianship** -- Cases involving the appointment, qualification, or removal of guardians for individuals unable to care for themselves. Filed under RCW 11.88.030.

**Adoption** -- Cases involving the establishment of new parent-child relationships or the termination of previous parent-child relationships. Filed under RCW 26.33.060.

**Mental Illness** -- Petitions for court-appointed evaluation of, or treatment for, mental illness or alcoholism. Filed under RCW 71.05.160.

## Probate, Guardianship, Adoption, Mental Illness - Filings

A filing is considered when the first petition or application document is filed with the clerk. Old cases, reopened, are not filings unless given a new case number.

## Probate, Guardianship, Adoption, Mental Illness - Proceedings

Proceedings are all hearings, bench trials, and jury trials held in open court where at least one of the parties is present and a minute entry is recorded. No matter how many cases were consolidated at the proceeding, only one proceeding is counted. Proceedings that are scheduled but not heard, or continuances that are granted without discussion before the bench are not included.

**Trials** -- Contested proceedings in open court held for the purpose of resolving the primary issues of a case. A trial includes both parties present or represented, issues contested, evidence presented, witnesses called, and opening and/or closing arguments made.

**Hearings** -- An appearance in open court, other than a trial. At least one of the parties must appear in a case which is actually heard and for which a minute entry is recorded. A hearing may or may not produce the final resolution or disposition of the original issue of a case.

## Probate, Guardianship, Adoption, Mental Illness - Dispositions

**Change of Venue/Jurisdiction** -- Cases transferred from the court of filing to another jurisdiction by order of the court, for all subsequent proceedings (e.g., for the convenience of the parties or because the original court of filing is not the proper court for trial). Not applicable for mental illness cases.

**Dismissals** -- Cases which are dismissed by the court for all parties in the suit, and for which other categories do not apply. In mental illness cases, the dismissal must come prior to the start of a 14-day treatment and evaluation period. For other case types, the dismissal may come at any time in the case upon an Order of Dismissal or other similar document.

**Uncontested Disposition/Closed by Declaration of Completion** -- Cases that are closed by a Declaration of Completion document, or some other disposition document that may not require a judge's signature. An example of the latter instance is a Notice of Final Disposition filed by mental health professionals in mental illness cases. Uncontested dis-

positions include only probate cases in which a "will only" is filed.

**Closed by Court** -- Cases closed by court order, including a judge's signature.

## Juvenile Offender - Case Types

Cases resulting from a complaint filed against a juvenile alleging the commission of a felony, gross misdemeanor, or misdemeanor offense.

## Juvenile Offender - Filings

Each unique case number is considered a filing regardless of the number of offenses or allegations. Under RCW 13.50.010(2) "each petition or information filed with the court may include only one juvenile, and each petition or information shall be filed under a separate docket number." The filing is counted when the first information or petition document is filed with the clerk. Referrals are not filings.

## Juvenile Offender - Proceedings

**Pre-Adjudication Hearings** -- Proceedings that occur before adjudication, i.e., before the issues of guilt or innocence are determined for all charges against a defendant in a given case. Examples of pre-adjudication hearings include preliminary appearance, detention, entry of not guilty plea, appointment of attorney, arraignment, and omnibus.

**Guilty Plea Only Hearings** -- Proceedings at which the defendant enters a guilty plea to the charges and sentencing is to occur at a later proceeding. This includes guilty pleas, entered on the day of a scheduled trial, that occur before the trial was actually able to begin.

**Guilty Plea and Sentence Hearings** -- Proceedings at which the defendant enters a guilty plea to the charge(s) AND is sentenced at the same proceeding.

**Trials** -- A contested proceeding in open court at which both parties are present or represented for the purpose of resolving the original issue of the case. A trial is further characterized by the presentation of evidence, the calling of witnesses, and the opening and/or closing arguments. For statistical purposes, a trial is counted as having occurred with the swearing of the first witness, presentation of the first piece of evidence, or the start of the opening statement, whichever comes first. If a trial has commenced and the sentence immediately follows the trial, it is considered a trial and not a separate disposition hearing.

**Separate Disposition Hearings** -- Proceedings in which only the sentence is determined. This does not include proceedings where the sentence immediately follows the trial or guilty plea.

**Post-Disposition Hearings** -- Proceedings which occur after a sentence has been entered. The most common example is community supervision violation hearings.

## Juvenile Offender - Dispositions

**Decline of Jurisdiction-Change of Venue/Jurisdiction** -- Instances where the defendant is transferred by order to adult court or to another jurisdiction for processing of subsequent proceedings.

**Dismissals** -- Cases where all charges have been dismissed by the court. It is not important who has initiated the request for dismissal. A dismissal is counted when the order for dismissal is filed.

**Acquittals** -- Those offender cases which have gone to trial and the court has found the offender not guilty of all charges for which he was tried. An acquittal is counted when the documentation containing the finding of not guilty is filed with the court.

**Convicted-Guilty Plea** -- The defendant's plea of guilty to at least one charge before or during trial. If there are multiple charges, all other charges are dismissed or acquitted. The disposition is counted at the time of sentencing.

**Convicted-Court Decision** -- Cases in which the defendant is found guilty of any charges after the completion of a trial, counted when the sentencing document is filed.

## Juvenile Offender - Sentencing

**Community Sentence** -- A sentence given to defendants who are not sentenced to a state institution. Examples of community sentences are fines, restitution, community supervision, community service, counseling, detention, jail, etc.

**Institution** -- A sentence given to defendants whose order shows they have been sentenced to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Rehabilitation, whether or not the order shows additional community sentences.

## Juvenile Dependency - Case Type

Petitions to the court regarding the welfare of dependent children, including dependency (RCW 13.34.030[2]), termination of parent-child relationship (RCW 13.34.180), juvenile guardianship (RCW 13.34.230), and alternative residential placement (ARP - RCW 13.32A.140, 13.32A.150).

## Juvenile Dependency - Filings

Each unique case number is considered a filing. Under RCW 13.50.010(2) "each

petition or information filed with the court may include only one juvenile and each petition or information shall be filed under a separate docket number." The filing is counted when the first information or petition document is filed with the clerk. Referrals are not filings.

## Juvenile Dependency - Proceedings Held

**Pre-Fact Finding Hearing** -- Proceedings that occur before a fact finding hearing is held. Examples include shelter care hearings, motions to dismiss, appointment of attorney or guardian ad litem, and motions for special experts or evaluations.

**Fact Finding Only Hearings** -- Hearings on the petition held separately from the disposition proceeding.

**Fact Finding and Disposition Hearings** -- Proceedings at which both the petition for dependency and the disposition of the case occur.

**Separate Disposition Hearings** -- Proceedings in which only the disposition is determined. This category does not include fact finding hearings or cases where the "fact finding hearing and disposition" are held at the same proceeding.

**Post-Disposition Hearings** -- Proceedings which occur after a disposition has been entered. The most frequent type of post-disposition hearing would be review hearings.

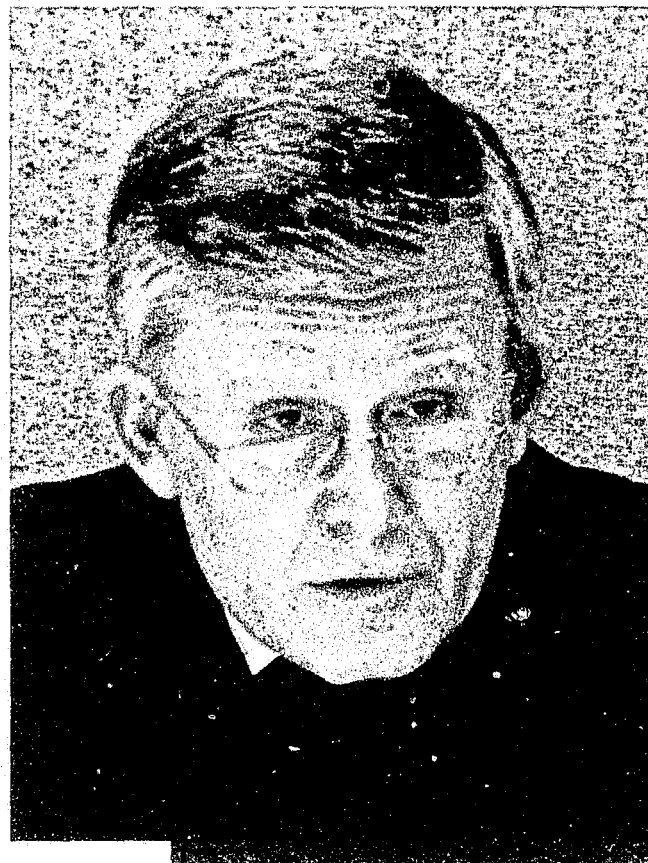
## Juvenile Dependency - Dispositions

**Change of Venue/Jurisdiction** -- Dependency cases which are transferred, by order of the court, from the court of filing to another jurisdiction for subsequent proceedings. These are counted when the order to transfer to another court is filed.

**Dismissals** -- Final disposition by court, dismissing the petition and entertaining no further consideration of the issues. Dismissals include cases where the court finds insufficient evidence to prove any of the allegations of the petitioner. These are counted when the order for dismissal is filed with the court.

**Petition Approved** -- Dependency cases where the allegations have been sustained. The court sustains findings of dependency or approves a petition for alternative residential placement. Petitions approved are counted when the order on dependency is filed.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction



**Joel A. C. Rindal, President  
District & Municipal Court Judges Assn.**

The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction are increasingly relied upon by the public and the Legislature to solve the more minor, but nevertheless significant disputes between citizens. These courts are traditionally the forum in our judicial system which hear the majority of violations and grievances between individuals. Not only do the limited jurisdiction courts handle most traffic violations, both criminal and civil, these courts hear civil cases involving up to \$10,000. Jurisdiction over small claims matters involving less than \$2,000 offers citizens an opportunity to have disputes heard without the expense of legal counsel. In this way, the courts of limited jurisdiction play a critical role in keeping our judicial system open and easily accessible to citizens.

In the past twenty-six years since the limited jurisdiction courts emerged out of the territorial "justice of the peace" courts, each year has brought increasing caseloads and responsibilities for the judges and administrators in these courts. Today, limited jurisdiction judges actively participate in statewide judicial conferences and ongoing educational programs designed to continually assess the role and expectations of their courts. Judges in courts of limited jurisdiction and their administrators actively participate in

their respective statewide associations. A common goal is to ensure that these courts are responsive to the public and the government bodies that depend on this important part of the third branch.

During 1987 important activities for the judges included the District Court Judges Weighted Caseload Study. This study, mandated by the Legislature, will develop recommendations for additional district court judicial positions. Similar to the superior court weighted caseload system, this effort will offer a more precise way of determining the need for judges in response to the fluctuations of the courts' workload. The judges and administrators also began the process for converting the District and Municipal Court Information System (DISCIS) from a WANG environment to an IBM compatible environment in order to achieve better management of cases. Judges worked to revise the civil benchbook, traffic infraction rules, and criminal rules. The judges association also began publishing a bimonthly newsletter to increase statewide communication among our colleagues about issues of mutual concern.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

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## Judiciary

### Jurisdiction

District courts have jurisdiction over both criminal and civil matters. Criminal matters include misdemeanors, gross misdemeanors, criminal traffic cases such as driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs (DWI), hit-and-run, and driving with a suspended driver's license. Preliminary hearings for felony cases are also within the jurisdiction of these courts. With the exception of DWI and some game violations, those convicted of criminal offenses may be sentenced up to \$5,000 in fines, a year in jail, or both.

Jurisdiction in civil cases includes damages for injury to individuals or personal property, penalty or contract disputes in amounts of up to \$10,000, and other matters. District courts also have jurisdiction over infractions, both traffic and non-traffic, for which the maximum penalty is \$250 and for which no jail penalty may be imposed.

Small claims cases, filed and heard in district court, are limited to money claims of up to \$1,000. Attorneys are not permitted except with the permission of the judge. Generally, each party is self-represented and witnesses may not be subpoenaed. Examples of cases heard include neighborhood disputes, consumer problems, and small collections. The district court clerk's office in each county can provide specific information about filing a claim.

District courts have concurrent jurisdiction with superior courts over civil matters, misdemeanors, and gross misdemeanors committed within the respective county.

Municipal courts have exclusive original jurisdiction over traffic infractions arising under city ordinances and original criminal jurisdiction of all violations of city ordinances.

Violations of municipal or city ordinances can be adjudicated in municipal where a judge may impose fines of up to \$5,000, a year in jail, or both. Some cities contract with district courts to handle such cases. Seattle Municipal Court is an exception. It has concurrent jurisdiction with the district court over civil cases and also handles city violations, traffic cases, and criminal misdemeanors.

When the judge is an attorney, cases are appealed from courts of limited jurisdiction on the basis of an electronic tape recording of the original proceeding. Appeals heard de novo in superior court are limited to those cases tried originally by a non-attorney judge or in a court not required to record its proceedings.

There are currently four statutory schemes that provide for the adjudication of violations of municipal court ordinances.

**Independent municipal courts:** Independent municipal courts are provided for in RCW 3.50 for cities of less than 400,000 population. The city may either appoint or elect the municipal judge who serves a term of office concurrent with district court judges.

**Municipal department of district court:** Any city may establish a municipal department of the district court under RCW 3.46. The department may also be referred to as the Municipal Court of (city). The judge of municipal court must be a judge of the district court and the city must pay for the proportion of judicial time spent on city matters. The salary of a full-time judge of a municipal department must be paid in whole by the city. The staff of the municipal department are considered city employees. Judges in municipal departments may be either appointed or elected.

**Municipal Courts in Cities over 400,000:** RCW 35.20 governs the operation of municipal courts in cities over 400,000

population, which includes only Seattle at this time. Judges must be elected under this statute.

**Contracting Municipal Courts:** Pursuant to RCW 39.34, any city may contract with the county for provision of court services. Through an interlocal agreement, violations of city ordinances are then filed with the district court and heard by a district court judge. Payment for this contractual service may be made in several different ways. The most common is a negotiated filing fee the city pays for all cases filed in district court. Another method is a negotiated "lump sum" payment which reflects the administrative and judicial cost to the county for handling city matters. Frequently, cities that contract with the county for court services retain a violation bureau to receive payments for parking violations and uncontested traffic infractions.

### Education

The courts of limited jurisdiction have specific educational needs, and efforts are made to tailor programs to those needs. In general, judges concentrate on matters of law, and administrators on court and case management. The active involvement of judicial and administrative education committees in planning seminars and conferences ensure that programs will meet the needs of the membership. The committees plan cooperatively with the Board for Trial Court Education.

District and municipal court judges' 1987 education included civil procedures, collection of civil judgments, judicial response to lawyer misconduct, constitutional law update, and evidence including impeachment, privileges, and opinion/expert testimony.

District and municipal court administrators focused their 1987 educational efforts on public agency budgeting, team building, stress, legislative issues, conflict productivity, ethics and court employees, situational leadership, making meetings work, and courts and the media.

### Lay Judge/Commissioners

As required by statute and by Supreme Court rule, examinations for non-attorney judges and court commissioners are given every six months. Topics include traffic infractions, criminal evidence, and judicial conduct. District court judges and commissioners are also tested on civil matters. Of the 19 total examination candidates in 1987, 26 percent passed.

The examination is maintained and administered by staff of the Office of the Administrator for the Courts. An examination committee oversees examination grading and policy.



# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

A recent King County Superior Court ruling raised a question concerning the 10,000 population restriction that limits the use of non-attorney judges and non-attorney commissioners to districts with populations of less than 10,000. As of December 1987 the issue had not been settled.

## Administration

### Evolving Role of District Court Administrators

Limited jurisdiction court administrators are no longer viewed as clerical staff. Increasingly, they are full time professionals with formal training in court administration. The recognition of professional court administration will be demonstrated by the team effort between administrators and judges during the 1988 legislative session. The legislative committees of both the judges' association and administrators' association are working jointly on issues affecting the courts of limited jurisdiction.

### Technical Assistance

The following technical assistance projects were conducted in courts of limited jurisdiction during 1987:

The feasibility and method for establishing an individual calendar system was explored in Spokane District Court. The report resulted in the court implementing an individual calendar system.

Facilities management was the focus of the study in Walla Walla District Court. The report provided a recommendation for remodeling the district court building.

A study conducted in the 12 King County District Courts focused on the clerk's office operations. The study recommended some more efficient methods for processing work and organizing workflow.

Facilities management was the focus of the study conducted in the north branch of the Kitsap County District Court. Alternatives for remodeling the clerk's office were the result of this report.

The study in Grant County District Court focused on clerk's office operations. Recommendations included more efficient methods for processing work and organizing workflow.

## Collections

During 1987 the efforts of the Collections Task Force culminated in a special report which described various techniques used by courts to increase the collection of accounts. The report also enumerated several recommendations regarding the role of courts with regard to collection activities.

In response to the task force report, two significant accomplishments occurred.

The first was the upgrade to the DISCIS time payment program to allow the generation of monthly billings. Based on experience of four courts, an initial increase of up to 50 percent in time payment collections can be expected. The second achievement was implementation of a PC-based software program, "CORTS." The program was placed in Grant County District Court to track and bill time payment accounts. It is credited with initial increases in revenue of 60 percent during the first year of operation. CORTS is available to other non-DISCIS courts.

The 1987 Legislature clarified the statutory authority of courts to use collection agencies for the purpose of collecting unpaid fines and penalties. Authority was granted to pass the cost of using outside agencies to the defendant. Courts are also authorized to accept credit cards and to charge the card holder a fee to cover administrative costs.

The work of the collections task force continued through 1987 with a focus on the production of a special report to document the status of uncollected accounts, types of cases that result in the greatest delinquencies, and types of cases that result in prompt payment. The goal of the task force is to further define the extent of the accounts receivable problem and to propose a cost effective strategy for Washington's courts.

## Technology

### DISCIS Conversion

A major planning effort by the JIS Committee in 1986 and 1987 to initiate an integrated Judicial Information System (JIS) resulted in the DISCIS Conversion Project. The project began in May 1987, following the appropriation by the Legislature of five million dollars.

The primary objective of the DISCIS Conversion Project is converting the District Court Information System (DISCIS) from WANG computers to an IBM-compatible mainframe computer. The usage of common computer hardware and software architecture for all JIS systems will allow for data sharing among courts, easier development and maintenance of software, and an integrated JIS allowing all court levels to share computer functions.

All existing DISCIS courts (excluding Seattle Municipal Court, which is building its own system) and twelve additional courts will be converted to the new DISCIS by June 30, 1989.

At year-end 1987, the project had completed documentation of specifications for the new DISCIS, issued a Request for Proposal (RFP), identified Weyerhaeuser Information Systems as the top bidder, and entered into negotiations with Weyerhaeuser. Work on the project is ex-

pected to officially start on February 1, 1988.

### New Sites

Planning for the conversion of the District and Municipal Court Information System (DISCIS) includes the installation in up to twelve new limited jurisdiction courts during the 1987-1989 biennium. Candidate courts have been nominated by the DISCIS Conversion Project Committee for installation this biennium. Long-term plans anticipate continued installation of the converted DISCIS in subsequent biennia.

### Court Receivables Tracking System

Court Receivables Tracking System (CORTS) is a software program for stand-alone microcomputers to assist small district courts in tracking and billing their time pay accounts. Piloted in Grant County, CORTS is available for use by other courts.

Grant County District Court was seeking a method for reducing their large backlog of accounts receivable. A microcomputer-based program was developed to track accounts receivable and generate statements and delinquency notices.

Although it is not difficult to develop a narrowly defined microcomputer project for one court, it takes time to bring such a project into compliance with OAC standards, make it easy to use, and yet protect the integrity of the data. It took approximately 1050 hours for the development phase of CORTS; another 360 hours for documentation, system installation, and training; and an additional 250 hours for programmer documentation.

Once a court installs the program and receives training, the court is then responsible for understanding, operating, and maintaining its hardware and software. This level of responsibility exceeds mainframe application responsibilities that a court comprehends and accepts.

Grant County has achieved control over its accounts receivable and a significant increase in its collections. CORTS was installed in Grant County District Court in late December 1986. After a period of initial data entry, Grant County mailed its first monthly statements in mid-February 1987. By the end of 1987, Grant County had entered its entire backlog of 4800 defendants on the system.

Time pay revenue at Grant County District Court during 1987 was \$398,645, a \$150,447 (61 percent) increase over time pay revenue in 1986. Since its time pay revenue for 1984-86 was relatively flat, without significant annual increases, Grant County has credited this revenue increase to the CORTS system. Since this increase includes backlogged cases

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

as well as current cases, future revenues generated from current cases are expected to be less than the \$398,645 figure for 1987.

Douglas County District Court installed CORTS in September 1987 and entered its total backlog of cases by November. Douglas County has a staff member with programming skills who is preparing an add-on module to CORTS that will allow Douglas County to issue weekly statements. District and municipal courts in the following communities have expressed interest and have received literature about CORTS: Island County, Bremerton, Eatonville, Port Angeles, Port Orchard, and Forks.

During 1987 OAC programmers developed a warrant module to add to CORTS so that users can follow up delinquent defendants who don't respond to CORTS mailings.

## DISCIS Monthly Billing Notices

During 1986 JIS explored collection methods and improvements to automated capabilities. As a result, several features of the DISCIS time pay application were improved in 1987.

Time pay reports were improved to determine and display the amount and aging of accounts receivable. Used regularly, these reports allow the courts to track changes in their balance position, enabling a more effective management of accounts receivable.

Improvements were made to time payment statement wording as well as format. Increased flexibility allows selection of either compliant or delinquent accounts so courts can send statements to only selected individuals. As a result, 25 of the 29 courts used time pay statements at 1987 year-end, compared with only 11 courts prior to these improvements.

To evaluate the effect of statement use on collections, collection figures for several courts that began to use statements were tracked. Preliminary results show a 50 percent increase in collection amounts once statement use began. Applied to the collection figures of the 14 new courts beginning to use statements, a \$2,000,000 collection increase could occur in the first year of use of DISCIS time pay statements.

## Enhanced Department Of Licensing (DOL) Linkages

In January 1987 a significant new capability was added to the JIS/DOL Link. First available in late 1986, the link provides DISCIS terminal users electronic access to Abstracts of Driving Records stored at the Department of Licensing in Olympia.

## Judicial Staffing, 1987

Jurisdiction	Attorney Judges			Non-Attorney	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total	Part-Time	Total
District	79	20	99	7	106
Municipal	9	65	74	19	93
Total	88	85	173	26	199

When first installed, the link permitted Abstracts to be ordered and printed only one at a time. The new capability connects the DISCIS Calendaring function to the DOL Link. This enables Abstracts to be automatically ordered for all cases set on a particular calendar, and dramatically reduces the time required to obtain Abstracts for routine use by judges for sentencing.

Records indicate a 400 percent increase in the number of Abstracts requested by DISCIS courts from an average of 1500 per week to over 6000 per week. This dramatic increase in Abstract production has been accomplished by courts using less staff time than before.

With the conversion of DISCIS to the mainframe, the existing JIS/DOL functions will be converted as well. Future functions planned for the link, such as the ability to electronically transmit and adjudicate Failure to Appear Notices and to electronically transmit Citation and Disposition records, await completion of the DISCIS Conversion Project.

## Staffing

Judicial positions for district court judges are based on the population of the district as specified in RCW 3.34.020. This is unlike superior court judicial positions which are determined by caseload. However, the 1987 Legislature mandated that a weighted caseload methodology be developed for district courts. This study will not be completed until January 1990.

The current statute specifies the following judgeships based on population:

Population	Number of Judges
40,000 - 59,999	1
60,000 -124,999	2
125,000 -199,999	3
200,000 +	one judge per 100,000

District court judges are elected for a four-year term. Municipal and police court judges may be elected or appointed, depending on the statutory provisions under which they were established.

## Judicial Staffing

There were 199 judges in the courts of limited jurisdiction as of December 1987. Of the 106 district court judges, 79 are full-time attorney judges, while 65 of the 93 municipal court judges are part-time attorney judges. Of the 26 non-attorney judges, 19 are in municipal courts. In addition, 26 judges serve both district and municipal courts.

## Court Support Personnel

Courts of limited jurisdiction are served by administrative support staff. The staff is responsible for maintaining the court's fiscal and administrative records under the direction of the presiding judge of the particular court.

## District Court Weighted Caseload

Chapter 363, Laws of 1987 requires that the Office of the Administrator for the Courts examine the need for new district court judicial positions using a weighted caseload analysis. A weighted caseload system is a means for measuring court workloads based on weighting filing types by the time required to dispose of them.

A weighted caseload system is based on the knowledge that the amount of judicial time required to dispose of court cases varies according to the type of case (e.g., the disposition of a serious criminal offense involves more judicial time than does a mitigation hearing). By measuring the time expended on a set of sample cases drawn from each court, "weights" can be computed that depict the average judicial time necessary to dispose of each case type. Similarly, the average judicial time for various non-case activities (e.g., research, administration, judicial meetings) can also be determined.

In response to the legislative mandate, the District Court Weighted Caseload Committee, chaired by Judge Gary Utigard, devised a methodology to determine the time required for measuring both case and non-case related judicial activities among district courts. Information generated from this study may provide the Legislature and the counties with a tool for determining judgeship requirements.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

The study will also determine a "judge year value": the amount of time available to a judge annually for case-related work after vacation, sick time, etc. have been subtracted. Judicial position needs are computed by dividing the time required to hear all cases filed in a court (based on the case "weights") by the amount of time a judge can expect to have available for case-related matters.

The current study utilizes a case-oriented approach: average times are calculated by measuring judicial time expended from filing until case closure on a sample of cases. This method affords greater simplicity and accuracy over the classic time-studies used in weighted caseload research. The time-studies approach measures how judicial time is spent over a two-month period and the judicial time to dispose of cases is inferred from this data. In exchange for this greater precision, however, the study period must extend to the resolution of all cases sampled from among district courts.

A classic time-oriented method will be employed to determine the judge year value. This study phase shall only extend for two months and will not be implemented until late winter of 1988.

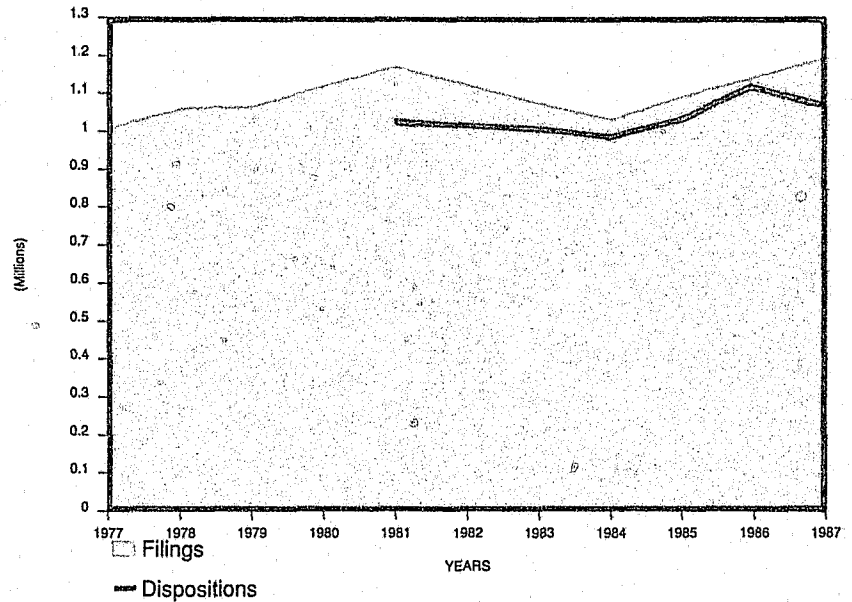
The study findings will be presented to the 1990 Legislature.

## Records Management

### Records Retention Schedule Update

In 1987 a new records retention schedule was approved for district and municipal courts by the Secretary of State. This schedule was distributed to all courts. Several important areas were modified. The time for retaining criminal case files was changed from five years to three years. This is only for case files, not for citations/dockets. The retention period for search warrants was reduced from five years after the expiration of the warrant to two years after the expiration of the warrant. The time for retaining tape recordings and tape recording logs also was changed. Tape recordings for appealed cases now may be erased 30 days after remand of the appeal. Tape recording logs may be destroyed after the erasure of the last tape on the log. The new schedule adds a retention time frame for domestic violence cases. The time period for retaining accounting records was changed from destruction after six years to destruction after an audit for receipts, transaction journals, treasurer's receipts, and trust fund books. Copies of the new retention schedule may be obtained from the Office of the Administrator for the Courts or the Secretary of State, Division of Archives.

Total Cases Filed and Disposed at Year End, 1977-1987



## Caseload Overview

Total filings, excluding parking, increased 4.5 percent during 1987, the third consecutive annual increase. A 4.4 percent rise in traffic infractions primarily caused this increase, along with a 4.2 percent increase in non-traffic misdemeanors and a sizable (15.4 percent) increase in other traffic misdemeanors. DWI/physical control misdemeanor filings decreased by 11.0 percent.

Total filings were almost evenly split between state/county matters (664,036 or 55.5 percent) and municipal matters (531,561 or 44.5 percent). Filings of municipal matters increased by 7.8 percent, a greater increase than the 2.1 percent increase in state/county matters filed. Traffic infractions and misdemeanors other than DWI/physical control account for most of this difference.

Total dispositions, excluding parking, increased by 3.1 percent in correspondence with the increase in filings.

The three largest categories of case types had increases in dispositions as follows: traffic infraction 4.2 percent, non-traffic misdemeanors 3.5 percent, and other traffic misdemeanors 3.4 percent. DWI/physical control misdemeanor dispositions decreased by 14.1 percent in concert with decreased DWI/physical control filings.

Total contested proceedings increased by 6.8 percent during 1987.

Jury trials, non-jury trials, and contested small claims decreased for the fifth straight year. Conversely, contested infraction and parking proceedings rose for the third straight year.

Total revenues, being driven by dispositions, increased by 2.9 percent, continu-

ing a three year trend. Infraction revenues, which account for over half the total revenues, increased by 3.1 percent. Revenues from misdemeanors decreased by approximately 3 percent during 1987. Parking revenues increased by a substantial 18.1 percent.

Criminal court costs experienced a very large increase of 41.9 percent.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Court Activity by Type of Case, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Traffic Infractions	675,765	655,390	-3.0%	672,770	2.6%	708,635	5.3%	739,882	4.4%
Non-Traffic Infractions	--	1,026	--%	2,087	103.4%	3,125	49.7%	3,172	1.5%
DWI/Physical Control	42,384	37,897	-10.5%	36,151	-4.6%	38,041	5.2%	33,848	-11.0%
Other Traffic Misdemeanors	114,844	106,217	-7.5%	121,374	14.2%	126,494	4.2%	146,034	15.4%
Non-Traffic Misdemeanors	135,384	130,520	-3.5%	151,186	15.8%	157,087	3.9%	163,748	4.2%
Felony Preliminary	8,857	4,836	-45.3%	5,028	3.9%	3,732	-25.7%	4,541	21.6%
Civil	69,941	66,658	-4.6%	69,743	4.6%	73,164	4.9%	73,253	0.1%
Domestic Violence Protection	--	1,636	--%	4,300	--%	2,918	-32.1%	2,889	-0.9%
Small Claims	24,762	26,433	6.7%	28,180	6.6%	29,910	6.1%	28,230	-5.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,071,937</b>	<b>1,028,977</b>	<b>-4.0%</b>	<b>1,090,819</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>1,143,106</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>1,195,597</b>	<b>4.5%</b>
Parking	713,976	731,078	2.3%	692,619	-5.2%	733,042	5.8%	760,570	3.7%
<b>Total Filings</b>	<b>1,785,913</b>	<b>1,760,055</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>1,783,438</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1,876,148</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>1,956,167</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Traffic Infractions	660,728	683,106	3.3%	695,787	1.8%	735,429	5.6%	766,678	4.2%
Non-Traffic Infractions	--	707	--%	1,614	128.2%	2,067	28.0%	1,844	-10.7%
DWI/Physical Control	32,269	24,239	-24.8%	23,743	-2.0%	24,315	2.4%	20,869	-14.1%
Other Traffic Misdemeanors	104,570	93,390	-10.6%	102,468	9.7%	115,349	12.5%	119,281	3.4%
Non-Traffic Misdemeanors	109,659	98,305	-10.3%	119,757	21.8%	142,171	18.7%	147,226	3.5%
Felony Preliminary	11,262	4,032	-64.1%	4,721	17.0%	8,931	89.1%	8,889	-0.4%
Civil	62,016	56,023	-9.6%	51,609	-7.8%	60,327	16.8%	59,310	-1.6%
Domestic Violence Protection	--	1,434	--%	4,008	--%	2,618	-34.6%	2,679	2.3%
Small Claims	20,681	18,857	-8.8%	20,759	10.0%	22,601	8.8%	22,098	-2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,001,185</b>	<b>978,659</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>	<b>1,024,466</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>1,113,808</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>1,148,874</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
Parking	619,088	603,247	-2.5%	566,071	-6.1%	599,808	5.9%	573,947	-4.3%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>1,620,273</b>	<b>1,581,906</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>1,590,537</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>1,713,616</b>	<b>7.7%</b>	<b>1,722,821</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Contested Proceedings</b>									
Jury Trials	3,128	2,815	-10.0%	2,750	-2.3%	2,715	-1.2%	2,345	-13.6%
Non-Jury Trials and Contested Small Claims	86,401	46,184	-46.5%	44,670	-3.2%	41,737	-6.5%	40,055	-4.0%
Contested Infraction Hearings	32,159	30,512	-5.1%	33,530	9.8%	41,361	23.3%	49,116	18.7%
Contested Parking Hearings	3,508	2,499	-28.7%	2,659	6.4%	2,730	2.6%	3,049	11.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125,196</b>	<b>82,010</b>	<b>-34.5%</b>	<b>83,609</b>	<b>1.9%</b>	<b>88,543</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	<b>94,565</b>	<b>6.8%</b>
<b>Revenue</b>									
Traffic and Non-Traffic Infractions	24,913,698	25,218,329	1.2%	27,218,142	7.9%	32,190,136	18.2%	33,192,386	3.1%
Traffic Misdemeanors	18,304,101	17,061,736	-6.7%	16,193,037	-5.0%	15,875,357	-1.9%	15,371,218	-3.1%
Non-Traffic Misdemeanors	6,448,957	6,869,433	6.5%	7,674,209	11.7%	7,283,913	-5.0%	7,026,739	-3.5%
Criminal Court Costs	--	--	--%	416,016	--%	1,107,528	166.2%	1,572,516	41.9%
Civil	1,355,095	1,326,980	-2.0%	1,387,262	4.5%	1,459,591	5.2%	1,591,869	9.0%
Domestic Violence Protection	--	11,463	--%	35,695	--%	33,329	-6.6%	25,124	-24.6%
Small Claims	224,733	264,334	17.6%	282,859	7.0%	301,763	6.6%	280,577	-7.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,246,584</b>	<b>50,740,812</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>53,207,220</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>58,251,617</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>59,060,429</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
Parking	5,444,374	5,326,523	-2.1%	5,515,042	3.5%	6,180,778	12.0%	7,301,667	18.1%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>56,690,958</b>	<b>56,067,335</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>	<b>58,722,262</b>	<b>4.7%</b>	<b>64,432,395</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>66,362,096</b>	<b>2.9%</b>
30% PSEA	--	--	--%	--	--%	3,442,424	--%	7,387,926	--%

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Filings By Jurisdiction, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>State/County Matters</b>									
Traffic Infractions	351,734	328,259	-6.6%	359,283	9.4%	394,550	9.8%	406,628	3.0%
Non-Traffic Infractions	0	603	--	725	20.2%	1,226	69.1%	1,415	15.4%
DWI/Physical Control	22,945	20,173	-12.0%	20,307	0.6%	22,341	10.0%	19,882	-11.0%
Other Traffic Misdemeanors	48,702	44,714	-8.1%	55,795	24.7%	63,243	13.3%	66,586	5.2%
Non-Traffic Misdemeanors	57,864	54,575	-5.6%	60,938	11.6%	62,478	2.5%	63,806	2.1%
Felony Preliminary	8,857	4,836	-45.3%	5,028	3.9%	3,732	-25.7%	4,541	21.6%
Civil	67,366	64,224	-4.6%	67,419	4.9%	70,420	4.4%	70,677	0.3%
Domestic Violence Protection	--	--	--	3,063	--	2,197	-28.2%	2,271	3.3%
Small Claims	24,762	26,433	6.7%	28,180	6.6%	29,910	6.1%	28,230	-5.6%
<b>Total State/County</b>	<b>582,230</b>	<b>543,817</b>	<b>-6.5%</b>	<b>600,738</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>650,097</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>664,036</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
<b>Municipal Matters</b>									
Traffic Infractions	324,031	327,131	0.9%	313,487	-4.1%	314,085	0.1%	333,254	6.1%
Non-Traffic Infractions	0	423	--	1,362	221.9%	1,899	39.4%	1,757	-7.4%
DWI/Physical Control	19,439	17,724	-8.8%	15,844	-10.6%	15,700	-0.9%	13,966	-11.0%
Other Traffic Misdemeanors	66,142	61,503	-7.0%	65,579	6.6%	63,251	-3.5%	79,448	25.6%
Non-Traffic Misdemeanors	77,520	75,945	-2.0%	90,248	18.8%	94,609	4.8%	99,942	5.6%
Civil	2,575	2,434	-5.4%	2,324	-4.5%	2,744	18.0%	2,573	-6.1%
Domestic Violence Protection	--	--	--	1,237	--	721	-41.7%	618	-14.2%
<b>Total Municipal</b>	<b>489,707</b>	<b>485,160</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>490,081</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>493,009</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>531,561</b>	<b>7.8%</b>

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Infraction Activity, 1987

	Traffic	Non-Traffic	Subtotals	Parking	Totals
<b>Fillings</b>					
Notices of Infraction Filed	739,882	3,172	743,054	760,570	1,503,624
Number of Violations Charged	807,719	3,475	811,194	757,395	1,568,589
<b>Proceedings</b>					
Mitigation Hearings	191,441	453	191,894	21,077	212,971
Contested Hearings	48,931	185	49,116	3,049	52,165
Show Cause Hearings	3,899	7	3,906	1,553	5,459
Other Hearings on the Record	26,252	75	26,327	425	26,752
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>270,523</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>271,243</b>	<b>26,104</b>	<b>297,347</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>					
Paid	351,870	1,134	353,004	506,504	859,508
Committed - Failure to Appear/Respond	169,300	96	169,396	1,735	171,131
Committed	194,954	413	195,367	32,406	227,773
Not Committed	7,337	42	7,379	424	7,803
Dismissed	43,217	159	43,376	32,878	76,254
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>766,678</b>	<b>1,844</b>	<b>768,522</b>	<b>573,947</b>	<b>1,342,469</b>
Appeals to Superior Court	345	1	346	6	352
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$33,101,881</b>	<b>\$90,505</b>	<b>\$33,192,386</b>	<b>\$7,301,667</b>	<b>\$40,494,053</b>

## Infractions

### Infraction Enforcement Chapter 345, Laws of 1987

In 1984 and 1985, approximately 22 percent of people issued notices of infractions failed to appear as they had promised. In response to this problem, the 1987 Legislature enacted a bill allowing police officers to arrest anyone stopped, after verifying with DOL that the driver has two or more failures on the driving record. To address the problem of out-of-state drivers who fail to appear on a notice of infraction, the Legislature authorized law enforcement officers to require the posting of a bond or cash security in the amount of the infraction penalty when out-of-state drivers are stopped. These laws became effective July 1, 1987.

### Infractions Caseload

Since traffic infractions account for over 99 percent of all infractions, and parking infractions rarely involve judicial time,

only the caseload for traffic infractions is described in detail.

The 4.4 percent rise in traffic infraction filings marked the third consecutive year of increases. Infraction filings in 1987 exceeded those in 1984 by nearly 100,000 filings. There were 167 filings per 1000 population in the state.

The ratio of charges to violations is 1.09 to 1, so the vast majority of citations involve a single violation.

For dispositions, the paid category decreased by 5.4 percent, while FTR/FTAs increased by 17.9 percent, the committed category increased by 8.5 percent, the not committed category increased by 15.1 percent, and cases dismissed increased by 27.3 percent.

Part of this shift from paid dispositions to the other categories is attributable to improved reporting by the District Court Information System (DISCIS). Another contributing factor may be the additional surcharge on fines implemented by the Legislature in May 1986. It can be

theorized that an increased dollar penalty could result in more citations being contested in order to reduce the fine. Contested proceedings for traffic infractions have increased over the last two years.

Proceedings for infractions increased by 14.0 percent during 1987, with contested hearings having a substantial 18.7 percent increase. The ratio of proceedings per filing between 1985 (31 per 100) and 1987 (36 per 100) increased by 16 percent, supporting the idea that more citations are being contested.

To obtain the best estimate of revenue per case, revenue is divided by the sum of all committed charges (paid, committed, and FTR/FTA dispositions). In 1986 the per committed charge revenue increased to \$46 from previous levels of \$39 to \$41. This increase coincides with the 30 percent surcharge that became effective during May 1986.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Traffic Infraction Activity, 1983 -1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Notices of Infraction	675,765	655,390	-3.0%	672,770	2.6%	708,635	5.3%	739,882	4.4%
Charges	--	705,114	--%	725,688	2.9%	763,503	5.2%	807,719	5.7%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Committed-Paid	368,869	346,149	-6.1%	358,006	3.4%	372,031	3.9%	351,870	-5.4%
Committed-FTR/FTA	--	141,006	--%	149,736	6.1%	143,557	-4.1%	169,300	17.9%
Committed	262,102	163,940	-37.4%	153,651	-6.2%	179,524	16.8%	194,954	8.5%
<b>Total Committed</b>	<b>630,971</b>	<b>651,095</b>	<b>3.2%</b>	<b>661,393</b>	<b>1.6%</b>	<b>695,112</b>	<b>5.1%</b>	<b>716,124</b>	<b>3.0%</b>
Not Committed	5,584	5,546	-0.6%	5,106	-7.9%	6,374	24.8%	7,337	15.1%
Dismissed	24,173	26,465	9.4%	29,288	10.6%	33,943	15.8%	43,217	27.3%
<b>Total Dispositions <sup>a</sup></b>	<b>660,728</b>	<b>683,106</b>	<b>3.3%</b>	<b>695,787</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>735,429</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>766,678</b>	<b>4.2%</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Mitigation Hearing	175,391	155,914	-11.1%	154,039	-1.2%	173,463	12.6%	191,441	10.3%
Contested Hearing	32,159	30,454	-5.3%	33,402	9.6%	41,192	23.3%	48,931	18.7%
Show Cause Hearing	3,036	3,730	22.8%	3,800	1.8%	3,903	2.7%	3,899	-0.1%
Other Hearing on the Record	--	21,293	--%	19,181	-9.9%	18,792	-2.0%	26,252	39.6%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>211,391</b>	<b>--%</b>	<b>210,422</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>237,350</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>270,523</b>	<b>14.0%</b>
Appeals	--	89	--%	100	12.3%	144	44.0%	345	139.5%
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>24,913,698</b>	<b>25,203,494</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>27,174,679</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>32,055,797</b>	<b>17.9%</b>	<b>33,101,881</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>Revenue Per Committed</b>	<b>39.48</b>	<b>38.71</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>	<b>41.09</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>46.12</b>	<b>12.2%</b>	<b>46.22</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Dispositions were counted per notice of infraction in 1983 and per charge in 1984-1987.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Misdemeanors

### Task Force on Decriminalization

Legislation passed in 1987 (Chapter 438) established a task force to review misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors to determine if these criminal offenses might appropriately be decriminalized to civil infractions, or if the penalty for the offense should be eliminated or otherwise modified. A mechanism for enforcement of civil infractions was established by the Legislature and maximum penalty amounts for class I through class 4 infractions were delineated. The task force will submit a report to the Legislature by June 30, 1989.

### Ignition Interlock

First-time DWI offenders may qualify for a deferred prosecution. Deferred prosecution typically includes imposing special conditions, such as the offender's participation in an alcohol treatment program. Successful completion of these conditions results in the charges against the offender being dropped.

If a person qualifies for deferred prosecution, Chapter 247, Laws of 1987 allows a judge to impose, as a condition of deferred prosecution, the installation of an ignition interlock device on their car. Ignition interlock devices have been developed to prevent a driver from starting a motor vehicle if the driver has more than a certain amount of alcohol on their breath. Typically judges require these devices to be set below the legal limit of intoxication (at least .10 grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath). Judges may be more willing to impose a deferred prosecution if the defendant is willing to install this equipment. The Commission on Equipment was established under the Washington State Patrol to create standards for certification, installation, and repair and removal of interlock equipment.

Some district courts that have instituted this sentencing option include Aukeen District Court, Issaquah District Court, Clark County District Court, and Thurston County District Court.

### Driving While Intoxicated

Chapter 373, Laws of 1987 amended the Driving While Intoxicated statutes to reinstate the blood test as an alternative to breath alcohol test. Now a person is guilty of driving while intoxicated if they have 0.10 grams or more of alcohol per 210 liters of breath, or 0.10 percent or more by weight of alcohol in their blood.

The Supreme Court heard oral arguments on two cases that dealt with DWI issues. *State v. Ford* challenges the reliability of the BAC Verifier Datamaster. *State v. Brayman* deals with the con-

stitutionality of the statute (RCW 46.61.502) which allows breath alcohol testing. An opinion is expected in early 1988.

In *State v. Stannard*, 109 Wn.2d 29, 742 P.2d 1244 (1987), the court held that the defendant's right to an additional test by a qualified person does not mean the law enforcement officer is required to give the defendant a second Breathalyzer test.

### Notice for Speedy Trial Setting

In criminal cases, the speedy trial rule requires that the defendant be given a trial date within 60 days of filing if the defendant is held in-custody or 90 days if the defendant is not in-custody. *Kenniewick v. Vandergriff*, 109 Wn.2d 99, 743 P.2d 811 (1987), requires a defendant who objects to a trial date, to serve on the prosecution a copy of the motion to reset the trial date within the speedy trial time limits. Previously, these motions were made ex parte to the court and the prosecution may not have been aware that the trial date was reset. Now prosecution has the opportunity to participate in the resetting of a trial date to conform to the speedy trial rule and avoid a prejudicial dismissal.

### Misdemeanant Probation Services

Misdemeanant Probation Services in Washington State are a county or municipal function. Misdemeanant Probation's mission, as part of the criminal justice system, is to aid in the preservation of public order and safety. Surveillance, supervision, employment assistance, and counseling are means to that end. As county and municipal budgets are hit harder and harder each year by the "budget crunch," the cost benefits of probation services are scrutinized carefully. The cost benefits of probation services can be divided into three categories: 1) cost avoidance, 2) income generation, and 3) community benefits.

First, cost avoidance can be accomplished by reducing jail overcrowding through the use of probation supervision in lieu of jail. Second, income generation can arise since the offender remains in the community and can be gainfully employed. Earnings make possible the restitution of victims, the support of family and/or dependent children, the payment of taxes, fines, and fees, and the fulfillment of other financial obligations. Third, misdemeanant probation can provide benefits to the community through the defendant's volunteer community service and continued purchase of goods and services.

### Misdemeanor Caseload

Misdemeanor filings increased for the third consecutive year to nearly 350,000

total filings, a 8.2 percent increase over 1986. Proceedings also rose by nearly 6 percent over 1986 while the increase in dispositions was lower at 3.4 percent.

Non-traffic related misdemeanors comprise 48 percent of all misdemeanor filings, while DWI/Physical Control filings represent less than 10 percent of all misdemeanors, and other traffic misdemeanors accounted for 42 percent.

DWI/Physical Control proceedings represent 17 percent of all misdemeanor proceedings and other traffic misdemeanors accounted for 39 percent of proceedings. That is, DWI/Physical control misdemeanors require proportionally more proceedings than non-traffic misdemeanors.

Arrests account for 35 percent of misdemeanor proceedings while the catchall category of other hearings on the record account for 56 percent of misdemeanor proceedings.

Trials represent 4 percent of all proceedings, with non-jury trials outnumbering jury trials by approximately 10 to 1. There are 6.7 trial settings to each trial held. For jury trials, there are 36.8 settings per trial held.

Approximately 68 percent of misdemeanor dispositions are either bail forfeitures (11 percent) or guilty pleas (62 percent). Less than 2 percent of dispositions are not guilty, while 26 percent are dismissed.

During 1987, 9175 misdemeanor cases were placed on deferred prosecution. This represents about 3 percent of all misdemeanor cases filed. There were 694 cases of resumed prosecution. Using the 1987 deferred prosecution count for estimating purposes, it appears that fewer than 8 percent of those cases placed on deferred prosecution have their prosecution resumed.



# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

<b>Misdemeanor Activity, 1987</b>					
	<b>DWI/Physical Control</b>	<b>Other Traffic</b>	<b>Subtotals</b>	<b>Non-Traffic</b>	<b>Totals</b>
<b>Filings</b>					
Citations/Complaints Filed	33,848	146,034	179,882	163,748	343,630
Number of Violations Charged	42,119	162,742	204,861	179,710	384,571
<b>Settings</b>					
Non-Jury Trials Set	13,861	38,262	52,123	42,984	95,107
Jury Trials Set	26,955	23,543	50,498	34,657	85,155
<b>Total Trials Set</b>	<b>40,816</b>	<b>61,805</b>	<b>102,621</b>	<b>77,641</b>	<b>180,262</b>
<b>Proceedings</b>					
Arraignments	24,357	95,191	119,548	116,172	235,720
Non-Jury Trials	2,515	9,937	12,452	11,969	24,421
Jury Trials	1,104	362	1,466	845	2,311
<b>Total Trials</b>	<b>3,619</b>	<b>10,299</b>	<b>13,918</b>	<b>12,814</b>	<b>26,732</b>
Stipulations to the Record	6,445	11,712	18,157	13,850	32,007
Other Hearings on the Record	79,112	146,923	226,035	156,589	382,624
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>113,533</b>	<b>264,125</b>	<b>377,658</b>	<b>299,425</b>	<b>677,083</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>					
Bail Forfeiture	600	16,476	17,076	14,070	31,146
Guilty	15,528	82,126	97,654	79,921	177,575
Not Guilty	640	1,292	1,932	3,273	5,205
Dismissed	4,101	19,387	23,488	49,962	73,450
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>20,869</b>	<b>119,281</b>	<b>140,150</b>	<b>147,226</b>	<b>287,376</b>
Reduced/Amended to Lesser Charge	6,407	--	6,407	--	6,407
Prosecution Deferred	5,322	640	5,962	3,213	9,175
Prosecution Resumed	479	31	510	184	694
Appeals to Superior Court	547	205	752	598	1,350
Revenue	\$5,756,853	\$9,614,365	\$15,371,218	\$7,026,739	\$22,397,957
Criminal Court Costs Recovered					\$1,572,516
State Assessment					\$7,387,926

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## DWI/Physical Control Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Citations	42,384	37,897	-10.5%	36,151	-4.6%	38,041	5.2%	33,848	-11.0%
Charges	--	45,746	--%	44,583	-2.5%	44,664	0.1%	42,119	-5.6%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Guilty	25,883	18,463	-28.6%	17,530	-5.0%	19,086	8.8%	15,528	-18.6%
Bail Forfeiture	522	355	-31.9%	274	-22.8%	312	13.8%	600	92.3%
Not Guilty	1,600	1,008	-37.0%	1,207	19.7%	723	-40.0%	640	-11.4%
Dismissed	4,264	4,413	3.4%	4,732	7.2%	4,194	-11.3%	4,101	-2.2%
<b>Total Dispositions<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>32,269</b>	<b>24,239</b>	<b>-24.8%</b>	<b>23,743</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>	<b>24,315</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>20,869</b>	<b>-14.1%</b>
<b>Reduced/Amended to</b>									
Lesser Charge	--	4,936	--%	5,298	7.3%	5,506	3.9%	6,407	16.3%
Prosecution Deferred	5,011	6,151	22.7%	5,541	-9.9%	5,431	-1.9%	5,322	-2.0%
Prosecution Resumed	530	635	19.8%	583	-8.1%	537	-7.8%	479	-10.8%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Jury Trial	1,576	1,494	-5.2%	1,345	-9.9%	1,252	-6.9%	1,104	-11.8%
Non-Jury Trial	13,863	5,615	-59.4%	5,285	-5.8%	3,369	-36.2%	2,515	-25.3%
Stipulation to the Record	--	6,409	--%	6,797	6.0%	6,706	-1.3%	6,445	-3.8%
Arraignment	--	27,757	--%	26,673	-3.9%	25,402	-4.7%	24,357	-4.1%
Other Hearing on the Record	--	75,636	--%	80,131	5.9%	84,303	5.2%	79,112	-6.1%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>116,921</b>	<b>--%</b>	<b>120,231</b>	<b>2.8%</b>	<b>121,032</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>113,533</b>	<b>-6.2%</b>
<b>Trial Settings</b>									
Jury Trial Settings	--	17,449	--%	20,820	19.3%	23,942	14.9%	26,955	12.5%
Settings per Jury Trial	--	11.7	--%	15.5	32.5%	19.1	23.5%	24.4	27.6%
Non-Jury Trial Settings	--	18,868	--%	17,029	-9.7%	14,492	-14.8%	13,861	-4.3%
Settings per Non-Jury Trial	--	3.4	--%	3.2	-4.1%	4.3	33.5%	5.5	28.1%
<b>Appeals</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>-11.2%</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>26.0%</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>-21.3%</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>42.4%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Dispositions were counted per citation in 1983 and per charge in 1984-1987.

### DWI/Physical Control Caseload

There was a 11 percent decrease in DWI/physical control filings during 1987. As a consequence, most statistics comparing 1987 with 1986 correspondingly decreased. The exceptions to these decreases were increases in bail forfeitures, reduced/amended to lesser charge, trial settings, and appeals.

During 1987 the Supreme Court reviewed appeals involving DWI cases under newly-enacted legislation. One view is that fewer DWI cases were filed, pending the outcome of these appeals. Statistics supporting this view include large increases in filings in the other criminal traffic category, and increases in reduced/amended DWI filings, trial settings, and appeals.

In reviewing DWI/physical control proceedings, arraignments account for

21 percent, other hearings on the record account for 70 percent. Trials represent 3 percent of all proceedings, with jury trials accounting for a much large portion of trials when compared to trials for other misdemeanor cases. There are 11.3 trials settings to each trial held. For jury trials, there are 24.4 settings per trial held.

Approximately 76 percent of DWI/physical control dispositions are either bail forfeitures (3 percent) or guilty pleas (74 percent). Less than 3 percent of dispositions are not guilty, while 20 percent are dismissed.

Nearly 6500 cases were reduced or amended to another criminal traffic charge. This represents 15 percent of the 1987 DWI/physical control charges filed.

During 1987, 5322 DWI/physical control cases were placed on deferred prosecution.

This represents about 16 percent of all DWI/physical control cases filed. There were 479 cases of resumed prosecution. Using the 1987 deferred prosecution count for estimating purposes, it appears that fewer than 9 percent of those cases placed on deferred prosecution have their prosecution resumed.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Other Traffic Misdemeanor Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Citations	114,844	106,217	-7.5%	121,374	14.2%	126,494	4.2%	146,034	15.4%
Charges	--	117,584	--%	135,146	14.9%	139,406	3.1%	162,742	16.7%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Guilty	74,967	64,045	-14.5%	69,913	9.1%	78,800	12.7%	82,126	4.2%
Bail Forfeiture	13,551	13,217	-2.4%	13,372	1.1%	16,264	21.6%	16,476	1.3%
Not Guilty	2,108	1,629	-22.7%	1,754	7.6%	1,368	-22.0%	1,292	-5.5%
Dismissed	13,944	14,499	3.9%	17,429	20.2%	18,917	8.5%	19,387	2.4%
<b>Total Dispositions<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>104,570</b>	<b>93,390</b>	<b>-10.6%</b>	<b>102,468</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>115,349</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>119,281</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
Prosecution Deferred	1,056	696	-34.0%	562	-19.2%	598	6.4%	640	7.0%
Prosecution Resumed	298	215	-27.8%	77	-64.1%	58	-24.6%	31	-46.5%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Jury Trial	409	348	-14.9%	345	-0.8%	439	27.2%	362	-17.5%
Non-Jury Trial	22,997	11,629	-49.4%	11,519	-0.9%	10,491	-8.9%	9,937	-5.2%
Stipulation to the Record	--	7,424	--%	7,750	4.3%	9,685	24.9%	11,712	20.9%
Arraignment	--	65,943	--%	71,153	7.9%	83,169	16.8%	95,191	14.4%
Other Hearing on the Record	--	105,491	--%	113,169	7.2%	136,935	21.0%	146,923	7.2%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>190,835</b>	<b>--%</b>	<b>203,936</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>240,719</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>264,125</b>	<b>9.7%</b>
<b>Trial Settings</b>									
Jury Trial Settings	--	9,247	--%	12,925	39.7%	19,295	49.2%	23,543	22.0%
Settings per Jury Trial	--	26.6	--%	37.5	40.9%	44.0	17.3%	65.0	47.9%
Non-Jury Trial Settings	--	29,054	--%	29,929	3.0%	33,156	10.7%	38,262	15.3%
Settings per Non-Jury Trial	--	2.5	--%	2.6	3.9%	3.2	21.6%	3.9	21.8%
<b>Appeals</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>-7.4%</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>34.8%</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>31.3%</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>-22.3%</b>
<b>Revenue<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>18,304,101</b>	<b>17,061,736</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>	<b>16,193,037</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>	<b>15,875,357</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>	<b>15,371,218</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Dispositions were counted per citation in 1983 and per charge in 1984-1987.

<sup>b</sup> Includes DWI/Physical Control receipts.

### Other Criminal Traffic Caseload

Other traffic misdemeanor includes all citations/complaints other than those in the DWI/Physical Control category that pertain to the operation or use of a vehicle. Four out of every five citations/complaints for traffic-related misdemeanors are in this other criminal traffic category.

During 1987 other criminal traffic filings increased by a substantial 15.4 percent. Correspondingly, the other statistics comparing 1987 to 1986 increased. Some notable exceptions to this overall in-

crease were decreases in not guilty pleas, non-jury, and particularly jury trials.

For other criminal traffic cases, arraignments account for 36 percent, and other hearings on the record account for 56 percent of all other criminal traffic proceedings. Trials represent 4 percent of all proceedings, with non-jury trials outnumbering jury trials by 27 to 1. There are 6 trials settings to each trial held. For jury trials, there are 65 settings per trial held.

Approximately 83 percent of other criminal traffic dispositions are either bail forfeitures (14 percent) or guilty pleas (69 percent). Approximately 1 percent of dis-

positions are not guilty while 16 percent are dismissed.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Non-Traffic Misdemeanor Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Citations	135,384	130,520	-3.5%	151,186	15.8%	157,087	3.9%	163,748	4.2%
Charges	--	142,139	--%	166,978	17.4%	171,315	2.5%	179,710	4.9%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Guilty	57,656	50,320	-12.7%	62,531	24.2%	80,339	28.4%	79,921	-0.5%
Bail Forfeiture	18,634	15,760	-15.4%	15,772	0.0%	15,228	-3.4%	14,070	-7.6%
Not Guilty	3,687	3,012	-18.3%	3,144	4.3%	3,040	-3.3%	3,273	7.6%
Dismissed	29,682	29,213	-1.5%	38,310	31.1%	43,564	13.7%	49,962	14.6%
<b>Total Dispositions<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>109,659</b>	<b>98,305</b>	<b>-10.3%</b>	<b>119,757</b>	<b>21.8%</b>	<b>142,171</b>	<b>18.7%</b>	<b>147,226</b>	<b>3.5%</b>
Prosecution Deferred	4,318	2,477	-42.6%	2,335	-5.7%	2,754	17.9%	3,213	16.6%
Prosecution Resumed	496	333	-32.8%	234	-29.7%	314	34.1%	184	-41.4%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Jury Trial	1,100	913	-17.0%	996	9.0%	993	-0.3%	845	-14.9%
Non-Jury Trial	30,621	12,751	-58.3%	13,157	3.1%	12,128	-7.8%	11,969	-1.3%
Stipulation to the Record	--	8,898	--%	12,346	38.7%	13,586	10.0%	13,850	1.9%
Arraignment	--	90,890	--%	99,001	8.9%	101,398	2.4%	116,172	14.5%
Other Hearing on the Record	--	117,337	--%	139,324	18.7%	153,732	10.3%	156,589	1.8%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>230,789</b>	<b>--%</b>	<b>264,824</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>281,837</b>	<b>6.4%</b>	<b>299,425</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
<b>Trial Settings</b>									
Jury Trial Settings	--	16,067	--%	24,180	50.4%	30,832	27.5%	34,657	12.4%
Settings per Jury Trial	--	17.6	--%	24.3	37.9%	31.0	27.8%	41.0	32.0%
Non-Jury Trial Settings	--	36,604	--%	43,050	17.6%	40,199	-6.6%	42,984	6.9%
Settings per Non-Jury Trial	--	2.9	--%	3.3	13.9%	3.3	1.3%	3.6	8.3%
<b>Appeals</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>23.5%</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>598</b>	<b>34.9%</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>6,448,957</b>	<b>6,869,433</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>7,674,209</b>	<b>11.7%</b>	<b>7,283,913</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>	<b>7,026,739</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>

<sup>a</sup> Dispositions were counted per citation in 1983 and per charge in 1984-1987.

### Non-Traffic Misdemeanor Caseload

Non-traffic misdemeanors include all non-traffic related citations and complaints such as simple assaults, thefts under \$250, and other non-felony crimes.

During 1987 non-traffic misdemeanor filings increased by 4.2 percent, the third consecutive year of increased filings. Total dispositions increased by a corresponding 3.5 percent. The disposition categories of not guilty and dismissed increased by 7.6 percent and 14.6 percent, respectively. The proportion of cases disposed by dismissed has remained fairly

constant between 30 and 34 percent since 1984.

For non-traffic misdemeanor cases, arraignments account for 39 percent and other hearings on the record account for 52 percent of total proceedings. Trials represent 4 percent of all proceedings with non-jury trials outnumbering jury trials by 14 to 1. There are 6.1 trial settings to each trial held. For jury trials, there are 40 settings per trial held.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Civil Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>	69,941	66,658	-4.6%	69,743	4.6%	73,164	4.9%	73,253	0.1%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Default Judgment	34,314	33,846	-1.3%	37,131	9.7%	41,605	12.0%	41,492	-0.2%
Other Pretrial Judgment	19,634	16,809	-14.3%	10,541	-37.2%	13,465	27.7%	13,221	-1.8%
Judgment After Trial	8,068	5,368	-33.4%	3,937	-26.6%	5,257	33.5%	4,597	-12.5%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>62,016</b>	<b>56,023</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>	<b>51,609</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>	<b>60,327</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>59,310</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
Post-Judgment Writs	--	27,169	--%	30,015	10.4%	36,771	22.5%	37,323	1.5%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Jury Trial	43	60	39.5%	64	6.6%	31	-51.5%	34	9.6%
Non-Jury Trial	7,969	5,556	-30.2%	3,492	-37.1%	3,996	14.4%	4,019	0.5%
Other Hearing	--	11,288	--%	8,776	-22.2%	13,417	52.8%	13,401	-0.1%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>16,904</b>	<b>--%</b>	<b>12,332</b>	<b>-27.0%</b>	<b>17,444</b>	<b>41.5%</b>	<b>17,454</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>Trial Settings</b>									
Jury Trial Settings	--	352	--%	268	-23.8%	260	-2.9%	267	2.6%
Settings per Jury Trial	--	5.9	--%	4.2	-28.6%	8.4	100.2%	7.9	-6.3%
Non-Jury Trial Settings	--	17,254	--%	11,825	-31.4%	12,811	8.3%	13,205	3.0%
Settings per Non-Jury Trial	--	3.1	--%	3.4	9.0%	3.2	-5.3%	3.3	2.4%
<b>Appeals</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>-25.4%</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>50.0%</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>-13.1%</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1,355,095</b>	<b>1,326,980</b>	<b>-2.0%</b>	<b>1,387,262</b>	<b>4.5%</b>	<b>1,459,591</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>1,591,869</b>	<b>9.0%</b>

## Civil/Small Claims

Civil cases include all complaints or petitions filed by a private or corporate party (the plaintiff or petitioner) against another private or corporate party requesting the enforcement or protection of a civil right, alleging civil damages, or the redress or prevention of a wrong. Civil cases filed in district courts of Washington are limited in that the damages claimed may not exceed \$7,500.

Small claims cases include those civil cases that are governed by Chapter 12.40 of the Revised Code of Washington. Small claims cases are limited in that the plaintiff may only seek redress through damages, damages may not exceed \$1,000, and parties may not be represented by attorneys.

## Civil Caseload

Civil filings remained unchanged between 1986 and 1987. The statistics that changed despite the same number of cases filed include a 12.5 percent decrease in dispositions by judgments

after trial and a 9.0 percent increase in revenue. Revenue per filing in 1986 was \$19.95 as compared to \$21.73 in 1987. This increase can be attributed to the increase in filing fees (\$20 to \$25) established by the 1987 Legislature.

The nearly 20 percent gap between civil cases filed (73,253) and civil cases disposed (59,310) does not necessarily indicate a backlog of civil cases. Rather, it may be more indicative of the district court never being informed that the issues in civil cases have been either resolved or no longer actively pursued. This notion is supported by the small number of proceedings per filing; there were .24 proceedings per filing during 1987.

Of the 17,454 proceedings held for civil cases, trials account for 23 percent with jury trials being a rare proceeding event (0.2 percent).

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Small Claims Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>	<b>24,762</b>	<b>26,433</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>28,180</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>29,910</b>	<b>6.1%</b>	<b>28,230</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Default Judgment	5,890	6,273	6.5%	7,040	12.2%	7,452	5.8%	7,285	-2.2%
Other Pretrial Judgment	4,773	4,512	-5.4%	5,351	18.5%	6,346	18.5%	6,361	0.2%
Trial Judgment	10,018	8,072	-19.4%	8,368	3.6%	8,803	5.1%	8,452	-3.9%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	<b>20,681</b>	<b>18,857</b>	<b>-8.8%</b>	<b>20,759</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>22,601</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>22,098</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>
Transferred to Civil for Satisfaction of Judgment	3,118	3,395	8.8%	3,585	5.5%	4,498	25.4%	4,071	-9.5%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Trial/Contested Hearing	10,951	10,633	-2.9%	11,217	5.4%	11,753	4.7%	11,615	-1.1%
Other Hearing	5,470	3,689	-32.5%	4,978	34.9%	5,223	4.9%	5,663	8.4%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	<b>16,421</b>	<b>14,322</b>	<b>-12.8%</b>	<b>16,195</b>	<b>13.1%</b>	<b>16,976</b>	<b>4.8%</b>	<b>17,278</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
<b>Appeals</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>-21.6%</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>23.0%</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>-11.8%</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>138.2%</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>224,733</b>	<b>264,334</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>282,859</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>301,763</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>280,577</b>	<b>-7.0%</b>

## Small Claims Caseload

Small claims filings have varied, but exhibit neither an increasing nor decreasing trend over the last five years. The statistics describing small claims activity have similarly varied over these years. An exception is the rather large increase in small claims appeals, jumping by over 100 percent during 1987. In addition, 1987 had a decrease in revenue for the first time in five years. However, revenue per filing changed negligibly from \$10.09 in 1986 to \$9.94 in 1987.

As with civil cases, the nearly 20 percent gap between small claims cases filed and civil cases disposed may be indicative of the district court never being informed that the issues involved have been either resolved or no longer actively pursued. However, small claims cases have a higher portion of proceedings to filings than civil cases. There are 6 proceedings for every 10 small claims filings, and 2 out of every 3 small claims proceeding is a trial/contested hearing.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Domestic Violence Activity, 1983-1987

	1983	1984	% Chg	1985	% Chg	1986	% Chg	1987	% Chg
<b>Filings</b>	--	--	--%	4,300	--%	2,918	-32.1%	2,889	-0.9%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Ex Parte Hearings	--	--	--%	1,473	--%	2,342	58.9%	2,393	2.1%
Full Order Hearings	--	--	--%	4,565	--%	1,041	-77.1%	1,053	1.1%
<b>Total Hearings</b>	--	--	--%	6,038	--%	3,383	-43.9%	3,446	1.8%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Full Orders Granted	--	--	--%	2,095	--%	924	-55.8%	984	6.4%
Denied/Dismissed	--	--	--%	1,443	--%	621	-56.9%	665	7.0%
Transferred to Superior Court	--	--	--%	470	--%	1,073	128.2%	1,030	-4.0%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	--	--	--%	4,008	--%	2,618	-34.6%	2,679	2.3%
<b>Revenue</b>									
<b>Total Revenue</b>	--	--	--%	35,695	--%	33,329	-6.6%	25,124	-24.6%

Domestic Violence Protection Act enacted in 1984; data collection began in 1985.

Domestic Violence Protection Act revised in September 1985, shifting workload to superior courts in 1986.

## Felony Activity, 1983 - 1987

	1983	1984	%Chg	1985	%Chg	1986	%Chg	1987	%Chg
<b>Filings</b>									
Complaints	8,857	4,836	--%	5,028	3.9%	3,732	-25.7%	4,541	21.6%
In-Custody Defendants	--	7,704	--%	8,258	7.1%	11,323	37.1%	11,358	0.3%
<b>Dispositions</b>									
Dismissed	3,765	1,387	-63.1%	1,957	41.0%	5,975	205.3%	5,962	-0.2%
Bound Over to Superior Court	1,644	1,603	-2.4%	1,897	18.3%	2,084	9.8%	1,647	-20.9%
Reduced to Misdemeanor	--	1,042	--%	867	-16.7%	872	0.5%	1,280	46.7%
<b>Total Dispositions</b>	--	4,032	--%	4,721	17.0%	8,931	89.1%	8,889	-0.4%
<b>Proceedings</b>									
Preliminary Hearing	2,080	1,475	-29.0%	1,470	-0.3%	1,053	-28.3%	1,176	11.6%
Formal Charge Hearing	--	2,053	--%	2,039	-0.6%	1,737	-14.8%	2,240	28.9%
Preliminary Appearance	--	10,047	--%	10,349	3.0%	10,664	3.0%	10,458	-1.9%
Other Participatory Hearing	18,851	1,662	--%	2,500	50.4%	5,166	106.6%	5,263	1.8%
<b>Total Proceedings</b>	--	15,237	--%	16,358	7.4%	18,620	13.8%	19,137	2.8%

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction



**Court  
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Tables**

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors					Small Claims	Felony Cmpints	Sub-Total	Parking	Total
	Traffic	Non-Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non-Traffic	Domestic Violence	Civil						
<b>Adams</b>													
Othello D	1,499	15	51	266	167	10	146	68	0	2,222	1	2,223	
Othello M	237	4	71	197	229	8	0	0	0	746	20	766	
Othello D Total	1,736	19	122	463	396	18	146	68	0	2,968	21	2,989	
Ritzville D	3,041	238	49	488	397	6	40	35	0	4,294	0	4,294	
Ritzville M	220	7	19	45	28	0	0	0	0	319	0	319	
Ritzville D Total	3,261	245	68	533	425	6	40	35	0	4,613	0	4,613	
Adams Total	4,997	264	190	996	821	24	186	103	0	7,581	21	7,602	
<b>Asotin</b>													
Asotin D	1,448	87	48	248	204	4	123	110	0	2,272	26	2,298	
Asotin M	19	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	29	7	36	
Clarkston M	717	4	51	231	139	0	0	0	0	1,142	112	1,254	
Asotin D Total	2,184	91	99	486	346	4	123	110	0	3,443	145	3,588	
Asotin Total	2,184	91	99	486	346	4	123	110	0	3,443	145	3,588	
<b>Benton</b>													
Benton D	8,743	81	414	1,248	1,386	40	2,123	370	785	15,190	13	15,203	
Benton City M	66	0	33	48	65	0	0	0	0	212	0	212	
Kennewick M	3,593	105	214	1,015	1,494	0	0	0	0	6,421	39	6,460	
Richland M	2,733	35	164	567	491	0	0	0	0	3,990	160	4,150	
West Richland M	289	13	59	69	56	0	0	0	0	486	1	487	
Benton D Total	15,424	234	884	2,947	3,492	40	2,123	370	785	26,299	213	26,512	
Prosser M	487	0	53	196	274	0	0	0	0	1,010	73	1,083	
Benton Total	15,911	234	937	3,143	3,766	40	2,123	370	785	27,309	286	27,595	
<b>Chelan</b>													
Chelan D	9,017	19	461	1,479	1,810	0	885	232	210	14,113	145	14,258	
Wenatchee M	1,009	23	227	914	1,642	0	0	0	0	3,815	34	3,849	
Chelan D Total	10,026	42	688	2,393	3,452	0	885	232	210	17,928	179	18,107	
Cashmere M	171	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	175	94	269	
Chelan M	381	10	87	246	880	18	0	0	0	1,622	385	2,007	
Leavenworth M	34	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	408	443	
Wenatchee TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Chelan Total	10,612	57	775	2,639	4,332	18	885	232	210	19,760	1,066	20,826	
<b>Clallam</b>													
Clallam 1 D	4,059	0	260	700	853	32	630	371	1	6,906	0	6,906	
Pt. Angeles M	1,385	0	39	133	260	0	0	0	0	1,817	0	1,817	
Sequim M	184	0	45	65	151	0	0	0	0	445	0	445	
Clallam 1 D Total	5,628	0	344	898	1,264	32	630	371	1	9,168	0	9,168	
Clallam 2 D	772	0	140	271	615	42	143	33	0	2,016	0	2,016	
Clallam Total	6,400	0	484	1,169	1,879	74	773	404	1	11,184	0	11,184	
<b>Clark</b>													
Clark D	25,014	4	927	5,948	3,315	0	1,583	1,683	0	38,474	291	38,765	
Camas M	586	13	93	364	311	1	0	0	0	1,368	136	1,504	
La Center (w/D) M	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
Ridgefield M	71	25	0	40	28	0	0	0	0	164	1	165	
Vancouver M	4,239	0	156	2,186	1,618	0	0	0	0	8,199	284	8,483	
Washougal M	761	28	65	381	218	0	0	0	0	1,453	17	1,470	
Yacolt M	17	0	2	10	1	0	0	0	0	30	14	44	
Clark D Total	30,688	70	1,244	8,929	5,491	1	1,583	1,683	0	49,689	743	50,432	
Battle Ground M	411	0	35	118	126	0	0	0	0	690	17	707	
La Center M	154	0	7	71	23	0	0	0	0	255	0	255	
Camas TVB	954	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,006	1,701	2,707	
Ridgefield TVB	115	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	117	16	133	
Vancouver TVB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	38,277	38,277	
Clark Total	32,322	122	1,286	9,120	5,640	1	1,583	1,683	0	51,757	40,754	92,511	
<b>Columbia</b>													
Columbia D	861	0	15	89	177	0	63	13	0	1,218	0	1,218	
Dayton M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Columbia Total	861	0	15	89	177	0	63	13	0	1,218	0	1,218	

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings						Court Costs	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm Claims & Dom Viol	Total
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contestd Infractions	Infractions	Misdmn Traffic	Non-Traf				
<b>Adams</b>										
Othello D	0	175	60	85,628	27,280	6,730	1,017	19,284	4,447	144,386
Othello M	0	198	32	13,139	31,767	7,391	1,123	5,954	140	59,514
Othello D Total	0	373	92	98,767	59,047	14,121	2,140	25,238	4,587	203,900
Ritzville D	0	118	117	154,318	39,258	26,377	5,441	44,012	1,228	270,634
Ritzville M	0	13	15	8,054	9,053	1,240	1,611	2,551	0	22,509
Ritzville D Total	0	131	132	162,372	48,311	27,617	7,052	46,563	1,228	293,143
Adams Total	0	504	224	261,139	107,358	41,738	9,192	71,801	5,815	497,043
<b>Asotin</b>										
Asotin D	3	12	58	61,746	20,741	8,569	168	7,312	4,561	103,097
Asotin M	0	1	0	750	360	66	0	206	0	1,382
Clarkston M	0	23	39	34,264	19,890	3,625	80	7,902	0	65,761
Asotin D Total	3	36	97	96,760	40,991	12,260	248	15,420	4,561	170,240
Asotin Total	3	36	97	96,760	40,991	12,260	248	15,420	4,561	170,240
<b>Benton</b>										
Benton D	10	135	562	432,530	117,566	63,284	120	103,516	55,640	772,656
Benton City M	4	0	12	3,494	9,780	1,362	0	1,831	0	16,467
Kennewick M	46	48	285	166,490	73,990	45,882	0	45,982	0	332,287
Richland M	4	37	216	125,634	75,001	18,114	0	33,013	0	251,762
West Richland M	0	6	33	16,080	22,493	2,143	0	5,532	0	46,248
Benton D Total	64	226	1,108	744,228	298,830	130,785	120	189,817	55,640	1,419,420
Prosser M	0	191	12	26,702	35,539	15,652	0	7,343	0	85,236
Benton Total	64	417	1,120	770,930	334,369	146,437	120	197,160	55,640	1,504,656
<b>Chelan</b>										
Chelan D	9	95	406	377,546	309,843	118,330	8,138	113,976	22,215	950,048
Wenatchee M	10	72	143	32,460	170,475	69,563	5,693	32,013	0	310,204
Chelan D Total	19	167	549	410,006	480,318	187,893	13,831	145,989	22,215	1,260,252
Cashmere M	0	0	19	7,946	0	0	0	0	0	7,946
Chelan M	3	85	19	18,186	35,398	51,357	25	15,181	662	120,809
Leavenworth M	0	0	1	1,781	0	30	0	12	0	1,823
Wenatchee TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Chelan Total	22	252	588	437,919	515,716	239,280	13,856	161,182	22,877	1,390,830
<b>Clallam</b>										
Clallam 1 D	25	16	151	172,588	78,856	41,300	250	40,253	16,445	349,692
Pt. Angeles M	9	12	72	58,478	50,825	36,094	270	15,250	0	160,907
Sequim M	1	2	19	8,541	19,097	5,485	74	2,631	0	35,828
Clallam 1 D Total	35	30	242	239,607	148,778	82,869	594	58,134	16,445	546,427
Clallam 2 D	14	36	31	40,431	79,491	50,556	0	18,436	4,570	193,484
Clallam Total	49	66	273	280,038	228,269	133,425	594	76,570	21,015	739,911
<b>Clark</b>										
Clark D	27	139	1,146	1,301,040	759,890	241,183	40,090	94,207	52,847	2,489,257
Camas M	2	8	36	23,007	55,538	22,029	350	14,133	0	115,057
La Center (w/D.) M	0	0	0	94	1,220	0	0	10	0	1,324
Ridgefield M	0	0	1	3,129	4,092	1,907	441	1,129	0	10,693
Vancouver M	5	33	235	195,402	201,695	86,226	24,159	48,422	0	555,904
Washougal M	0	13	35	41,961	44,723	14,505	0	16,776	0	117,965
Yacolt M	0	0	0	1,157	941	0	0	23	0	2,121
Clark D Total	34	193	1,453	1,565,790	1,068,099	365,850	65,040	174,700	52,847	3,292,326
Battle Ground M	0	0	24	23,256	32,020	15,418	0	8,826	0	79,520
La Center M	1	0	7	8,490	5,785	1,382	0	2,625	0	18,282
Camas TVB	0	0	0	18,478	0	0	0	2,841	0	21,319
Ridgefield TVB	0	0	0	3,559	40	0	0	429	0	4,028
Vancouver TVB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clark Total	35	193	1,484	1,619,573	1,105,944	382,650	65,040	189,421	52,847	3,415,475
<b>Columbia</b>										
Columbia D	0	17	8	39,250	9,913	12,956	0	9,687	1,621	73,427
Dayton M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Columbia Total	0	17	8	39,250	9,913	12,956	0	9,687	1,621	73,427

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors				Small Claims	Felony Cmplts	Sub-Total	Parking	Total
	Traffic	Non-Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non-Traffic	Domestic Violence	Civil					
<b>Cowlitz</b>												
Cowlitz D	9,333	0	257	1,561	1,202	30	1,306	535	0	14,224	37	14,261
Kelso M	1,913	0	187	819	760	9	0	0	0	3,688	94	3,782
Cowlitz D Total	11,246	0	444	2,380	1,962	39	1,306	535	0	17,912	131	18,043
Castle Rock M	169	0	29	51	99	1	0	0	0	349	0	349
Kalama M	66	0	6	12	52	0	0	0	0	136	0	136
Longview M	3,040	223	232	998	1,138	123	0	0	0	5,754	675	6,429
Woodland M	191	0	18	107	89	0	0	0	0	405	27	432
Cowlitz Total	14,712	223	729	3,548	3,340	163	1,306	535	0	24,556	833	25,389
<b>Douglas</b>												
Douglas D												
E. Wenatchee	2,369	3	94	513	440	48	313	119	0	3,899	73	3,972
E Wenatchee M	658	0	51	231	175	0	0	0	0	1,115	64	1,179
Waterville M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Total	3,027	3	145	744	615	48	313	119	0	5,014	137	5,151
Bridgeport	358	0	34	123	123	9	0	0	0	647	1	648
Douglas D Total	3,385	3	179	867	738	57	313	119	0	5,661	138	5,799
Bridgeport M	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
Mansfield M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rock Island M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Douglas Total	3,385	3	179	867	746	57	313	119	0	5,669	138	5,807
<b>Ferry</b>												
Ferry 1 D	263	0	36	94	161	0	17	53	0	624	0	624
Republic M	21	7	2	17	4	0	0	0	0	51	0	51
Ferry 1 D Total	284	7	38	111	165	0	17	53	0	675	0	675
Ferry Total	284	7	38	111	165	0	17	53	0	675	0	675
<b>Franklin</b>												
Franklin D	4,296	6	151	649	492	2	848	152	3	6,599	21	6,620
Connell M	39	13	9	41	20	1	0	0	0	123	0	123
Kahlotus M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pasco M	1,177	0	108	727	858	0	0	0	0	2,870	1,520	4,390
Franklin Total	5,512	19	268	1,417	1,370	3	848	152	3	9,592	1,541	11,133
<b>Garfield</b>												
Garfield D	707	0	9	42	172	0	18	19	0	967	5	972
Pomeroy M	195	0	2	24	3	0	0	0	0	224	0	224
Garfield D Total	902	0	11	66	175	0	18	19	0	1,191	5	1,196
Garfield Total	902	0	11	66	175	0	18	19	0	1,191	5	1,196
<b>Grant</b>												
Grant D	10,643	0	540	1,915	2,089	0	797	313	7	16,304	52	16,356
Electric City M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ephrata M	0	44	0	0	28	0	0	0	0	72	968	1,040
Moses Lake M	14	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	97	0	97
Quincy M	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
Royal City M	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	19
Soap Lake M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grant D Total	10,676	142	540	1,915	2,117	0	797	313	7	16,507	1,020	17,527
Coulee City M	53	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	57	4	61
Grand Coulee M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Warden M	46	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	0	49
Grant Total	10,775	148	540	1,916	2,117	0	797	313	7	16,613	1,024	17,637

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings						Receipts			
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contestd Infracts.	Infracts	Misdmn Traffic	Non-Traf	Court Costs	30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm Claims & Dom Viol	Total
<b>Cowlitz</b>										
Cowlitz D	1	417	374	662,953	145,841	98,285	1,648	149,127	30,236	1,088,090
Kelso M	5	748	148	91,079	111,186	42,403	629	30,501	0	275,798
Cowlitz D Total	6	1,165	522	754,032	257,027	140,688	2,277	179,628	30,236	1,363,888
Castle Rock M	4	13	2	7,292	4,511	4,639	162	6,717	0	23,321
Kalama M	0	20	9	4,264	1,139	2,381	0	1,425	0	9,209
Longview M	117	874	428	188,940	115,555	129,666	9,797	65,474	454	509,886
Woodland M	0	112	21	12,416	16,736	67,699	0	5,879	0	102,730
Cowlitz Total	127	2,184	982	966,944	394,968	345,073	12,236	259,123	30,690	2,009,034
<b>Douglas</b>										
Douglas D										
E. Wenatchee	7	70	109	112,682	66,579	23,613	0	30,021	8,330	241,225
E Wenatchee M	2	11	64	34,888	45,240	11,865	0	12,286	0	104,279
Waterville M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Total	9	81	173	147,570	111,819	35,478	0	42,307	8,330	345,504
Bridgeport	0	6	12	14,118	16,307	7,759	0	5,828	40	44,052
Douglas D Total	9	87	185	161,688	128,126	43,237	0	48,135	8,370	389,556
Bridgeport M	0	6	0	90	0	178	0	30	0	298
Mansfield M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rock Island M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Douglas Total	9	93	185	161,778	128,126	43,415	0	48,165	8,370	389,854
<b>Ferry</b>										
Ferry 1 D	14	11	16	12,699	8,529	12,454	996	5,593	790	41,061
Republic M	0	0	4	748	1,224	609	0	338	0	2,919
Ferry 1 D Total	14	11	20	13,447	9,753	13,063	996	5,931	790	43,980
Ferry Total	14	11	20	13,447	9,753	13,063	996	5,931	790	43,980
<b>Franklin</b>										
Franklin D	6	136	190	204,470	61,284	19,585	0	45,442	20,371	351,152
Connell M	3	11	5	2,497	6,383	3,427	0	1,327	0	13,634
Kahlotus M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pasco M	5	240	116	61,064	71,370	69,192	0	0	0	201,626
Franklin Total	14	387	311	268,031	139,037	92,204	0	46,769	20,371	566,412
<b>Garfield</b>										
Garfield D	0	7	14	30,798	5,637	7,317	170	7,943	604	52,469
Pomeroy M	0	5	9	11,509	2,678	269	0	2,679	0	17,135
Garfield D Total	0	12	23	42,307	8,315	7,586	170	10,622	604	69,604
Garfield Total	0	12	23	42,307	8,315	7,586	170	10,622	604	69,604
<b>Grant</b>										
Grant D	22	113	473	443,380	266,168	117,469	5,044	117,140	23,066	972,267
Electric City M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ephrata M	0	0	8	396	35	486	96	55	0	1,068
Moses Lake M	0	0	13	3,340	4,022	0	0	0	0	7,362
Quincy M	0	0	0	843	125	3	0	0	0	971
Royal City M	0	0	0	496	0	27	0	199	0	722
Soap Lake M	0	0	0	772	0	0	0	0	0	772
Grant D Total	22	113	494	449,227	270,350	117,985	5,140	117,394	23,066	983,162
Coulee City M	0	0	0	2,109	59	0	0	374	0	2,542
Grand Coulee M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Warden M	0	0	0	2,960	2,273	0	687	884	0	6,804
Grant Total	22	113	494	454,296	272,682	117,985	5,827	118,652	23,066	992,508

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors			Small Claims	Felony Complts	Sub- Total	Parking	Total	
	Traffic	Non- Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non- Traffic	Domestic Violence						
<b>Grays Harbor</b>												
Grays Harbor D												
Grays Harbor 1	4,120	7	207	493	648	12	349	228	183	6,247	0	6,247
Grays Harbor 2	2,027	1	94	286	554	0	435	175	13	3,585	1	3,586
Grays Harbor D Total	6,147	8	301	779	1,202	12	784	403	196	9,832	1	9,833
Aberdeen M	2,277	3	196	644	1,317	2	0	0	0	4,439	2,688	7,127
Cosmopolis M	337	1	8	60	43	0	0	0	0	449	2	451
Elma M	431	5	30	176	256	0	0	0	0	898	0	898
Hoquiam M	1,028	21	67	274	317	0	0	0	0	1,707	311	2,018
McCleary M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Montesano M	909	6	56	177	234	0	0	0	0	1,382	25	1,407
Oakville M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ocean Shores M	101	1	31	121	112	4	0	0	0	370	1	371
Westport M	142	1	54	134	112	0	0	0	0	443	27	470
Grays Harbor Total	11,372	46	743	2,365	3,593	18	784	403	196	19,520	3,055	22,575
<b>Island</b>												
Island D	4,989	2	191	585	1,032	1	307	292	1	7,400	33	7,433
Oak Harbor M	1,724	0	191	251	106	0	0	0	0	2,272	58	2,330
Island D Total	6,713	2	382	836	1,138	1	307	292	1	9,672	91	9,763
Coupeville M	222	0	3	18	1	0	0	0	0	244	5	249
Langley M	152	3	3	23	4	0	0	0	0	185	67	252
Island Total	7,087	5	388	877	1,143	1	307	292	1	10,101	163	10,264
<b>Jefferson</b>												
Jefferson D	2,714	0	211	391	611	0	143	144	49	4,263	0	4,263
Jefferson Total	2,714	0	211	391	611	0	143	144	49	4,263	0	4,263
<b>King</b>												
Airport D	8,687	73	607	2,223	1,909	71	1,468	501	9	15,548	4,646	20,194
Normandy Park M	296	0	14	110	65	0	0	0	0	485	39	524
Airport D Total	8,983	73	621	2,333	1,974	71	1,468	501	9	16,033	4,685	20,718
Aukeen D	8,150	235	435	1,457	1,294	183	2,927	903	79	15,663	679	16,342
Auburn M	4,965	5	130	1,129	987	0	0	0	0	7,216	113	7,329
Kent M	3,641	21	166	1,454	1,077	0	0	0	0	6,359	220	6,579
Aukeen D Total	16,756	261	731	4,040	3,358	183	2,927	903	79	29,238	1,012	30,250
Bellevue D	2,599	4	85	413	239	86	1,945	957	0	6,328	64	6,392
Bellevue M	11,241	0	317	1,356	1,518	0	0	0	0	14,432	125	14,557
Clyde Hill M	956	0	22	143	27	0	0	0	0	1,148	2	1,150
Hunts Point M	148	0	9	41	12	0	0	0	0	210	0	210
Medina M	473	2	34	129	56	0	0	0	0	694	25	719
Yarrow point M	171	0	3	20	23	0	0	0	0	217	1	218
Bellevue D Total	15,588	6	470	2,102	1,875	86	1,945	957	0	23,029	217	23,246
Federal Way D	18,428	35	480	2,347	1,998	110	1,318	496	0	25,212	486	25,698
Issaquah D	17,013	2	196	1,556	781	21	581	259	0	20,409	490	20,899
Issaquah M	1,210	1	51	156	177	0	0	0	0	1,595	85	1,680
North Bend M	263	0	16	74	72	0	0	0	0	425	17	442
Snoqualmie M	269	0	9	54	42	0	0	0	0	374	7	381
Issaquah D Total	18,755	3	272	1,840	1,072	21	581	259	0	22,803	599	23,402
Mercer Island D	1,393	1	38	161	10	1	227	97	0	1,928	6	1,934
Mercer Island M	1,953	61	33	286	199	0	0	0	0	2,532	582	3,114
Mercer Island D Total	3,346	62	71	447	209	1	227	97	0	4,460	588	5,048
Northeast D	14,773	21	482	2,058	1,780	186	3,386	1,163	0	23,849	475	24,324
Bothell M	1,353	4	47	269	116	0	0	0	0	1,789	48	1,837
Carnation M	189	0	0	8	6	0	0	0	0	203	0	203
Duvall (w/NE D.) M	5	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
Kirkland M	2,886	2	204	922	963	0	0	0	0	4,977	460	5,437
Redmond M	2,040	6	103	474	640	0	0	0	0	3,263	40	3,303
Skykomish M	5	0	1	4	8	0	0	0	0	18	0	18
Northeast D Total	21,251	33	838	3,737	3,513	186	3,386	1,163	0	34,107	1,023	35,130

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings					Court Costs	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm. Claims & Dom. Viol.	Total	
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contstd Infractions	Infractions	Misdmn Traffic					
<b>Grays Harbor</b>										
Grays Harbor D										
Grays Harbor 1	16	35	253	231,476	67,832	32,396	737	50,604	9,659	392,704
Grays Harbor 2	12	109	117	137,107	58,367	42,064	50	34,374	10,967	282,929
Grays Harbor D Total	28	144	370	368,583	126,199	74,460	787	84,978	20,626	675,633
Aberdeen M	7	81	215	126,880	78,719	68,291	4,162	44,216	3,589	325,857
Cosmopolis M	0	7	12	14,636	7,331	1,262	4,689	4,150	0	32,068
Elma M	2	7	28	27,097	20,972	11,761	2,624	9,212	0	71,666
Hoquiam M	3	30	81	43,746	22,770	9,329	0	11,693	0	87,538
McCleary M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Montesano M	4	28	84	43,981	15,087	7,475	6,796	6,786	0	80,125
Oakville M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ocean Shores M	0	11	4	6,177	26,658	7,161	2,310	4,728	0	47,034
Westport M	3	69	9	8,480	28,861	3,132	2,553	4,004	0	47,030
Grays Harbor Total	47	377	803	639,580	326,597	182,871	23,921	169,767	24,215	1,366,951
<b>Island</b>										
Island D	12	0	203	220,058	99,992	50,139	2,351	59,976	8,692	441,208
Oak Harbor M	4	0	56	68,624	68,352	3,694	249	20,362	0	161,281
Island D Total	16	0	259	288,682	168,344	53,833	2,600	80,338	8,692	602,489
Coupeville M	0	10	18	16,262	3,812	75	116	3,184	0	23,449
Langley M	0	12	22	7,937	1,593	378	0	1,558	0	11,466
Island Total	16	22	299	312,881	173,749	54,286	2,716	85,080	8,692	637,404
<b>Jefferson</b>										
Jefferson D	9	49	107	127,028	70,236	25,815	8,248	32,388	4,602	268,317
Jefferson Total	9	49	107	127,028	70,236	25,815	8,248	32,388	4,602	268,317
<b>King</b>										
Airport D	43	482	1,081	401,128	178,925	74,783	6,999	95,099	34,651	791,585
Normandy Park M	1	35	46	19,039	9,145	2,411	981	4,057	0	35,633
Airport D Total	44	517	1,127	420,167	188,070	77,194	7,980	99,156	34,651	827,218
Aukeen D	16	756	803	388,418	145,807	57,081	20,301	41,886	77,008	730,501
Auburn M	2	446	593	204,213	110,529	35,361	34,542	19,288	0	403,933
Kent M	10	656	728	151,110	143,713	45,864	51,064	17,205	0	408,956
Aukeen D Total	28	1,858	2,124	743,741	400,049	138,306	105,907	78,379	77,008	1,543,390
Bellevue D	7	167	156	109,384	50,437	11,076	5,928	21,500	54,954	253,279
Bellevue M	18	210	991	447,588	173,869	82,616	79,972	85,254	0	869,299
Clyde Hill M	2	22	86	49,124	10,732	486	3,787	9,128	0	73,257
Hunts Point M	0	3	9	9,612	4,160	1,150	968	2,014	0	17,904
Medina M	2	15	40	26,061	15,243	1,521	3,875	4,937	0	51,637
Yarrow point M	0	2	10	9,778	2,563	465	1,209	1,767	0	15,782
Bellevue D Total	29	419	1,292	651,547	257,004	97,314	95,739	124,600	54,954	1,281,158
Federal Way D	58	677	2,191	971,698	233,975	79,928	36,019	220,367	35,164	1,577,151
Issaquah D	21	226	1,035	909,667	136,367	40,432	16,404	140,771	16,496	1,260,137
Issaquah M	3	7	133	57,249	24,632	11,342	2,614	9,517	0	105,354
North Bend M	0	5	32	10,935	6,614	3,665	1,064	2,121	0	24,399
Snoqualmie M	0	7	16	14,333	3,537	1,583	666	2,061	0	22,180
Issaquah D Total	24	245	1,216	992,184	171,150	57,022	20,748	154,470	16,496	1,412,070
Mercer Island D	3	56	173	67,427	21,540	705	2,282	11,340	5,886	109,180
Mercer Island M	8	70	225	107,738	22,272	7,143	5,570	17,954	0	160,677
Mercer Island D Total	11	126	398	175,165	43,812	7,848	7,852	29,294	5,886	269,857
Northeast D	45	372	1,260	720,139	266,611	115,575	32,356	163,056	81,886	1,379,623
Bothell M	1	14	175	83,503	33,949	13,492	4,958	16,269	0	152,171
Carnation M	0	2	23	10,046	851	424	0	1,801	0	13,122
Duvall (w/NE D.) M	0	0	2	1,756	1,542	343	150	445	0	4,236
Kirkland M	9	101	484	93,658	126,785	76,996	12,837	38,131	0	348,407
Redmond M	10	77	324	108,711	76,452	63,113	8,715	31,370	0	288,361
Skykomish M	0	1	0	192	101	312	0	109	0	714
Northeast D Total	65	567	2,268	1,018,005	506,291	270,255	59,016	251,181	81,886	2,186,634

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors			Small Claims	Felony Cmplnts	Sub- Total	Parking	Total	
	Traffic	Non- Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non- Traffic	Domestic Violence						
King County (continued)												
Renton D	17,832	4	541	2,617	1,215	26	1,930	697	3	24,865	208	25,073
Roxbury D	2,514	28	189	1,052	1,189	56	952	264	1	6,245	939	7,184
Seattle D	9,205	12	534	1,986	1,109	12	10,473	3,354	980	27,665	145	27,810
Shoreline D	6,829	2	519	1,515	1,442	57	974	296	0	11,634	581	12,215
Vashon Island D	404	2	20	117	87	11	44	56	0	741	45	786
Algona M	1,542	0	74	170	38	0	0	0	0	1,824	0	1,824
Black Diamond M	609	0	26	73	67	9	0	0	0	784	0	784
Des Moines M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Duvall M	198	2	10	41	23	0	0	0	0	274	10	284
Enumclaw M	116	0	41	93	152	25	0	0	0	427	750	1,177
Lake Forrest Pk M	1,671	0	19	176	52	0	0	0	0	1,918	43	1,961
Pacific M	593	0	31	115	65	0	0	0	0	804	6	810
Renton M	6,507	0	242	1,499	2,625	40	0	0	0	10,913	9,074	19,987
Seattle M	88,867	0	2,912	23,794	38,883	0	2,576	0	0	157,032	458,670	615,702
Tukwila M	1,698	0	45	385	925	7	0	0	0	3,060	11	3,071
Auburn TVB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,026	7,026
Bellevue TVB	3,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,800	1,261	5,061
Bothell TVB	337	0	6	11	0	0	0	0	0	354	57	411
Duvall (w/NE D.) TVB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Issaquah TVB	334	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	345	60	405
Kent TVB	2,468	8	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	2,492	2,347	4,839
Kirkland TVB	4,043	0	8	18	155	0	0	0	0	4,224	7,776	12,000
North Bend TVB	93	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95	9	104
Redmond TVB	1,131	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,131	457	1,588
Snoqualmie TVB	27	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	31	2	33
King Total	253,925	544	8,700	50,528	62,026	901	28,801	9,043	1,072	415,540	498,087	913,627
Kitsap												
Kitsap D												
Kitsap South	11,507	118	567	1,611	1,206	29	1,687	537	25	17,287	209	17,496
Kitsap North	6,345	69	303	713	592	6	378	314	0	8,720	411	9,131
Kitsap D Total	17,852	187	870	2,324	1,798	35	2,065	851	25	26,007	620	26,627
Bremerton M	7,765	123	124	1,183	1,740	22	0	0	0	10,957	31,016	41,973
Port Orchard M	1,918	0	69	659	506	0	0	0	0	3,152	1,205	4,357
Poulsbo M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Winslow M	2,586	164	62	129	58	16	0	0	0	3,015	2,066	5,081
Kitsap Total	30,121	474	1,125	4,295	4,102	73	2,065	851	25	43,131	34,907	78,038
Kittitas												
Upper Kittitas D	3,747	19	75	505	236	8	90	34	0	4,714	836	5,550
Lower Kittitas D	3,831	23	128	257	607	2	499	97	1	5,445	73	5,518
Cle Elum M	104	0	15	38	24	0	0	0	0	181	2	183
Ellensburg M	1,181	73	41	393	457	2	0	0	0	2,147	1,872	4,019
Kittitas M	69	0	0	14	41	0	0	0	0	124	14	138
Roslyn M	23	0	2	2	6	0	0	0	0	33	2	35
Kittitas Total	8,955	115	261	1,209	1,371	12	589	131	1	12,644	2,799	15,443
Klickitat												
E. Klickitat D	2,460	0	58	354	297	3	44	57	0	3,273	1	3,274
Goldendale M	80	0	4	29	78	0	0	0	0	191	0	191
E. Klickitat D Total	2,540	0	62	383	375	3	44	57	0	3,464	1	3,465
W. Klickitat D	922	0	55	196	247	10	34	76	0	1,540	4	1,544
Bingen M	322	26	49	112	40	0	0	0	0	549	17	566
White Salmon M	181	2	25	109	50	0	0	0	0	367	11	378
W. Klickitat D Total	1,425	28	129	417	337	10	34	76	0	2,456	32	2,488
Klickitat Total	3,965	28	191	800	712	13	78	133	0	5,920	33	5,953



# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings						Receipts		Civil, Sm. Claims & Dom. Viol.	Total
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contstd Infracts.	Infracts	Misdmn Traffic	Non-Traf	Court Costs	30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)		
King County (continued)										
Renton D	47	891	1,674	857,306	349,582	45,919	14,287	228,275	51,058	1,546,427
Roxbury D	19	420	265	125,578	113,671	58,489	9,420	36,276	20,806	364,240
Seattle D	34	2,202	483	383,161	132,299	91,839	455	92,591	258,275	958,620
Shoreline D	104	282	807	355,463	254,416	92,443	23,472	83,040	22,011	830,845
Vashon Island D	5	32	50	11,850	3,030	1,505	85	2,800	1,651	20,921
Algona M	0	13	179	93,115	27,234	3,490	0	22,168	0	146,007
Black Diamond M	2	13	76	43,440	15,333	3,628	120	9,320	80	71,921
Des Moines M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Duvall M	1	2	20	7,254	1,529	202	100	1,650	0	10,735
Enumclaw M	15	82	9	6,344	15,828	11,866	184	5,243	458	39,923
Lake Forrest Pk M	1	23	259	111,077	13,688	534	6,405	22,058	0	153,762
Pacific M	0	105	66	19,944	13,610	2,032	0	5,228	0	40,814
Renton M	8	216	515	347,987	227,492	255,969	466	85,063	364	917,341
Seattle M	405	1,592	1,519	3,079,513	681,222	309,179	165,877	524,076	58,614	4,818,481
Tukwila M	15	235	136	102,134	49,520	67,032	10,746	27,231	40	256,703
Auburn TVB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bellevue TVB	0	0	0	181,301	0	2,984	0	30,733	0	215,018
Bothell TVB	0	0	0	41,072	640	0	0	4,796	0	46,508
Duvall (w/NE D.) TVB	0	0	0	927	287	174	0	206	0	1,594
Issaquah TVB	0	0	0	19,390	0	0	0	3,634	0	23,024
Kent TVB	0	0	0	114,954	3,043	0	0	22,140	0	140,137
Kirkland TVB	0	0	0	157,965	1,162	3,690	0	28,022	0	190,839
North Bend TVB	0	0	0	6,551	0	142	0	1,086	0	7,779
Redmond TVB	0	0	0	60,330	1,187	0	0	11,651	0	73,168
Snoqualmie TVB	0	0	0	623	0	0	0	116	0	739
King Total	915	10,517	16,674	11,099,786	3,705,124	1,678,984	564,878	2,204,850	719,402	19,973,024
Kitsap										
Kitsap D										
Kitsap South	164	84	965	496,470	156,426	52,102	8,560	106,760	39,023	859,341
Kitsap North	13	40	320	231,193	104,415	27,648	1,018	52,985	9,770	427,029
Kitsap D Total	177	124	1,285	727,663	260,841	79,750	9,578	159,745	48,793	1,286,370
Bremerton M	12	75	386	408,517	153,877	74,956	100,721	89,318	113	827,502
Port Orchard M	9	9	121	139,834	122,597	30,581	0	34,665	0	327,677
Poulsbo M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Winslow M	21	98	380	114,620	31,527	8,611	1,880	11,777	160	168,575
Kitsap Total	219	306	2,172	1,390,634	568,842	193,898	112,179	295,505	49,066	2,610,124
Kittitas										
Upper Kittitas D	3	113	224	225,403	58,564	16,834	1,393	48,532	2,460	353,186
Lower Kittitas D	4	299	244	65,155	25,387	11,032	1,686	54,842	4,014	162,116
Cle Elum M	0	21	8	8,321	12,149	2,045	200	3,055	0	25,770
Ellensburg M	8	0	139	49,361	47,428	23,107	4,776	13,949	0	138,621
Kittitas M	0	21	8	3,634	2,076	1,400	0	1,258	0	8,368
Roslyn M	0	1	1	2,904	684	67	20	505	0	4,180
Kittitas Total	15	455	624	354,778	146,288	54,485	8,075	122,141	6,474	692,241
Klickitat										
E. Klickitat D	2	11	65	140,340	52,572	21,518	3,658	35,103	1,918	255,109
Goldendale M	1	2	12	4,018	5,369	2,482	1,216	1,732	0	14,817
E. Klickitat D Total	3	13	77	144,358	57,941	24,000	4,874	36,835	1,918	269,926
W. Klickitat D	8	39	54	49,254	24,087	9,936	5,742	14,198	1,759	104,976
Bingen M	2	8	19	10,616	11,921	1,591	2,363	3,182	0	29,673
White Salmon M	1	10	12	7,992	14,450	1,222	2,678	2,725	0	29,067
W. Klickitat D Total	11	57	85	67,862	50,458	12,749	10,783	20,105	1,759	163,716
Klickitat Total	14	70	162	212,220	108,399	36,749	15,657	56,940	3,677	433,642

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors				Small Claims	Felony Cmplnts	Sub- Total	Parking	Total
	Traffic	Non- Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non- Traffic	Domestic Violence	Civil					
<b>Lewis</b>												
Lewis D	8,581	10	371	1,344	1,013	1	569	381	23	12,293	17	12,310
Morton M	47	1	13	48	74	0	0	0	0	183	0	183
Mossyrock M	14	0	1	5	10	0	0	0	0	30	0	30
Napavine M	31	1	9	48	23	0	0	0	0	112	0	112
Pe Ell M	5	0	0	4	17	0	0	0	0	26	0	26
Toledo M	18	0	0	13	6	0	0	0	0	37	10	47
Vader M	2	0	1	4	4	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
Lewis D Total	8,698	12	395	1,466	1,147	1	569	381	23	12,692	27	12,719
Centralia M	1,814	0	138	485	495	0	0	0	0	2,932	237	3,169
Chehalis M	353	21	20	106	395	0	0	0	0	895	3,708	4,603
Winlock M	19	0	6	13	27	0	0	0	0	65	3	68
Morton TVB	135	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	137	129	266
Mossyrock TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Napavine TVB	64	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	65	0	65
Pe Ell TVB	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
Toledo TVB	40	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	44	3	47
Vader TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Lewis Total	11,135	37	559	2,072	2,065	1	569	381	23	16,842	4,107	20,949
<b>Lincoln</b>												
Lincoln D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Almira M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davenport M	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
Harrington M	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Odessa M	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
Reardan M	82	0	11	14	6	0	0	0	0	113	0	113
Sprague M	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	0	9
Wilbur M	115	0	4	36	11	0	0	0	0	166	0	166
Lincoln D Total	198	9	15	51	29	0	0	0	0	302	0	302
Lincoln Total	198	9	15	51	29	0	0	0	0	302	0	302
<b>Mason</b>												
Mason D	2,790	1	267	381	941	25	432	168	0	5,005	37	5,042
Shelton M	605	0	75	273	380	9	0	0	0	1,342	908	2,250
Mason Total	3,395	1	342	654	1,321	34	432	168	0	6,347	945	7,292
<b>Okanogan</b>												
Okanogan D	4,966	15	701	1,647	1,719	100	212	296	0	9,656	200	9,856
Brewster M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Coulee Dam M	42	8	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	53	33	86
Elmer City M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Omak M	0	0	0	0	90	0	0	0	0	90	293	383
Oroville M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Pateros M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tonasket M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Twisp M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Winthrop M	30	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	5	41
Okanogan Total	5,038	26	705	1,647	1,811	100	212	296	0	9,835	531	10,366
<b>Pacific</b>												
S. Pacific D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Ilwaco M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
N. Pacific D	1,116	0	34	115	210	0	65	24	0	1,564	0	1,564
Long Beach M	119	0	15	65	58	9	0	0	0	266	0	266
Raymond M	378	0	52	110	162	0	0	0	0	702	0	702
South Bend M	443	0	43	84	66	6	0	0	0	642	0	642
Pacific Total	2,056	0	144	374	496	15	65	24	0	3,174	0	3,174

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings					Non-Traf	Court Costs	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm. Claims & Dom. Viol.	Total
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contstd Infracts.	Infracts	Misdmn Traffic					
<b>Lewis</b>										
Lewis D	7	64	496	333,836	165,112	52,131	39,073	81,285	16,084	687,521
Morton M	0	1	10	984	7,235	3,085	5,010	1,229	0	17,543
Mossyrock M	0	3	7	477	1,053	379	2,957	218	0	5,084
Napavine M	0	6	6	774	3,937	946	1,594	724	0	7,975
Pe Ell M	0	0	1	166	365	807	1,430	225	0	2,993
Toledo M	0	1	3	473	446	246	416	125	0	1,706
Vader M	0	0	1	40	497	60	98	59	0	754
Lewis D Total	7	75	524	336,750	178,645	57,654	50,578	83,865	16,084	723,576
Centralia M	13	70	126	72,708	57,001	34,868	0	20,870	0	185,447
Chehalis M	1	24	22	18,665	20,593	20,374	0	7,908	0	67,540
Winlock M	0	4	4	904	2,133	971	850	700	0	5,558
Morton TVB	0	0	0	6,225	0	0	0	1,050	0	7,275
Mossyrock TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Napavine TVB	0	0	0	3,281	0	0	0	516	0	3,797
Pe Ell TVB	0	0	0	1,245	0	0	0	0	0	1,245
Toledo TVB	0	0	0	980	0	0	0	519	0	1,499
Vader TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Lewis Total	21	173	676	440,758	258,372	113,867	51,428	115,428	16,084	995,937
<b>Lincoln</b>										
Lincoln D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Almira M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davenport M	0	0	0	246	26	117	488	63	0	940
Harrington M	0	0	0	52	0	0	0	14	0	66
Odessa M	0	0	0	437	0	0	0	83	0	520
Reardan M	0	21	8	5,536	3,109	227	241	1,418	0	10,531
Sprague M	0	0	0	83	172	198	130	86	0	669
Wilbur M	0	23	8	5,898	712	482	314	1,330	0	8,736
Lincoln D Total	0	44	16	12,252	4,019	1,024	1,173	2,994	0	21,462
Lincoln Total	0	44	16	12,252	4,019	1,024	1,173	2,994	0	21,462
<b>Mason</b>										
Mason D	26	109	153	123,077	74,241	49,272	14,299	30,628	11,175	302,692
Shelton M	2	17	26	28,596	19,114	13,498	299	7,380	51	68,938
Mason Total	28	126	179	151,673	93,355	62,770	14,598	38,008	11,226	371,630
<b>Okanogan</b>										
Okanogan D	11	19	174	183,430	192,730	67,940	40,062	54,005	7,849	546,016
Brewster M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Coulee Dam M	0	0	0	1,817	265	0	0	336	0	2,418
Elmer City M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Omak M	0	20	0	187	0	1,899	0	310	0	2,396
Oroville M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Pateros M	0	0	0	72	0	0	0	0	0	72
Tonasket M	0	0	0	188	0	0	0	0	0	188
Twisp M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Winthrop M	0	0	1	1,714	0	0	0	0	0	1,714
Okanogan Total	11	39	175	187,408	192,995	69,839	40,062	54,651	7,849	552,804
<b>Pacific</b>										
S. Pacific D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Ilwaco M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
N. Pacific D	7	29	47	41,706	2,474	10,368	0	8,679	1,715	64,942
Long Beach M	3	32	10	5,898	6,129	1,366	59	4,197	144	17,793
Raymond M	2	34	15	17,377	17,277	5,085	3,240	4,950	0	47,929
South Bend M	4	35	9	18,031	12,304	2,089	3,924	4,395	357	41,100
Pacific Total	16	130	81	83,012	38,184	18,908	7,223	22,221	2,216	171,764

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors			Small Civil	Small Claims	Felony Cmplnts	Sub- Total	Parking	Total
	Non- Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non- Traffic	Domestic Violence							
Pend Oreille												
Pend Oreille D	765	0	38	128	302	0	45	56	0	1,334	0	1,334
Cusick M	5	0	1	6	1	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Ione M	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
Metaline M	6	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
Metaline Falls M	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Newport M	248	13	11	69	34	0	0	0	0	375	2	377
Pend Oreille D Total	1,032	13	55	208	337	0	45	56	0	1,746	2	1,748
Newport TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Pend Oreille Total	1,032	13	55	208	337	0	45	56	0	1,746	2	1,748
Pierce												
Pierce 1 D	37,716	0	1,817	5,650	4,175	279	5,830	2,606	0	58,073	421	58,494
Pierce 2 D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Pierce 3 D	1,815	3	119	342	391	4	27	57	0	2,758	0	2,758
Pierce 4 D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bonney Lake M	203	0	8	101	247	0	0	0	0	559	76	635
Buckley M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Dupont M	165	2	3	10	12	0	0	0	0	192	0	192
Eatonville M	274	0	15	26	77	0	0	0	0	392	0	392
Fife M	1,370	0	67	469	401	0	0	0	0	2,307	193	2,500
Fircrest M	1,555	0	36	219	35	0	0	0	0	1,845	5	1,850
Gig Harbor M	885	1	30	97	56	0	0	0	0	1,069	339	1,408
Milton M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Orting M	107	0	15	68	52	0	0	0	0	242	0	242
Puyallup M	2,126	0	133	628	1,082	0	0	0	0	3,969	649	4,618
Roy M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ruston M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Steilacoom M	807	41	21	74	74	0	0	0	0	1,017	662	1,679
Sumner M	594	7	29	172	189	1	0	0	0	992	131	1,123
Tacoma M	30,036	0	786	7,634	6,858	194	0	0	0	45,508	52,252	97,760
Wilkeson M	127	0	4	29	27	0	0	0	0	187	2	189
Pierce Total	77,780	54	3,083	15,519	13,676	478	5,857	2,663	0	119,110	54,730	173,840
San Juan												
San Juan D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Friday Harbor M	400	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	421	2,326	2,747
San Juan Total	400	0	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	421	2,326	2,747
Skagit												
Skagit D	6,781	0	291	907	1,409	161	1,271	517	137	11,474	0	11,474
Anacortes M	828	0	130	230	336	0	0	0	0	1,524	108	1,632
Burlington M	418	1	59	163	286	0	0	0	0	927	1	928
Concrete M	182	0	8	42	30	0	0	0	0	262	3	265
La Conner M	277	7	34	40	42	0	0	0	0	400	211	611
Mount Vernon M	1,947	16	203	982	728	0	0	0	0	3,876	525	4,401
Sedro Woolley M	221	2	95	260	513	0	0	0	0	1,091	1	1,092
Skagit Total	10,654	26	820	2,624	3,344	161	1,271	517	137	19,554	849	20,403
Skamania												
Skamania D	990	0	109	273	664	25	37	83	0	2,181	12	2,193
N. Bonneville M	1	4	0	4	3	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
Stevenson M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Skamania Total	991	4	109	277	667	25	37	83	0	2,193	12	2,205

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings					Misdmn Traffic	Non-Traf	Court Costs	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm. Claims & Dom. Viol.	Total
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contstd Infracts.	Infracts							
<b>Pend Oreille</b>											
Pend Oreille D	2	14	34	33,017	11,227	13,940	30	9,418	1,486	69,118	
Cusick M	0	0	0	116	495	20	0	52	0	683	
Ione M	0	0	1	573	250	0	0	124	0	947	
Metaline M	0	0	0	218	256	0	0	89	0	563	
Metaline Falls M	0	0	0	21	42	0	0	12	0	75	
Newport M	0	5	9	9,846	3,016	393	0	2,084	0	15,339	
Pend Oreille D Total	2	19	44	43,791	15,286	14,353	30	11,779	1,486	86,725	
Newport TVB	N	N	N	N	N	P	P	P	P	P	
Pend Oreille Total	2	19	44	43,791	15,286	14,353	30	11,779	1,486	86,725	
<b>Pierce</b>											
Pierce 1 D	63	562	3,318	2,159,260	789,472	262,802	P	392,820	153,895	3,758,249	
Pierce 2 D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Pierce 3 D	12	274	162	81,421	41,269	44,936	7,133	23,566	1,236	199,561	
Pierce 4 D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Bonney Lake M	0	25	11	11,986	21,227	18,579	125	9,295	0	61,212	
Buckley M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Dupont M	0	4	25	12,356	6,270	117	1,751	2,070	0	22,564	
Eatonville M	0	29	16	17,106	1,976	2,861	0	3,682	0	25,625	
Fife M	5	35	169	79,883	90,309	35,444	0	25,194	0	230,830	
Fircrest M	5	28	108	109,594	28,461	2,212	0	22,837	0	163,104	
Gig Harbor M	4	12	58	48,231	15,224	4,199	845	10,499	0	78,998	
Milton M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Orting M	0	32	2	5,113	18,986	5,913	175	5,290	0	35,477	
Puyallup M	0	228	279	108,829	65,774	43,917	14,972	37,576	0	271,068	
Roy M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Ruston M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Steilacoom M	0	5	95	64,478	16,429	3,526	0	11,072	0	95,505	
Sumner M	5	160	36	26,058	18,446	12,472	8,832	10,250	51	76,109	
Tacoma M	31	800	2,242	1,123,062	775,805	496,758	0	256,563	920	2,653,108	
Wilkeson M	0	16	16	4,426	862	361	706	1,259	0	7,614	
Pierce Total	125	2,210	6,537	3,851,803	1,890,510	934,097	34,539	811,973	156,102	7,679,024	
<b>San Juan</b>											
San Juan D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Friday Harbor M	0	0	24	22,609	1,218	1,166	404	5,090	0	30,487	
San Juan Total	0	0	24	22,609	1,218	1,166	404	5,090	0	30,487	
<b>Skagit</b>											
Skagit D	60	262	655	320,048	133,103	87,382	17,315	88,400	34,567	680,815	
Anacortes M	3	1	39	39,266	41,481	14,238	0	12,563	0	107,548	
Burlington M	5	3	27	23,426	34,802	12,524	0	9,608	0	80,360	
Concrete M	0	3	16	15,267	4,493	2,707	0	3,602	0	26,069	
La Conner M	0	2	13	10,448	6,473	3,354	0	2,995	0	23,270	
Mount Vernon M	18	9	131	117,008	171,539	43,066	397	44,541	0	376,551	
Sedro Woolley M	3	18	18	16,869	41,372	22,639	1,224	10,899	0	93,003	
Skagit Total	89	298	899	542,332	433,263	185,910	18,936	172,608	34,567	1,387,616	
<b>Skamania</b>											
Skamania D	0	59	49	52,768	15,934	25,008	229	13,508	1,727	109,174	
N. Bonneville M	0	2	1	171	0	84	243	95	0	593	
Stevenson M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	
Skamania Total	0	61	50	52,939	15,934	25,092	472	13,603	1,727	109,767	

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors				Small Claims	Felony Compl.	Sub- Total	Parking	Total
	Traffic	Non- Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non- Traffic	Domestic Violence	Civil					
<b>Snohomish</b>												
Cascade D	6,863	0	316	1,089	937	107	995	324	0	10,631	31	10,662
Arlington M	263	0	36	108	139	0	0	0	0	546	0	546
Darrington M	111	0	14	59	24	0	0	0	0	208	0	208
Granite Falls M	175	0	18	69	62	0	0	0	0	324	0	324
Stanwood M	166	2	23	74	68	0	0	0	0	333	0	333
Cascade D Total	7,578	2	407	1,399	1,230	107	995	324	0	12,042	31	12,073
Everett D	11,274	1	459	1,685	1,192	0	3,131	1,135	859	19,736	35	19,771
Everett (w/D.) M	189	0	0	1	16	0	0	0	0	206	0	206
Mukilteo M	638	0	38	116	86	0	0	0	0	878	0	878
Everett D Total	12,101	1	497	1,802	1,294	0	3,131	1,135	859	20,820	35	20,855
Evergreen D	8,499	0	598	1,252	924	60	1,145	347	0	12,825	31	12,856
Gold Bar M	487	0	4	83	26	0	0	0	0	600	1	601
Index M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Stevens M	660	0	11	129	73	0	0	0	0	873	5	878
Monroe M	327	0	26	116	187	0	0	0	0	656	0	656
Snohomish M	759	0	92	210	342	0	0	0	0	1,403	18	1,421
Sultan M	441	0	30	133	64	0	0	0	0	668	2	670
Evergreen D Total	11,173	0	761	1,923	1,616	60	1,145	347	0	17,025	57	17,082
South Snohomish D	10,138	3	774	1,751	938	209	3,721	952	0	18,486	123	18,609
Brier M	548	0	14	141	57	0	0	0	0	760	0	760
Edmonds (w/D.) M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lynnwood M	2,511	0	190	683	1,292	0	0	0	0	4,676	91	4,767
Mill Creek M	295	0	0	7	5	0	0	0	0	307	0	307
Mt Lake Terrace M	904	0	84	341	462	0	0	0	0	1,791	5	1,796
Woodway M	176	0	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	186	0	186
South Snoho. D Total	14,572	3	1,062	2,930	2,757	209	3,721	952	0	26,206	219	26,425
Edmonds M	5,686	18	146	1,226	961	39	0	0	0	8,076	3,542	11,618
Everett M	5,466	0	266	3,062	2,900	0	0	0	0	11,694	0	11,694
Marysville M	1,488	0	85	549	440	0	0	0	0	2,562	50	2,618
Arlington TVB	171	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	171	0	171
Brier TVB	358	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	358	0	358
Darrington TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Everett (w/D.) TVB	906	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	906	1	907
Gold Bar TVB	232	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	236	0	236
Granite Falls TVB	57	0	2	17	0	0	0	0	0	76	0	76
Lake Stevens TVB	124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	124	4	128
Lynnwood TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mill Creek TVB	211	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	212	4	216
Mt Lake Terrace TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mukilteo TVB	401	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	401	0	401
Stanwood TVB	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	33
Sultan TVB	206	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	206	0	206
Snohomish Total	60,763	28	3,226	12,909	11,198	415	8,992	2,758	859	101,148	3,949	105,097
<b>Spokane</b>												
Spokane D	23,709	89	1,282	3,066	6,985	0	4,844	2,440	1,166	43,581	454	44,035
Airway Hts M	180	0	2	38	52	0	0	0	0	272	0	272
Cheney M	835	0	27	363	196	0	0	0	0	1,421	2,155	3,576
Deerpark M	120	0	4	44	59	0	0	0	0	227	10	237
Medical Lk M	346	29	21	28	80	0	0	0	0	504	4	508
Spokane M	28,582	0	1,291	5,348	3,119	0	0	0	0	38,340	0	38,340
Spokane Total	53,772	118	2,627	8,887	10,491	0	4,844	2,440	1,166	84,345	2,623	86,968
<b>Stevens</b>												
Stevens D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Chewelah M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Colville M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Kettle Falls M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Northport M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Springdale M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Stevens Total	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court Jury	Contested Proceedings					Court Cost/May	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective & Dom. Viol.	Civil, Sm. Claims Total		
	Non-Jury	Trials Infracts.	Const'd Infracts	Traffic	Misdmn Non-Traf					
<b>Snohomish</b>										
Cascade D	37	120	511	375,413	143,759	57,527	3,654	81,381	27,691	689,425
Arlington M	0	18	17	13,627	18,301	9,028	357	4,466	0	45,779
Darrington M	0	3	5	5,259	6,090	1,981	39	1,587	0	14,956
Granite Falls M	0	4	20	11,671	11,028	4,036	255	3,101	0	30,091
Stanwood M	0	4	13	9,835	6,693	4,046	262	2,682	0	23,518
Cascade D Total	37	149	566	415,805	185,871	76,618	4,567	93,217	27,691	803,769
Everett D	23	201	630	592,943	166,247	79,719	14,365	107,383	79,354	1,040,011
Everett (w/D.) M	7	40	136	87,383	98,400	63,785	26,690	19,916	0	296,174
Mukilteo M	0	6	77	20,642	9,434	2,883	1,787	3,632	0	38,378
Everett D Total	30	247	843	700,968	274,081	146,387	42,842	130,931	79,354	1,374,563
Evergreen D	49	245	835	386,025	119,739	27,755	75,554	79,703	28,567	717,343
Gold Bar M	1	9	83	17,105	2,938	490	6,074	2,969	0	29,576
Index M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Stevens M	0	5	125	26,387	3,938	700	8,695	4,584	0	44,304
Monroe M	0	8	29	13,700	8,511	2,736	9,871	3,575	0	38,393
Snohomish M	2	36	111	33,798	18,432	12,061	19,258	9,468	0	93,017
Sultan M	0	2	85	15,515	4,718	1,868	7,116	3,143	0	32,360
Evergreen D Total	52	305	1,268	492,530	158,276	45,610	126,568	103,442	28,567	954,993
South Snohomish D	57	210	870	437,921	156,077	43,708	7,929	100,580	87,876	834,091
Brier M	0	2	93	33,949	10,961	2,550	288	5,616	0	53,364
Edmonds (w/D.) M	0	1	1	40,184	18,851	7,759	1,957	214	0	68,965
Lynnwood M	15	55	339	106,374	65,351	69,929	5,259	28,265	0	275,178
Mill Creek M	0	1	36	12,277	396	423	0	1,978	0	15,074
Mt Lake Terrace M	8	10	111	48,224	29,521	17,209	1,653	9,748	0	106,355
Woodway M	0	1	18	8,778	1,475	103	0	1,607	0	11,963
South Snohomish D Total	80	280	1,468	687,707	282,632	141,681	17,086	148,008	87,876	1,364,990
Edmonds M	15	98	554	232,140	65,106	35,378	0	60,283	470	393,377
Everett M	4	96	682	114,978	77,270	45,266	1,074	44,338	0	282,926
Marysville M	6	5	60	76,558	40,912	35,658	2,681	24,956	0	180,765
Arlington TVB	0	0	0	4,868	0	0	0	0	0	4,868
Brier TVB	0	0	0	20,209	224	276	0	3,876	0	24,585
Darrington TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Everett (w/D.) TVB	0	0	0	92,253	0	0	0	17,302	0	109,555
Gold Bar TVB	0	0	0	22,187	22,044	0	0	4,058	0	48,289
Granite Falls TVB	0	0	0	3,830	0	0	0	0	0	3,830
Lake Stevens TVB	0	0	0	11,912	0	0	0	2,019	0	13,931
Lynnwood TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mill Creek TVB	0	0	0	12,003	0	0	0	4,204	0	16,207
Mt Lake Terrace TVB	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mukilteo TVB	0	0	0	19,816	0	0	0	11,090	0	30,906
Stanwood TVB	0	0	0	3,129	0	0	0	0	0	3,129
Sultan TVB	0	0	0	12,077	0	0	0	0	0	12,077
Snohomish Total	224	1,180	5,441	2,922,970	1,106,416	526,874	194,818	647,724	223,958	5,622,760
<b>Spokane</b>										
Spokane D	43	2,226	1,608	1,058,069	342,549	152,772	19,458	242,266	131,038	1,946,152
Airway Hts M	0	7	16	9,673	1,894	1,941	0	2,384	0	15,892
Cheney M	5	39	47	34,139	19,320	5,438	1,358	8,188	0	68,443
Deerpark M	0	7	0	5,305	1,274	648	0	1,196	0	8,423
Medical Lk M	0	47	33	11,655	3,759	3,181	0	5,498	0	24,093
Spokane M	9	2,090	2,150	989,958	381,577	66,104	209	200,279	0	1,638,127
Spokane Total	57	4,416	3,854	2,108,799	750,373	230,084	21,025	459,811	131,038	3,701,130
<b>Stevens</b>										
Stevens D	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Chewelah M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Colville M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Kettle Falls M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Northport M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Springdale M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Stevens Total	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions				Misdemeanors			Small Claims	Felony Cmplnts	Sub-Total	Parking	Total
	Traffic	Non-Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non-Traffic	Domestic Violence	Civil					
<b>Thurston</b>												
Thurston D	13,141	7	639	1,557	1,868	91	1,733	822	0	19,858	424	20,282
Bucoda M	4	0	0	4	13	0	0	0	0	21	0	21
Lacey M	1,084	18	114	521	691	0	0	0	0	2,428	10	2,438
Olympia Trials M	3	0	9	1	14	0	0	0	0	27	0	27
Tumwater Trials M	0	0	3	4	6	0	0	0	0	13	0	13
Yelm Trials M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thurston D Total	14,232	25	765	2,087	2,592	91	1,733	822	0	22,347	434	22,781
Olympia M	5,914	0	440	995	1,994	0	0	0	0	9,343	26,337	35,680
Rainier M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Tenino M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Tumwater M	1,268	15	75	259	439	0	0	0	0	2,056	17	2,073
Yelm M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Lacey TVB	867	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	870	47	917
Thurston Total	22,281	43	1,280	3,341	5,025	91	1,733	822	0	34,616	26,835	61,451
<b>Wahkiakum</b>												
Wahkiakum D	458	0	43	151	117	0	19	13	0	801	0	801
Cathlamet M	64	0	9	14	3	0	0	0	0	90	0	90
Wahkiakum Total	522	0	52	165	120	0	19	13	0	891	0	891
<b>Walla Walla</b>												
College Place D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Walla Walla D	4,133	3	114	506	880	2	987	179	0	6,804	0	6,804
College Place M	443	0	9	137	84	3	0	0	0	676	316	992
Waitsburg M	106	6	1	19	31	0	0	0	0	163	3	166
Walla Walla M	2,088	0	79	671	1,418	50	0	0	0	4,306	6,405	10,711
Walla Walla Total	6,770	9	203	1,333	2,413	55	987	179	0	11,949	6,724	18,673
<b>Whatcom</b>												
Whatcom D	8,951	123	791	1,782	2,912	58	1,720	1,669	0	18,006	303	18,309
Bellingham M	6,963	83	0	461	1,179	0	0	0	0	8,686	70,375	79,061
Blaine M	1,095	5	50	68	75	1	0	0	0	1,294	6	1,300
Everson-Nooksack M	64	6	30	66	41	0	0	0	0	207	1	208
Ferndale M	727	56	191	193	207	0	0	0	0	1,374	19	1,393
Lynden M	575	0	9	63	89	1	0	0	0	737	993	1,730
Sumas M	664	67	107	99	184	0	0	0	0	1,121	8	1,129
Whatcom Total	19,039	340	1,178	2,732	4,687	60	1,720	1,669	0	31,425	71,705	103,130
<b>Whitman</b>												
Whitman D												
Colfax	4,092	4	119	407	273	16	61	83	6	5,061	0	5,061
Pullman	2,931	44	265	445	442	19	91	150	0	4,387	0	4,387
Whitman D Total	7,023	48	384	852	715	35	152	233	6	9,448	0	9,448
Albion M	26	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	28
Colfax M	505	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	512	37	549
Colton M	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	0	31
Garfield M	50	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	3	57
Palouse M	181	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	184	2	186
Rosalia M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
St. John M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Tekoa M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Whitman Total	7,816	61	384	853	717	35	152	233	6	10,257	42	10,299



# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings					Non-Traf	Court Costs	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm. Claims & Dom. Viol.	Total
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Constd Infracts.	Infracts	Misdmn Traffic					
<b>Thurston</b>										
Thurston D	34	185	895	557,581	305,677	119,363	21,801	120,005	47,572	1,171,999
Bucoda M	0	0	2	748	1,034	270	65	223	0	2,340
Lacey M	6	37	149	48,243	83,914	59,091	8,691	19,006	0	218,945
Olympia Trials M	5	0	0	0	3,976	2,271	959	515	0	7,721
Tumwater Trials M	4	0	0	0	900	225	0	23	0	1,148
Yelm Trials M	0	0	0	0	273	33	50	0	0	356
Thurston D Total	49	222	1,046	606,572	395,774	181,253	31,566	139,772	47,572	1,402,509
Olympia M	0	63	393	216,867	155,632	115,771	0	80,769	0	569,039
Rainier M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Tenino M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Tumwater M	2	170	80	67,124	66,990	51,151	8,857	11,980	0	206,102
Yelm M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Lacey TVB	0	0	0	42,204	0	0	0	8,462	0	50,666
Thurston Total	51	455	1,519	932,767	618,396	348,175	40,423	240,983	47,572	2,228,316
<b>Wahkiakum</b>										
Wahkiakum D	3	23	22	25,756	17,034	18,820	3,770	9,463	541	75,384
Cathlamet M	3	5	8	1,958	3,653	676	0	662	0	6,949
Wahkiakum Total	6	28	30	27,714	20,687	19,496	3,770	10,125	541	82,333
<b>Walla Walla</b>										
College Place D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Walla Walla D	4	168	166	177,540	39,039	41,585	205	68,653	26,453	353,475
College Place M	1	57	27	23,713	13,538	2,053	0	5,310	141	44,755
Waitsburg M	0	4	8	4,066	884	1,780	943	1,080	0	8,753
Walla Walla M	8	1,379	128	68,970	53,059	29,027	330	20,313	207	171,906
Walla Walla Total	13	1,608	329	274,289	106,520	74,445	1,478	95,356	26,801	578,889
<b>Whatcom</b>										
Whatcom D	25	196	559	446,853	300,368	140,666	53,708	103,480	50,293	1,095,368
Bellingham M	0	174	183	266,217	4,799	42,500	0	52,102	0	365,618
Blaine M	3	159	49	50,867	13,043	12,820	685	10,282	20	87,717
Everson-Nooksack M	1	6	3	7,321	9,323	3,980	0	3,802	0	24,426
Ferndale M	2	0	58	38,014	92,560	14,249	0	7,974	0	152,797
Lynden M	0	53	9	22,008	6,560	2,669	4,032	5,726	20	41,015
Sumas M	0	65	30	46,319	14,153	7,072	10,072	11,204	0	88,820
Whatcom Total	31	653	891	877,599	440,806	223,956	68,497	194,570	50,333	1,855,761
<b>Whitman</b>										
Whitman D	6	9	183	179,347	62,126	18,249	6,317	39,411	2,300	307,750
Colfax	0	12	286	120,386	64,160	26,621	2,521	33,082	3,515	250,285
Pullman	6	21	469	299,733	126,286	44,870	8,838	72,493	5,815	558,035
Whitman D Total	6	21	469	299,733	126,286	44,870	8,838	72,493	5,815	558,035
Albion M	0	0	3	1,544	0	0	0	255	0	1,799
Colfax M	0	0	16	34,679	0	0	0	7,223	0	41,902
Colton M	0	0	0	547	0	0	0	261	0	808
Garfield M	0	0	0	2,678	0	0	0	468	0	3,146
Palouse M	0	2	14	8,301	0	75	0	1,506	0	9,882
Rosalia M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
St. John M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Tekoa M	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Whitman Total	6	23	502	347,482	126,286	44,945	8,838	82,206	5,815	615,572

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Infractions			Misdemeanors			Small Claims	Felony Cmplnts	Sub- Total	Parking	Total	
	Traffic	Non- Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non- Traffic	Domestic Violence						
Yakima												
Yakima D												
Yakima	8,784	1	794	2,355	1,899	0	4,467	675	0	18,975	192	19,167
Union Gap M	102	0	33	193	283	0	0	0	0	611	0	611
Yakima M	2,088	0	355	1,436	2,003	0	0	0	0	5,882	2	5,884
Site Total	10,974	1	1,182	3,984	4,185	0	4,467	675	0	25,468	194	25,662
Lower Valley	5,223	0	440	1,226	929	0	49	150	0	8,017	3	8,020
Yakima D Total	16,197	1	1,622	5,210	5,114	0	4,516	825	0	33,485	197	33,682
Grandview M	229	0	83	199	281	0	0	0	0	792	1	793
Granger M	61	2	8	88	61	17	0	0	0	237	1	238
Moxee City M	70	10	0	5	3	0	0	0	0	88	3	91
Selah M	666	0	46	183	137	0	0	0	0	1,032	54	1,086
Sunnyside M	578	0	86	327	763	0	0	0	0	1,754	0	1,754
Toppenish M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Wapato M	152	4	42	264	498	0	0	0	0	960	61	1,021
Zillah M	213	3	9	80	41	0	0	0	0	346	2	348
Mabton TVB	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	12
Union Gap TVB	724	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	724	14	738
Yakima TVB	10,345	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,345	0	10,345
Yakima Total	29,244	23	1,896	6,356	6,898	17	4,516	825	0	49,775	333	50,108

## Washington State

District Courts												
State/County	406,628	1,415	19,882	66,586	63,806	2,271	70,677	28,230	4,541	664,036	13,280	677,316
Municipal	65,830	580	4,060	19,184	20,080	18	0	0	0	109,752	3,947	113,699
Municipal Courts	239,227	1,090	9,890	60,193	79,706	600	2,576	0	0	393,282	684,152	1,077,434
Traf Viol Bureaus	28,197	87	16	71	156	0	0	0	0	28,527	59,191	87,718
State Total	739,882	3,172	33,848	146,034	163,748	2,889	73,253	28,230	4,541	1,195,597	760,570	1,956,167

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, Contested Proceedings, and Receipts, 1987

County/Court	Contested Proceedings					Non-Traf	Court Costs	Receipts 30% PSEA (Effective May 1986)	Civil, Sm. Claims & Dom. Viol.	Total
	Jury	Trials Non-Jury	Contstd Infracts.	Infracts	Misdmn Traffic					
Yakima										
Yakima D										
Yakima	28	463	479	378,036	321,842	88,035	22,374	99,879	112,734	1,022,900
Union Gap M	3	14	26	3,188	14,466	9,734	11,429	2,007	0	40,824
Yakima M	5	62	418	58,065	169,495	57,110	127,467	23,103	0	435,240
Site Total	36	539	923	439,289	505,803	154,879	161,270	124,989	112,734	1,498,964
Lower Valley	10	61	180	212,905	184,015	35,483	16,798	51,772	2,591	503,564
Yakima D Total	46	600	1,103	652,194	689,818	190,362	178,068	176,761	115,325	2,002,528
Grandview M	0	50	18	7,602	30,431	12,546	16,280	7,616	0	74,475
Granger M	0	18	2	2,322	11,579	5,816	0	2,908	535	23,160
Moxee City M	0	0	7	4,373	197	0	0	14	0	4,584
Selah M	10	71	42	27,185	14,320	4,785	4,645	10,052	0	60,987
Sunnyside M	15	79	30	28,245	74,645	79,778	21,252	16,817	0	220,737
Toppenish M	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Wapato M	0	0	5	5,939	34,460	20,026	0	8,441	0	68,866
Zillah M	0	78	12	11,785	8,472	3,265	604	3,603	0	27,729
Mabton TVB	0	0	0	1,408	0	0	0	1,591	0	2,999
Union Gap TVB	0	0	0	21,817	0	0	0	3,819	0	25,636
Yakima TVB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N	0	0
Yakima Total	71	896	1,219	762,870	863,922	316,578	220,849	231,622	115,860	2,511,701
Washington State										
District Courts										
State/County	1,290	14,356	28,569	19,648,218	8,265,915	3,279,108	631,128	4,277,907	1,829,980	37,932,256
Municipal	218	3,301	7,383	3,012,993	2,432,938	1,065,841	504,904	730,151	140	7,746,967
Municipal Courts	837	10,783	13,164	9,646,581	4,643,738	2,674,524	436,484	2,215,708	67,450	19,684,485
Traf Viol Bureaus	0	0	0	884,594	28,627	7,266	0	164,160	0	1,084,647
State Total	2,345	28,440	49,116	33,192,386	15,747,218	7,026,739	1,572,516	7,387,926	1,897,570	66,448,355

N = No data reported for 1987.

P = Partial data reported for 1987.

Note: Number of cases transferred from a traffic violations bureau were deducted from the traffic violations bureau filings.

Snoqualmie TVB became active August 1987.

Duval TVB became inactive March 1987.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Cases Filed, 80 Largest Courts, 1987

Court	Infractions				Misdemeanors				Small Claims	Felony Complaints	Total
	Traffic	Non-Traffic	DWI/Phys. Control	Other Traffic	Non-Traffic	Domestic Violence	Civil				
1 Seattle M	88,867	0	2,912	23,794	38,883	0	2,576	0	0	157,032	
2 Pierce 1 D	37,716	0	1,817	5,650	4,175	279	5,830	2,606	0	58,073	
3 Clark D	30,698	70	1,244	8,929	5,491	1	1,583	1,683	0	49,689	
4 Tacoma M	30,036	0	786	7,634	6,858	194	0	0	0	45,508	
5 Spokane D	23,709	89	1,282	3,066	6,985	0	4,844	2,440	1,166	43,581	
6 Spokane M	28,582	0	1,291	5,348	3,119	0	0	0	0	38,340	
7 Northeast D	21,251	33	838	3,737	3,513	186	3,386	1,163	0	34,107	
8 Yakima D	16,197	1	1,622	5,210	5,114	0	4,516	825	0	33,485	
9 Aukeen D	16,756	261	731	4,040	3,358	183	2,927	903	79	29,238	
10 Seattle D	9,205	12	534	1,986	1,109	12	10,473	3,354	980	27,665	
11 Benton D	15,424	234	884	2,947	3,492	40	2,123	370	785	26,299	
12 South Snohom D	14,572	3	1,062	2,930	2,757	209	3,721	952	0	26,206	
13 Klispap D	17,852	187	870	2,324	1,798	35	2,065	851	25	26,007	
14 Federal Way D	18,428	35	480	2,347	1,998	110	1,318	496	0	25,212	
15 Renton D	17,832	4	541	2,617	1,215	26	1,930	697	3	24,865	
16 Bellevue D	15,588	6	470	2,102	1,875	86	1,945	957	0	23,029	
17 Issaquah D	18,755	3	272	1,840	1,072	21	581	259	0	22,803	
18 Thurston D	14,232	25	765	2,087	2,592	91	1,733	822	0	22,347	
19 Everett D	12,101	1	497	1,802	1,294	0	3,131	1,135	859	20,820	
20 Whatcom D	8,951	123	791	1,782	2,912	58	1,720	1,669	0	18,006	
21 Chelan D	10,026	42	688	2,333	3,452	0	885	232	210	17,928	
22 Cowlitz D	11,246	0	444	2,380	1,962	39	1,306	535	0	17,912	
23 Evergreen D	11,173	0	761	1,923	1,616	60	1,145	347	0	17,025	
24 Grant D	10,676	142	540	1,915	2,117	0	797	313	7	16,507	
25 Alport D	8,983	73	621	2,333	1,974	71	1,468	501	9	16,033	
26 Lewis D	6,698	12	395	1,466	1,147	1	569	381	23	12,692	
27 Cascade D	7,578	2	407	1,399	1,230	107	995	324	0	12,042	
29 Shoreline D	6,829	2	519	1,515	1,442	57	974	296	0	11,634	
30 Skagit D	6,781	0	291	907	1,409	161	1,271	517	137	11,474	
31 Bremerton M	7,765	123	124	1,183	1,740	22	0	0	0	10,957	
32 Renton M	6,507	0	242	1,499	2,625	40	0	0	0	10,913	
33 Grays Harbor D	6,147	8	301	779	1,202	12	784	403	196	9,832	
34 Island D	6,713	2	382	836	1,138	1	307	292	1	9,672	
35 Okanogan D	4,966	15	701	1,647	1,719	100	212	296	0	9,656	
36 Whitman D	7,023	48	384	852	715	35	152	233	6	9,448	
37 Olympia M	5,914	0	440	995	1,994	0	0	0	0	9,343	
38 Clallam 1 D	5,628	0	344	898	1,264	32	630	371	1	9,168	
39 Bellingham M	6,953	83	0	461	1,179	0	0	0	0	8,686	
40 Edmonds M	5,688	18	146	1,226	961	39	0	0	0	8,076	
41 Walla Walla D	4,133	3	114	506	880	2	987	179	0	6,804	
42 Franklin D	4,296	6	151	649	492	2	848	152	3	6,599	
43 Roxbury D	2,514	28	189	1,052	1,189	56	952	264	1	6,245	
44 Longview M	3,040	223	232	998	1,138	123	0	0	0	5,754	
45 Douglas S	3,385	3	179	867	738	57	313	119	0	5,661	
46 Lower Kittitas D	3,831	33	128	257	607	2	499	97	1	5,445	
47 Mason D	2,790	1	267	381	941	25	432	168	0	5,005	
43 Upper Kittitas D	3,747	19	75	505	236	8	90	34	0	4,714	
49 Ritzville D	3,261	245	68	533	425	6	40	35	0	4,613	
50 Mercer Island D	3,346	62	71	447	209	1	227	97	0	4,460	
51 Aberdeen M	2,277	3	196	644	1,317	2	0	0	0	4,439	
52 Walla Walla M	2,088	0	79	671	1,418	50	0	0	0	4,306	
53 Jefferson D	2,714	0	211	391	611	0	143	144	49	4,263	
54 Puyallup M	2,126	0	133	628	1,082	0	0	0	0	3,969	
55 Mount Vernon M	1,947	16	203	982	728	0	0	0	0	3,876	
56 E. Klickitat D	2,540	0	62	383	375	3	44	57	0	3,464	
57 Asotin D	2,184	91	99	486	346	4	123	110	0	3,443	
58 Port Orchard M	1,818	0	69	659	506	0	0	0	0	3,152	
59 Tukwila M	1,698	0	45	385	925	7	0	0	0	3,060	
60 Winslow M	2,526	164	62	129	58	16	0	0	0	3,015	
61 Othello D	1,736	19	122	463	336	18	146	68	0	2,968	
62 Centralia M	1,814	0	138	485	495	0	0	0	0	2,932	
63 Pasco M	1,177	0	108	727	858	0	0	0	0	2,870	
64 Pierce 3 D	1,815	3	119	342	391	4	27	57	0	2,758	
65 Marysville M	1,488	0	85	549	440	0	0	0	0	2,562	
66 W. Klickitat D	1,425	28	129	417	337	10	34	76	0	2,456	
67 Ille M	1,370	0	67	469	401	0	0	0	0	2,307	
68 Skamania D	990	0	109	273	664	25	37	83	0	2,181	
69 Ellensburg M	1,181	73	41	393	457	2	0	0	0	2,147	
70 Tumwater M	1,268	15	75	259	439	0	0	0	0	2,056	
71 Clallam 2 D	772	0	140	271	615	42	143	33	0	2,016	
72 Lake Forrest Pk M	1,671	0	19	176	52	0	0	0	0	1,912	
73 Fircrest M	1,555	0	36	219	35	0	0	0	0	1,845	
74 Algona M	1,542	0	74	170	38	0	0	0	0	1,824	
75 Sunnyside M	578	0	86	327	763	0	0	0	0	1,754	
76 Pend Oreille D	1,032	13	55	208	337	0	45	56	0	1,746	
77 Hoquiam M	1,029	21	67	274	317	0	0	0	0	1,707	
78 Chelan M	381	10	87	246	880	18	0	0	0	1,622	
79 N. Pacific D	1,116	0	34	115	210	0	65	24	0	1,564	
80 Anacortes M	828	0	130	230	336	0	0	0	0	1,524	
Total: 80 Largest	686,698	2,726	32,039	140,007	156,078	2,791	73,092	28,076	4,541	1,128,048	
Total: Remaining	51,184	446	1,809	6,027	7,670	98	161	154	0	67,549	
Total: State	739,882	3,172	33,848	146,034	163,748	2,889	73,253	28,230	4,541	1,195,597	

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Traffic Infraction Activity, 80 Largest Courts, 87

	Filings	Charges	Committed	Violations Disposed			Dismissed	Total Disposed	Contest Hearings	Proceedings Milligation Hearings	Show Cause	Other
				FTR/FTA	Paid	Not Committed						
1 Seattle M	88,867	102,001	31,133	609	27,583	0	2,941	62,266	1,519	33,478	1,403	1,161
2 Pierce 1 D	37,716	40,292	4,944	13,109	17,579	105	5,225	40,962	3,318	6,133	N	222
3 Clark D	30,688	33,775	10,187	7,638	13,129	435	329	31,718	1,447	9,123	4	390
4 Tacoma M	30,036	30,036	6,835	9,822	12,286	67	6,597	35,607	2,242	7,630	70	564
6 Spokane D	23,709	25,937	9,665	8,417	10,534	443	531	29,590	1,608	8,946	0	1,977
5 Spokane M	28,582	32,951	12,192	6,069	7,523	570	2,186	28,540	2,150	12,892	0	6,086
7 Northeast D	21,251	23,164	8,241	7,651	6,527	359	612	23,390	2,268	6,232	112	1,041
13 Yakima D	16,197	17,791	2,479	5,594	8,806	273	1,210	18,362	1,103	2,834	63	1,436
12 Auken D	16,756	18,902	4,389	6,284	7,845	282	923	19,723	2,124	5,179	123	2,477
23 Seattle D	9,205	10,211	1,411	3,027	4,318	35	1,202	9,993	483	4,656	183	2,583
15 Benton D	15,424	16,709	4,252	3,081	7,100	125	473	15,031	1,105	3,483	68	110
16 South Snohomish D	14,572	15,867	4,412	4,237	4,104	142	993	13,888	1,468	3,934	0	0
10 Kilsap D	17,852	19,078	1,564	3,179	14,908	414	1,338	21,403	1,279	2,459	43	117
9 Federal Way D	18,428	20,114	4,459	5,442	9,010	245	710	19,866	2,191	3,593	0	0
11 Renton D	17,832	19,557	4,816	6,248	8,725	76	873	20,738	1,670	4,201	1	0
14 Bellevue D	15,588	17,623	8,941	4,319	2,373	127	1,494	17,254	1,292	9,155	134	968
8 Issaquah D	18,755	19,975	3,262	6,521	10,529	559	3,420	24,291	1,216	3,475	136	862
17 Thurston D	14,232	14,841	2,069	1,990	9,492	96	292	13,939	1,023	1,669	104	1,208
18 Everett D	12,101	13,089	2,673	3,252	5,939	1	726	12,591	843	2,092	1	132
25 Whatcom D	8,951	9,252	2,685	2,497	4,580	213	146	10,121	549	2,494	0	22
22 Chelan D	10,026	10,879	2,339	2,510	5,687	181	602	11,319	549	1,941	0	187
19 Cowitz D	11,246	12,279	1,455	2,619	7,451	112	28	11,665	522	1,378	5	3
20 Evergreen D	11,173	12,752	3,248	2,573	5,073	621	176	11,691	1,268	2,724	35	131
21 Grant D	10,676	11,533	2,897	1,584	5,655	92	268	10,496	473	1,621	46	18
24 Airport D	8,983	9,813	2,105	4,428	3,905	102	402	10,942	1,124	2,021	59	82
26 Lewis D	8,698	9,685	1,931	1,314	5,292	10	253	8,800	521	1,734	0	50
28 Cascade D	7,578	8,342	2,039	2,685	4,927	8	492	10,151	566	1,675	0	665
39 Everett M	5,466	5,849	2,091	3,343	71	19	415	5,939	682	1,581	21	621
31 Shoreline D	6,829	7,777	2,319	2,589	3,380	32	326	8,646	807	1,869	35	393
32 Skagit D	6,781	7,129	1,319	1,864	4,197	93	144	7,617	655	1,016	68	2
27 Bremerton M	7,765	8,178	1,233	2,267	3,824	136	654	8,114	374	1,012	32	144
34 Renton M	6,507	6,951	1,801	2,286	3,074	35	412	7,608	515	1,570	46	48
35 Grays Harbor D	6,147	6,363	1,313	1,395	3,416	79	92	6,295	370	963	16	120
33 Island D	6,713	7,176	1,276	1,546	3,383	0	236	6,441	259	637	0	0
40 Okanogan D	4,966	5,269	462	427	3,318	45	63	4,315	174	467	0	43
29 Whitman D	7,023	7,393	1,678	1,268	3,386	30	234	6,596	467	1,628	10	0
36 Olympia M	5,914	6,348	898	857	2,176	35	1,575	5,541	393	1,121	0	0
38 Clallam 1 D	5,628	6,069	1,227	1,319	2,328	87	91	5,052	242	1,164	2	10
30 Bellingham M	6,963	7,031	2,310	1,010	3,236	2	202	6,760	183	2,411	0	0
37 Edmonds M	5,686	5,937	1,657	816	2,697	5	304	5,479	552	2,029	1	8
42 Walla Walla D	4,133	4,528	675	563	3,049	11	68	4,366	166	990	5	153
41 Franklin D	4,296	4,682	1,192	847	2,050	66	92	4,247	190	655	19	40
53 Roxbury D	2,514	2,761	920	859	1,217	36	42	3,074	265	649	4	99
48 Leqyview M	3,040	4,245	2,533	1,538	3	41	38	4,153	427	1,689	634	263
45 Douglas D	3,385	3,655	1,095	493	1,863	15	212	3,678	185	934	11	3
43 Lower Kittitas D	3,831	4,057	485	652	2,945	57	42	4,181	238	357	3	14
49 Mason D	2,790	2,904	279	392	2,129	24	123	2,947	153	446	0	78
44 Upper Kittitas D	3,747	3,935	447	1,311	2,759	30	28	4,575	223	280	0	204
47 Ritzville D	3,261	3,398	309	912	3,042	21	37	4,321	132	237	1	0
46 Mercer Island D	3,346	3,686	1,166	1,066	1,529	12	196	3,869	390	1,050	1	164
54 Aberdeen M	2,277	2,345	678	611	894	37	14	2,234	215	621	0	0
57 Walla Walla M	2,088	2,178	1,255	564	305	11	23	2,158	128	1,147	60	35
50 Jefferson D	2,714	2,852	572	425	1,778	10	26	2,811	107	520	18	31
56 Puyallup M	2,126	2,296	618	725	955	91	97	2,486	279	716	0	102
58 Mount Vernon M	1,947	2,032	539	520	1,081	52	15	2,207	127	435	0	179
52 E. Kllickit D	2,540	2,762	442	449	1,807	6	19	2,723	77	400	0	0
55 Asotin D	2,184	2,324	707	86	1,098	1	35	1,927	93	558	0	30
59 Port Orchard M	1,918	1,996	337	593	1,152	15	100	2,197	121	319	0	50
63 Tukwila M	1,698	1,802	533	620	887	38	46	2,124	136	486	0	0
51 Winslow M	2,586	2,586	0	100	779	0	6	885	352	1,274	0	0
62 Othello D	1,736	1,893	375	350	1,029	7	30	1,791	90	309	1	0
61 Centralia M	1,814	1,906	403	572	908	24	70	1,977	126	348	0	23
72 Pasco M	1,177	1,254	504	0	1	2	22	529	116	442	1	22
60 Pierce 3 D	1,815	1,919	216	440	1,123	9	240	2,028	162	303	9	18
67 Marysville M	1,488	1,530	554	251	595	0	39	1,449	60	419	0	106
68 W. Kllickit D	1,425	1,573	502	295	593	12	84	1,486	76	412	13	35
69 Fife M	1,370	1,504	414	414	384	2	275	1,489	169	288	6	6
76 Skamania D	950	1,340	404	184	403	6	78	1,075	49	402	34	0
71 Ellensburg M	1,181	1,210	0	0	0	0	0	0	130	429	0	0
70 Tumwater M	1,268	1,310	420	303	786	19	405	1,933	80	215	0	0
78 Clallam 2 D	772	772	121	237	422	1	20	801	31	106	0	0
64 Lake Forrest Pk M	1,671	1,923	966	339	500	3	142	1,950	259	683	21	221
65 Fircrest M	1,555	1,665	896	189	429	10	131	1,655	108	929	12	9
66 Algona M	1,542	1,673	348	332	750	7	183	1,620	179	317	0	98
79 Sunnyside M	576	599	51	174	653	4	25	917	30	53	5	0
74 Pend Oreille D	1,032	1,061	269	104	684	5	28	1,090	44	204	0	7
75 Hoquiam M	1,028	1,078	234	260	496	14	18	1,022	81	180	0	19
80 Chelan M	381	271	78	99	171	10	17	375	19	152	0	0
73 N. Pacific D	1,116	1,179	173	128	871	0	33	1,205	47	149	0	1
77 Anacortes M	828	853	477	143	403	6	46	1,081	39	248	17	1
Total: 80 Largest	688,698	751,455	188,404	165,836	311,895	7,006	42,335	715,476	47,493	184,571	3,66	25,892
Total: Remaining	51,184	56,264	6,550	3,464	39,975	331	882	51,202	1,438	6,870	203	360
Total: State	739,882	807,719	194,954	169,300	351,870	7,337	43,217	766,678	48,931	191,441	3,899	26,252

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

DWI/Physical Control Activity, 80 Largest Courts, 1987

Court	Citations Filed	Violat Charged	Violations Disposed			Proceedings				Non Jury	Stip to Rec	Arraign-ment	Other Hrng	Defer Pros	Cases Appld
			Guilty	Bail Forfeit	Not Guilty	Dismiss	Total Disp	Reduc/ Amend	Jury						
1 Seattle M	2,912	3,491	2,062	0	54	324	2,440	0	187	126	1,310	1,884	3,019	522	182
2 Pierce 1 D	1,817	2,524	1,121	250	N	N	1,371	N	31	N	N	N	2,835	416	17
6 Clark D	1,244	1,621	498	4	7	201	710	247	6	7	0	1,119	879	239	6
12 Tacoma M	786	786	493	1	10	212	716	312	14	34	600	875	2,258	143	2
5 Spokane D	1,282	1,772	308	5	5	184	502	346	32	94	0	502	1,122	90	5
4 Spokane M	1,291	2,082	443	0	4	95	542	430	6	127	0	670	1,712	159	3
10 Northeast D	838	1,003	326	0	20	126	472	171	32	38	166	557	4,219	219	21
3 Yakima D	1,622	2,286	1,010	8	57	133	1,208	139	30	57	30	1,386	5,079	250	4
15 Aukeen D	731	1,022	38	7	9	37	91	113	17	79	132	559	3,373	51	9
21 Seattle D	534	700	117	2	16	108	243	182	27	413	173	485	1,466	97	6
8 Benton D	884	1,087	464	0	6	239	709	219	11	13	1,666	815	616	171	3
7 South Snohomish D	1,062	1,426	344	15	9	119	487	228	34	26	256	701	4,377	55	5
9 Kitsap D	870	1,065	351	0	8	135	494	54	112	12	24	817	2,858	157	24
24 Federal Way D	480	590	231	0	13	123	367	80	17	94	90	396	1,657	71	1
19 Renton D	541	706	279	0	40	53	372	362	24	82	195	687	4,809	62	15
25 Bellevue D	470	559	188	3	13	26	230	119	15	35	16	272	2,564	70	1
35 Issaquah D	272	343	78	0	8	85	171	220	7	21	53	186	1,255	66	1
13 Thurston D	765	918	300	1	4	180	485	75	23	14	66	598	3,289	111	15
23 Everett D	497	654	257	0	7	49	313	168	11	23	44	381	1,995	114	11
11 Whatcom D	791	993	289	1	1	77	368	207	16	15	0	453	780	122	0
17 Chelan D	688	922	490	6	4	59	559	75	10	14	0	566	1,085	61	18
26 Cowlitz D	444	449	202	169	11	11	393	0	2	183	0	623	0	50	2
14 Evergreen D	761	969	311	1	16	72	400	185	21	54	362	613	1,658	73	20
20 Grant D	540	553	240	14	5	45	304	116	11	6	49	428	1,503	26	4
18 Airport D	621	786	165	1	19	144	329	168	20	54	114	392	2,733	145	8
29 Lewis D	395	503	171	0	0	25	196	29	4	8	9	288	750	84	4
28 Cascade D	407	509	155	0	13	82	250	104	17	21	8	304	1,732	63	3
37 Everett M	266	324	62	0	1	21	84	66	1	3	34	188	637	25	1
22 Shoreline D	519	639	218	1	19	56	294	210	54	14	161	357	2,081	81	16
34 Skagit D	291	336	115	0	16	53	184	78	45	2	12	638	1,099	40	19
53 Bremerton M	124	171	90	0	2	38	130	11	6	4	0	59	737	34	0
38 Renton M	242	290	130	0	4	47	181	39	2	13	132	194	923	51	3
33 Grays Harbor D	301	341	154	0	9	20	183	65	13	8	21	226	847	36	12
31 Island D	382	475	233	6	3	43	285	28	16	0	0	0	0	0	2
16 Okanogan D	701	701	380	1	1	13	395	89	7	2	17	678	1,006	116	2
30 Whitman D	384	430	129	0	1	53	183	65	3	3	0	186	355	50	1
27 Olympia M	440	469	124	0	0	52	176	177	0	8	0	342	743	45	0
32 Clallam 1 D	344	434	224	0	5	19	248	20	31	3	0	187	260	55	3
80 Bellingham M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46 Edmonds M	146	181	59	1	3	4	67	41	10	4	35	114	282	37	1
56 Walla Walla D	114	122	37	0	1	7	45	0	0	11	0	98	5	14	0
45 Franklin D	151	151	55	0	6	35	96	0	3	15	0	104	154	13	0
43 Roxbury D	189	247	79	0	6	40	125	39	3	22	63	115	794	45	2
39 Longview M	232	348	162	16	3	6	187	69	19	104	18	372	194	73	1
44 Douglas D	179	217	132	1	3	24	160	10	3	9	0	151	226	20	1
52 Lower Kittitas D	128	153	36	7	7	0	50	52	3	26	99	70	7	25	0
36 Mason D	267	268	70	32	1	28	131	29	1	6	46	160	741	23	0
64 Upper Kittitas D	75	76	22	0	1	1	24	11	2	10	0	45	95	6	0
69 Ritzville D	68	68	15	5	0	4	24	21	0	6	0	45	33	10	0
67 Mercer Island D	71	86	8	0	0	19	27	16	10	13	16	45	335	22	7
42 Aberdeen M	196	244	120	1	8	18	147	38	4	7	0	147	3	14	1
63 Walla Walla M	79	79	52	0	0	5	57	7	6	52	0	84	121	23	0
40 Jefferson D	211	224	113	0	1	38	152	28	4	6	4	140	350	27	2
49 Puyallup M	133	133	70	0	1	56	127	58	0	16	40	105	430	54	0
41 Mount Vernon M	203	217	94	0	1	22	117	78	7	0	0	139	1,558	36	14
72 E. Kllickit D	62	83	49	0	0	7	56	4	3	0	1	57	11	3	2
59 Asotin D	99	117	69	2	1	14	86	19	1	6	0	99	168	2	0
68 Port Orchard M	69	93	46	0	3	18	67	9	8	1	2	53	541	22	5
75 Tukwila M	45	57	23	0	1	12	36	32	3	21	10	34	259	20	3
72 Winslow M	62	62	29	0	0	0	29	0	10	16	1	62	0	9	1
54 Othello D	122	162	73	0	0	7	80	12	0	104	0	100	85	5	0
48 Centralia M	138	138	56	0	1	0	57	0	3	0	0	155	62	16	2
58 Pasco M	108	108	75	0	0	3	78	11	0	4	0	142	353	31	0
55 Pierce 3 D	119	156	23	0	1	4	28	25	1	41	12	92	215	23	2
62 Marysville M	85	103	29	0	1	27	57	31	3	0	8	56	245	13	0
51 W. Kllickit D	129	153	50	0	1	17	68	35	6	11	0	73	112	9	1
70 File M	67	70	42	1	0	23	66	0	2	1	67	39	171	14	4
57 Skamania D	109	131	18	0	0	3	21	16	0	2	2	72	1	8	0
76 Ellensburg M	41	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
64 Tumwater M	75	75	41	0	0	1	42	67	0	17	70	48	29	45	0
47 Clallam 2 D	140	140	75	0	1	6	82	0	5	4	0	34	15	10	0
79 Lake Forrest Pk M	19	26	8	0	0	2	10	4	1	1	9	14	72	6	1
77 Fircrest M	36	36	25	0	4	6	35	8	3	3	19	24	122	16	0
66 Algona M	74	97	10	2	1	5	18	45	0	4	11	48	136	20	0
61 Sunnyside M	86	88	52	1	0	2	55	0	7	6	4	63	100	8	4
74 Pend Oreille D	55	50	36	0	1	4	41	6	1	3	0	34	34	2	0
70 Hoquiam M	67	75	32	1	0	8	41	5	2	1	0	49	141	14	0
60 Chelan M	87	42	40	0	45	0	85	2	1	6	0	85	48	10	0
78 N. Pacific D	34	43	16	0	1	2	19	5	3	4	0	26	65	2	1
50 Anacortes M	130	159	38	0	0	12	50	23	3	1	17	107	448	17	10
Total: 80 Largest	32,039	40,056	14,869	566	524	3,849	19,808	6,053	1,056	2,274	6,344	23,112	77,072	4,998	514
Total: Remaining	1,809	2,063	659	34	116	252	1,061	354	48	241	101	1,245	2,040	324	33
Total: State	33,848	42,119	15,528	600	640	4,101	20,869	6,407	1,104	2,515	6,445	24,357	79,112	5,322	547

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Other Traffic Misdemeanor Activity, 80

Court	Cases Filed	Violat. Charged	Guilty	Violations Disposed			Total Disp.	Jury	Proceedings			Arraign-ments	Other Hearings	Deferred Pros.	Cases Appl.
				Ball Forfeit	Not Guilty	Dismiss			Non-Jury	Stip. to Rec					
1 Seattle M	23,794	27,344	8,259	976	214	2,778	12,227	42	437	1,512	8,633	6,183	0	34	
4 Pierce 1 D	5,650	6,347	1,304	1,593	N	N	2,897	9	N	N	N	5,058	78	8	
2 Clark D	8,929	10,201	5,682	1,129	14	612	7,437	5	25	0	3,792	1,589	26	4	
3 Tacoma M	7,634	7,635	3,888	894	13	2,120	6,915	2	513	1,294	2,541	2,967	1	3	
9 Spokane D	3,066	3,609	1,623	553	12	859	3,047	1	471	0	1,533	1,995	1	0	
5 Spokane M	5,348	6,263	3,340	639	17	1,426	5,422	1	1,145	0	3,717	6,074	0	1	
8 Northeast D	3,737	4,100	2,834	353	40	376	3,603	9	196	430	3,309	7,913	14	13	
6 Yakima D	5,210	5,565	3,997	299	92	572	4,960	3	122	452	4,020	9,400	47	1	
7 Aukeen D	4,040	4,712	415	545	40	241	1,241	1	622	576	3,082	5,525	0	0	
21 Seattle D	1,986	2,303	1,326	86	21	370	1,803	0	991	401	1,230	2,444	4	3	
11 Benton D	2,947	3,277	2,181	266	12	361	2,828	8	32	2,285	2,510	525	21	2	
12 South Snohomish D	2,930	3,281	2,166	1,000	18	538	3,720	12	79	775	2,240	8,271	3	6	
18 Kitsap D	2,324	2,710	1,224	588	26	364	2,202	32	41	53	2,242	4,778	1	2	
16 Federal Way D	2,347	2,580	1,177	249	17	270	1,713	11	260	250	2,023	3,312	14	9	
13 Renton D	2,617	2,945	1,880	177	32	416	2,505	8	305	457	3,225	10,101	1	7	
19 Bellevue D	2,102	2,299	1,389	222	15	231	1,857	3	135	100	1,565	5,605	9	7	
24 Issaquah D	1,840	2,015	1,062	249	14	244	1,569	5	107	94	1,323	3,711	6	1	
20 Thurston D	2,087	2,254	1,211	360	14	269	1,854	5	96	89	1,810	4,215	12	2	
25 Everett D	1,802	1,951	1,881	366	6	345	2,598	8	55	49	1,601	5,401	19	3	
26 Whatcom D	1,782	2,035	1,530	96	10	404	2,040	1	46	0	2,039	1,879	4	0	
14 Chelan D	2,393	2,715	2,042	293	12	216	2,563	2	68	0	1,792	1,054	3	1	
15 Covault D	2,380	2,620	1,110	509	26	60	1,705	1	442	0	2,324	0	5	0	
22 Evergreen D	1,923	2,154	1,460	102	26	220	1,808	16	125	496	1,565	1,878	2	5	
23 Grant D	1,915	2,202	1,352	105	6	235	1,698	2	16	7	1,215	1,761	0	1	
17 Airport D	2,333	2,637	1,400	157	25	405	1,987	8	182	257	1,570	5,056	16	13	
30 Lewis D	1,466	1,585	858	160	2	110	1,130	3	27	3	1,039	951	3	3	
31 Cascade D	1,399	1,568	1,130	121	11	317	1,579	12	59	17	1,235	3,803	18	4	
10 Everett M	3,062	3,485	1,819	94	3	473	2,389	0	41	169	2,280	3,897	0	2	
28 Shoreline D	1,515	1,701	1,350	86	20	259	1,715	12	88	186	1,166	3,098	12	19	
38 Skagit D	907	1,004	326	433	6	258	1,023	6	5	0	1,496	989	5	2	
33 Bremerton M	1,183	1,304	752	0	3	219	974	2	26	3	754	1,260	1	2	
29 Renton M	1,499	1,614	1,043	146	11	328	1,528	0	68	331	1,293	1,873	12	5	
43 Grays Harbor D	779	799	613	66	19	48	746	4	29	1	605	868	0	2	
42 Island D	836	911	492	178	32	139	841	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
27 Okanogan D	1,647	1,717	773	103	3	66	945	2	5	12	1,264	769	82	0	
41 Whitman D	852	905	402	84	10	61	557	0	13	0	451	242	0	0	
36 Olympia M	995	1,040	860	62	1	182	1,105	0	21	0	912	465	0	0	
39 Clallam 1 D	898	1,073	727	16	7	68	818	2	9	0	739	149	0	0	
58 Bellingham M	461	475	37	135	1	135	308	0	44	0	155	0	4	0	
32 Edmonds M	1,226	1,374	1,042	107	2	49	1,200	3	35	35	1,020	428	4	0	
52 Walla Walla D	506	566	174	20	6	29	229	0	31	0	497	14	3	0	
47 Franklin D	649	735	331	70	22	45	468	0	37	0	519	137	0	0	
34 Roxbury D	1,052	1,201	761	54	15	169	999	7	138	397	761	2,163	5	15	
35 Longview M	998	1,454	650	136	26	34	846	33	319	47	1,469	409	29	3	
40 Douglas D	867	931	550	98	13	86	747	5	26	0	704	252	0	0	
72 Lower Kittitas D	257	279	136	45	8	16	205	0	54	78	131	13	3	0	
65 Mason D	381	335	139	9	7	62	217	20	34	53	250	691	13	0	
53 Upper Kittitas D	505	549	270	70	10	11	361	1	70	0	269	198	1	1	
51 Ritzville D	533	569	202	26	3	29	260	0	78	0	305	337	3	0	
59 Mercer Island D	447	502	177	16	2	81	276	0	79	34	434	594	13	0	
48 Aberdeen M	644	677	436	35	6	36	513	1	28	0	479	0	0	0	
45 Walla Walla M	671	708	398	48	6	46	498	0	390	0	532	303	0	0	
62 Jefferson D	391	432	285	32	5	71	393	0	21	2	300	286	6	1	
49 Puyallup M	628	703	471	55	14	86	626	0	82	106	583	926	6	5	
37 Mount Vernon M	982	1,053	360	545	6	194	1,105	9	7	0	719	4,503	13	0	
64 E. Klickitat D	383	439	280	53	1	22	356	0	7	1	323	36	0	0	
54 Asotin D	486	485	352	23	3	85	463	0	11	0	468	243	10	0	
46 Port Orchard M	659	691	250	5	0	203	458	0	5	0	454	1,174	0	1	
63 Tukwila M	385	424	372	41	0	34	447	1	94	31	358	297	3	2	
79 Winslow M	129	129	68	0	3	3	74	8	58	0	128	0	0	0	
57 Othello D	463	493	304	32	0	34	370	0	127	0	359	153	3	0	
55 Centralia M	485	518	306	11	8	28	353	0	24	1	567	318	0	1	
44 Pasco M	727	782	660	48	7	33	748	1	64	0	1,032	719	32	0	
66 Pierce 3 D	342	379	83	96	2	26	207	2	103	44	214	344	0	2	
50 Marysville M	549	569	387	11	0	61	459	1	0	8	443	1,032	4	0	
60 W. Klickitat D	417	465	288	29	0	56	373	1	29	0	260	146	0	1	
56 Fife M	469	540	367	36	2	115	520	1	11	326	498	432	1	1	
69 Skamania D	273	354	141	48	2	42	233	0	35	4	153	9	0	0	
61 Ellensburg M	393	413	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	
71 Tumwater M	259	281	265	39	9	43	356	1	70	89	328	30	11	0	
70 Clallam 2 D	271	271	185	8	0	20	213	0	9	0	115	28	0	0	
77 Lake Forrester Pk M	176	189	108	15	1	44	168	0	16	16	162	349	2	1	
75 Fircrest M	219	252	180	1	0	9	190	1	23	7	215	158	1	1	
78 Algona M	170	190	90	5	1	45	141	0	9	14	162	234	0	0	
67 Sunnyside M	327	352	266	18	1	26	311	1	9	1	308	247	9	0	
76 Pend Oreille D	208	233	142	12	0	21	175	0	8	0	147	66	6	0	
68 Hoquiam M	274	298	213	9	2	22	246	0	13	0	239	165	3	0	
73 Chelan M	246	107	94	50	53	3	200	0	27	0	132	52	0	0	
80 N. Pacific D	115	120	87	0	4	8	99	0	9	0	97	94	0	1	
74 Anacortes M	230	251	61	98	0	78	237	0	0	0	204	542	0	0	
Total: 80 Largest	140,007	156,228	78,846	15,544	1,101	18,706	114,197	338	9,137	11,593	90,628	143,181	608	203	
Total: Remaining	6,027	6,514	3,280	932	191	681	5,084	24	800	119	4,563	3,742	32	2	
Total: State	146,034	162,742	82,126	16,476	1,292	19,387	119,281	362	9,937	11,712	95,191	146,923	640	205	

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Non-Traffic Mismemeanors, 80 Largest Courts, 1987

Court	Cases Filed	Violat. Charged	Guilty	Bail Forfeit	Violations Disposed				Non-Jury	Stip. to Rec	Proceedings		Defer Pros	Cases Appl.
					Not Guilty	Dismiss	Total Disp.	Jury			Arraign ment	Other Hrg		
1 Seattle M	38,883	40,825	21,312	2,026	962	15,388	39,688	176	875	3,040	20,815	7,949	2,030	355
6 Pierce 1 D	4,175	5,128	950	443	N	N	1,393	17	N	N	N	3,566	48	10
4 Clark D	5,491	6,106	2,851	109	30	1,307	4,297	19	137	1	7,359	3,539	78	16
3 Tacoma M	6,858	7,964	4,220	406	85	3,842	8,553	15	253	1,766	6,637	6,985	6	9
2 Spokane D	6,985	8,355	1,799	954	34	4,255	7,042	8	1,522	0	4,296	5,906	2	5
11 Spokane M	3,119	3,474	1,063	264	6	1,312	2,645	2	818	0	2,064	3,602	0	3
7 Northeast D	3,513	3,879	2,422	107	77	753	3,359	23	227	445	3,221	9,001	25	14
5 Yakima D	5,114	5,447	2,826	551	208	1,280	4,865	11	220	42	3,747	9,584	79	2
10 Auken D	3,358	3,705	293	185	56	740	1,274	10	1,028	373	2,594	4,970	24	8
41 Seattle D	1,109	1,280	978	36	26	439	1,479	3	276	195	658	4,287	1	2
8 Benton D	3,492	3,893	1,717	248	41	1,271	3,277	45	72	3,298	2,992	862	32	18
14 South Snohomish D	2,757	3,062	1,107	119	37	593	1,856	34	59	516	1,838	8,158	3	12
23 Kitsap D	1,798	1,978	716	358	39	662	1,775	33	20	1	1,607	3,467	3	6
18 Federal Way D	1,998	2,183	804	54	31	624	1,513	30	247	229	1,614	4,591	8	9
34 Renton D	1,215	1,319	640	8	59	370	1,077	15	207	180	1,612	5,214	0	4
22 Bellevue D	1,875	2,026	955	26	45	427	1,453	11	135	211	1,433	5,943	16	5
43 Issaquah D	1,072	1,206	652	34	27	381	1,094	11	66	52	883	2,160	2	1
16 Thurston D	2,592	2,921	992	256	29	832	2,109	21	76	119	2,257	5,543	55	9
31 Everett D	1,294	1,433	1,165	274	25	667	2,131	9	37	41	1,277	4,632	13	3
12 Whatcom D	2,912	3,163	1,279	283	23	585	2,170	8	66	0	1,936	1,242	1	0
9 Chelan D	3,452	3,954	2,468	548	22	665	3,703	7	60	0	2,430	1,729	14	4
21 Cowlitz D	1,962	2,152	962	321	53	160	1,496	2	508	0	1,773	0	2	0
26 Evergreen D	1,616	1,855	913	120	40	294	1,367	15	100	471	1,312	1,569	10	0
17 Grant D	2,117	2,400	953	417	33	695	2,098	8	35	7	1,158	1,659	0	0
20 Airport D	1,974	2,140	655	5	45	900	1,605	16	236	249	1,480	5,483	8	16
38 Lewis D	1,147	1,306	489	123	6	253	871	0	23	5	863	951	7	2
33 Cascade D	1,230	1,410	613	148	10	422	1,193	8	33	18	1,079	2,744	4	0
13 Everett M	2,900	3,229	1,365	81	15	711	2,172	3	52	149	2,393	4,089	2	1
27 Shoreline D	1,442	1,609	806	20	288	464	1,578	37	83	197	1,202	3,519	104	12
29 Skagit D	1,409	1,552	427	625	9	482	1,543	9	6	0	2,101	1,126	3	0
24 Bremerton M	1,740	1,956	1,067	4	10	451	1,532	4	45	3	1,064	2,379	2	3
15 Renton M	2,625	2,884	1,493	191	110	909	2,703	6	135	620	2,268	4,371	15	8
35 Grays Harbor D	1,202	1,278	465	334	13	198	1,010	10	36	0	599	953	0	2
39 Island D	1,138	1,220	416	277	17	194	904	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
25 Okanogan D	1,719	1,910	587	259	1	94	941	2	5	22	1,208	907	125	0
53 Whitman D	715	752	403	37	2	96	538	2	2	0	420	309	2	1
19 Olympia M	1,994	2,216	721	151	2	967	1,841	0	34	0	1,738	931	0	0
32 Clallam 1 D	1,264	1,444	708	120	9	213	1,050	1	14	1	772	314	0	0
37 Bellingham M	1,179	1,227	316	124	1	113	554	0	130	0	882	0	124	0
44 Edmonds M	961	1,125	472	165	6	85	728	2	59	212	510	443	1	0
47 Walla Walla D	880	821	230	93	14	64	401	1	44	0	551	15	2	0
60 Franklin D	492	498	343	61	31	92	527	3	31	0	350	122	0	0
36 Roxbury D	1,189	1,314	457	3	32	607	1,099	9	206	273	925	3,495	4	10
39 Longview M	1,138	1,222	948	126	41	59	1,174	65	451	38	1,468	425	10	1
51 Douglas D	738	807	371	83	7	184	645	0	28	0	560	305	0	0
57 Lower Kittitas D	607	638	321	114	18	28	481	1	82	80	152	14	2	2
45 Mason D	941	991	355	135	14	129	633	5	37	104	536	943	0	0
74 Upper Kittitas D	236	242	84	82	5	8	179	0	20	0	113	34	1	0
64 Ritzville D	425	460	171	15	0	77	263	0	47	0	279	183	1	1
76 Mercer Island D	209	230	42	1	0	128	171	1	18	20	172	367	22	2
30 Aberdeen M	1,317	1,454	642	52	20	177	891	2	46	0	960	0	0	0
28 Walla Walla M	1,418	1,702	756	139	43	141	1,079	2	937	0	953	333	0	0
56 Jefferson D	611	674	217	157	8	84	466	5	20	2	314	286	14	1
42 Puyallup M	1,082	1,268	509	66	50	345	970	0	130	119	900	1,202	1	3
52 Mount Vernon M	728	783	257	127	3	226	613	2	2	0	318	2,780	7	0
68 E. Klickitat D	375	409	247	46	1	39	333	0	3	2	332	22	1	0
69 Asotin D	346	377	170	32	2	102	306	1	10	0	255	220	25	0
58 Port Orchard M	506	545	142	37	1	158	338	1	3	0	322	881	0	1
46 Tukwila M	925	993	569	153	17	199	938	11	120	87	689	893	7	5
77 Winslow M	58	58	32	0	2	0	34	3	24	0	58	0	0	0
66 Othello D	396	436	213	40	2	76	331	0	134	0	385	107	4	0
59 Centralia M	495	470	256	33	17	66	372	10	46	0	517	284	0	0
49 Pasco M	858	923	1,156	133	13	111	1,413	4	172	1	2,053	1,657	106	5
67 Pierce 3 D	391	456	92	102	5	45	244	9	126	69	198	224	0	5
62 Marysville M	440	488	238	14	0	122	374	2	5	27	339	868	7	2
70 W. Klickitat D	337	368	124	25	2	99	250	4	14	0	156	166	0	2
65 Fife M	401	495	315	21	1	223	560	2	23	219	305	342	1	0
54 Skamania D	664	640	213	106	1	69	389	0	17	5	254	6	0	0
61 Ellensburg M	457	504	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	1
63 Tumwater M	439	476	356	42	14	87	499	1	83	153	358	65	11	0
55 Clallam 2 D	615	615	222	17	8	55	302	8	15	0	154	22	0	0
78 Lake Forrest Pk M	52	60	14	2	0	33	49	0	6	6	34	108	0	0
80 Fircrest M	35	38	35	0	0	8	43	1	2	14	47	58	0	2
79 Algona M	38	43	14	3	3	18	38	0	0	3	29	45	0	0
50 Sunnyside M	763	911	577	20	8	82	687	7	64	0	631	432	68	0
70 Pend Oreille D	337	343	105	92	0	34	231	1	5	3	105	109	13	0
73 Hoquiam M	317	357	281	7	12	102	402	1	16	0	334	288	17	1
47 Chelan M	880	150	402	309	96	16	823	2	52	1	613	62	0	0
75 N. Pacific D	210	245	142	38	3	41	224	4	15	0	145	159	0	2
72 Anacortes M	336	380	75	82	0	156	313	0	0	0	222	393	2	0
Total: 80 Largest	156,078	171,350	76,733	13,419	3,026	48,384	141,562	806	10,991	13,709	111,178	152,592	3,176	587
Total: Remaining	7,670	8,360	3,188	651	247	1,578	5,664	39	978	141	4,994	3,997	37	11
Total: State	163,748	179,710	79,921	14,070	3,273	49,962	147,226	845	11,969	13,850	116,172	156,589	3,213	598



# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Civil Activity, 80 Largest Courts, 1987

Court	Filings	Default Judgment	Dispositions Other Judgment	Tried	Total Disposed	Jury Trial	Proceedings Non-Jury Trial	Other Hearing	Post Judgment Writs	Appeals
9 Seattle M	2,576	822	2,081	154	3,057	0	154	1,926	0	0
2 Pierce 1 D	5,830	2,966	750	666	4,382	6	562	866	2,619	10
16 Clark D	1,583	906	69	35	1,010	4	24	125	651	0
66 Tacoma M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Spokane D	4,844	2,728	471	329	3,528	2	139	846	3,163	8
66 Spokane M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Northeast D	3,386	1,552	433	266	2,251	1	106	711	1,274	3
4 Yakima D	4,516	3,377	826	212	4,415	2	201	372	2,611	11
8 Aukeren D	2,927	3,457	678	129	4,264	0	129	363	2,180	21
1 Seattle D	10,473	5,451	2,263	539	8,253	4	522	1,209	6,030	16
10 Benton D	2,123	1,335	548	112	1,995	0	109	172	2,011	0
5 South Snohomish D	3,721	1,925	691	110	2,726	0	116	378	1,620	4
11 Kitsap D	2,065	978	337	61	1,376	0	51	333	686	4
18 Federal Way D	1,318	672	244	83	999	0	76	1,561	558	1
13 Renton D	1,930	1,640	464	138	2,242	0	297	208	887	9
12 Bellevue D	1,945	932	395	112	1,439	0	114	411	785	22
31 Issaquah D	581	478	273	189	940	1	51	108	275	5
14 Thurston D	1,733	830	59	31	920	0	36	292	788	1
7 Everett D	3,131	1,760	857	100	2,717	2	132	379	1,779	6
15 Whatcom D	1,720	767	143	26	936	0	69	311	785	1
26 Chelan D	885	495	15	23	533	0	25	175	408	0
19 Cowlitz D	1,306	531	0	33	564	1	32	13	224	24
21 Evergreen D	1,145	565	126	18	709	0	26	119	378	0
28 Grant D	797	610	33	47	690	1	56	447	758	2
17 Airport D	1,468	740	129	390	1,259	0	45	308	659	5
32 Lewis D	569	300	19	24	343	0	17	56	349	1
22 Cascade D	995	557	282	45	884	0	36	105	559	0
66 Everett M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24 Shoreline D	974	507	82	78	667	1	97	194	373	1
20 Skagit D	1,271	891	301	66	1,258	0	249	406	776	1
66 Bremerton M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Renton M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29 Grays Harbor D	784	438	195	78	711	1	71	114	529	1
36 Island D	307	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	122	7
38 Okanogan D	212	208	0	5	213	0	7	213	159	0
39 Whitman D	152	66	0	2	68	1	3	24	57	0
66 Olympia M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 Clallam 1 D	630	133	29	16	178	1	4	53	53	0
66 Bellingham M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Edmonds M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23 Walla Walla D	987	606	0	83	689	3	82	0	763	0
27 Franklin D	848	449	27	31	507	0	53	68	795	2
25 Roxbury D	952	591	27	48	666	0	54	164	491	1
66 Longview M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35 Douglas D	313	189	8	15	212	1	24	6	70	0
33 Lower Kittitas D	499	265	130	236	631	0	137	155	226	0
34 Mason D	432	213	107	11	331	0	32	72	177	0
44 Upper Kittitas D	90	38	31	12	81	0	13	6	36	0
48 Ritzville D	40	8	5	1	14	0	0	1	18	1
37 Mercer Island D	227	101	47	11	159	0	16	50	60	4
66 Aberdeen M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Walla Walla M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41 Jefferson D	143	39	0	1	40	0	2	4	56	0
66 Puyallup M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Mount Vernon M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
47 E. Klickitat D	44	24	3	1	28	0	3	1	31	0
43 Asotin D	123	59	8	5	72	1	9	22	41	0
66 Port Orchard M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Tukwila M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Winslow M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40 Othello D	146	81	3	3	87	0	8	8	185	0
66 Centralia M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Pasco M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
51 Pierce 3 D	27	10	5	5	20	0	4	12	4	0
66 Marysville M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50 W. Klickitat D	34	22	9	3	34	0	3	5	25	0
66 Fife M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
49 Skamania D	37	15	0	1	16	0	4	0	65	0
66 Ellensburg M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Tumwater M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41 Clallam 2 D	143	63	3	1	67	1	8	0	9	0
66 Lake Forrest PK M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Fircrest M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Algona M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Sunnyside M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46 Pend Oreille D	45	21	10	1	32	0	3	9	17	0
66 Hoquiam M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
66 Chelan M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45 N. Pacific D	65	31	2	2	35	0	1	6	45	0
66 Anacortes M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total: 80 Largest	73,092	41,442	13,218	4,588	59,248	34	4,012	13,387	37,220	172
Total: Remaining	161	50	3	9	62	0	7	14	103	0
Total: State	73,253	41,492	13,221	4,597	59,310	34	4,019	13,401	37,323	172

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Small Claims Activity, 80 Largest Courts, 1987

Court	Dispositions				Total Disposed	Transfer To Civil	Contested Hearings	Proceedings	
	Filings	Default Judgment	Other Judgment	Tried				Other Hearings	Appeals
65Seattle M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Pierce 1 D	2,606	727	263	612	1,602	388	2,619	1,666	9
4 Clark D	1,683	429	80	371	880	4	362	6	0
65Tacoma M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Spokane D	2,440	564	590	1,158	2,312	286	1,032	328	19
65.Spokane M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Northeast D	1,163	272	340	296	908	259	397	149	5
12 Yakima D	825	166	264	418	848	80	451	89	7
10 Aukeen D	903	249	366	293	908	229	297	43	10
1 Seattle D	3,354	673	1,596	1,179	3,448	549	1,249	738	36
22 Benton D	370	104	67	185	356	92	225	94	5
9 South Snohomish D	952	222	379	178	779	156	202	66	9
11 Kitsap D	851	210	70	284	564	139	245	92	9
18 Federal Way D	496	92	53	90	235	125	194	161	1
14 Renton D	697	183	168	287	638	91	460	44	7
8 Bellevue D	957	165	216	344	725	180	446	353	9
30 Issaquah D	259	52	44	49	145	47	135	32	4
13 Thurston D	822	192	62	211	465	82	300	449	3
7 Everett D	1,135	280	473	326	1,079	186	336	23	7
5 Whatcom D	1,669	569	306	338	1,213	198	338	7	0
32 Chelan D	232	49	1	109	159	39	112	70	0
15 Cowlitz D	535	178	1	35	214	61	98	10	3
23 Evergreen D	347	105	35	68	208	84	95	5	1
25 Grant D	313	115	14	14	143	55	141	82	2
17 Airport D	501	120	110	121	351	73	197	174	2
20 Lewis D	381	154	7	65	226	40	74	38	1
24 Cascade D	324	74	126	89	289	62	62	32	1
65.Everett M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.Shoreline D	296	62	39	124	225	38	138	152	0
16 Skagit D	517	200	162	85	447	81	91	82	3
65.Bremerton M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Renton M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19 Grays Harbor D	403	165	46	132	343	83	146	186	152
28 Island D	292	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	9
26.Okanogan D	296	100	0	57	157	2	57	61	0
31 Whitman D	233	50	95	69	214	29	69	16	3
65.Olympia M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21 Clallam 1 D	371	87	48	109	244	32	103	0	0
65.Bellingham M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Edmonds M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33 Walla Walla D	179	67	0	61	128	22	106	0	0
35 Franklin D	152	113	3	6	122	41	90	2	0
29 Roxbury D	264	64	56	70	190	56	92	126	1
65.Longview M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37 Douglas D	119	28	22	46	96	1	45	49	0
39.Lower Kittitas D	97	69	42	181	292	37	142	61	8
34 Mason D	168	56	35	64	155	37	68	79	0
48 Upper Kittitas D	34	1	6	23	30	2	23	2	0
47 Ritzville D	35	9	6	9	24	3	14	5	0
39.Mercer Island D	97	11	14	39	64	6	47	12	4
65.Aberdeen M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Walla Walla M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36 Jefferson D	144	57	30	40	127	12	33	2	1
65.Puyallup M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Mount Vernon M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
44.E. Klickitat D	57	23	23	25	71	4	38	1	0
38 Asotin D	110	38	13	46	97	3	57	13	0
65.Port Orchard M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Tukwila M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Winslow M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43 Othello D	68	12	14	10	36	1	11	17	0
65.Centralia M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Pasco M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
44.Pierce 3 D	57	5	5	45	55	2	47	5	3
65.Marysville M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
42 W. Klickitat D	76	15	24	22	61	4	23	2	0
65.File M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41 Skamania D	83	38	0	15	53	11	14	0	2
65.Ellensburg M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Tumwater M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
49 Clallam 2 D	33	7	2	5	14	0	14	0	0
65.Lake Forrest Pk M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Fircrest M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Algona M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Sunnyside M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46 Pend Oreille D	56	15	11	0	26	1	11	1	0
65.Hoquiam M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65.Chelan M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50 N. Pacific D	24	5	1	10	16	4	10	6	0
65.Anacortes M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total: 80 Largest	28,076	7,241	6,328	8,413	21,982	4,065	11,576	5,631	336
Total: Remaining	154	44	33	39	116	6	39	32	0
Total: State	28,230	7,285	6,361	8,452	22,098	4,071	11,615	5,663	336

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Parking Activity, 80 Largest Courts, 1987

Court	Filings	Charges	Violations Disposed			Not Com- mitted	Dismissed	Total Disposed	Proceedings			Other	Receipts
			Com- mitted	FTR/FTA	Paid				Contest. Hearing	Mitig. Hearing	Show Cause		
1 Seattle M	458,670	458,670	25,556	956	320,020	0	7,661	354,193	250	16,408	1,495	136	5,481,486
31 Pierce 1 D	421	421	185	N	4	3	81	273	52	51	N	1	7,960
20 Clark D	743	752	199	0	223	48	28	498	19	85	0	4	5,557
3 Tacoma M	52,252	52,252	2,264	0	30,889	46	16,274	49,473	1,129	2,838	45	98	452,994
29 Spokane D	454	457	26	0	265	19	29	339	7	16	0	0	9,439
74 Spokane M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15 Northeast D	1,023	1,070	294	0	334	47	61	736	73	254	1	32	8,212
41 Yakima D	197	197	41	1	106	2	22	172	0	0	0	0	2,509
17 Aukeen D	1,012	1,074	0	0	467	0	0	467	0	0	0	0	6,919
44, Seattle D	145	151	5	0	83	0	12	100	0	4	0	0	1,538
38 Benton D	213	203	3	20	65	0	0	88	3	0	0	4	1,756
36 South Snohomish D	219	222	2	0	58	0	1	61	2	4	0	0	2,377
23 Kitsap D	620	620	7	1	302	10	29	349	16	31	0	0	6,512
28 Federal Way D	486	491	34	0	291	48	4	377	11	12	0	0	5,084
39 Renton D	208	222	8	0	137	0	14	159	1	2	0	0	1,866
37 Bellevue D	217	229	99	0	44	5	51	199	1	66	0	10	1,830
24 Issaquah D	599	602	21	5	391	8	22	447	5	14	1	3	4,523
30 Thurston D	434	434	11	0	267	2	8	288	1	2	0	0	2,194
55 Everett D	35	36	2	0	21	0	2	25	2	2	0	0	518
34 Whatcom D	303	303	31	3	144	7	10	195	0	29	0	0	3,702
43 Chelan D	179	179	11	7	88	1	12	119	3	6	0	2	964
47 Cowitz D	131	128	0	0	97	0	0	97	0	0	0	0	1,750
51 Evergreen D	57	59	1	0	32	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	900
16 Grant D	1,020	543	0	0	990	0	30	1,020	0	3	0	0	3,961
8 Airport D	4,685	4,695	2,082	3	2,075	12	148	4,320	78	59	3	10	27,060
58 Lewis D	27	27	10	0	10	0	2	22	1	5	0	0	333
57 Cascade D	31	31	2	6	21	0	2	31	0	0	0	0	525
74 Everett M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26 Shoreline D	581	620	23	2	351	0	101	477	1	31	0	6	4,096
74 Skagit D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4Bremerton M	31,016	31,016	57	1	17,642	41	44	17,785	48	57	1	1	84,329
6Renton M	9,074	9,074	64	3	7,629	0	51	7,747	34	69	1	15	51,550
66.Grays Harbor D	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	17
49 Island D	91	91	0	4	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	1,026
40 Okanogan D	200	200	7	0	85	1	10	103	6	12	0	0	725
74 Whitman D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5Olympia M	26,337	26,337	0	0	11,906	0	1,196	13,102	77	72	0	0	86,059
74 Clallam 1 D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2Bellingham M	70,375	70,375	529	0	55,546	0	5,478	61,553	880	0	0	0	278,826
9 Edmonds M	3,542	3,832	90	29	2,432	0	43	2,594	65	120	0	0	21,178
74 Walla Walla D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
59.Franklin D	21	21	0	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	357
18 Roxbury D	939	947	130	227	540	3	5	905	17	26	0	21	6,057
21 Longview M	675	675	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,447
46 Douglas D	138	140	2	0	112	2	6	122	0	0	0	0	1,470
50 Lower Kittitas D	73	73	7	18	35	3	5	68	14	3	0	0	143
54 Mason D	37	0	0	25	3	1	1	30	2	0	0	0	397
19 Upper Kittitas D	836	847	7	95	571	3	3	679	8	5	0	3	6,368
74 Ritzville D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 Mercer Island D	588	594	80	32	459	3	22	596	9	14	0	4	8,318
10 Aberdeen M	2,688	2,106	15	0	2,069	2	2	2,088	2	18	0	0	10,795
7 Walla Walla M	6,405	6,405	0	0	5,015	0	0	5,015	0	0	0	0	18,313
74 Jefferson D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22 Puyallup M	649	650	1	1	514	1	0	517	2	3	0	1	4,097
27 Mount Vernon M	525	525	34	0	333	12	0	379	23	24	0	10	6,591
66.E. Klickitat D	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	20
44.Asotin D	145	126	11	0	61	0	3	75	2	12	0	0	1,809
14 Port Orchard M	1,205	1,205	6	3	929	3	19	960	15	12	0	5	5,836
63 Tukwila M	11	11	3	0	5	0	0	8	0	2	0	0	170
11 Winslow M	2,066	2,066	0	0	1,921	0	4	1,925	28	116	0	0	11,949
59.Ohelle D	21	21	0	0	17	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	324
35 Centralia M	237	240	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,059
13 Pasco M	1,520	1,520	64	0	1	0	7	72	21	65	0	0	14,217
74 Pierce 3 D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
52 Marysville M	56	56	0	0	39	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	435
56 W. Klickitat D	32	33	2	8	21	0	2	33	0	3	1	0	483
42 Fife M	193	193	13	0	63	0	34	110	13	36	0	0	3,910
62 Skamania D	12	12	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	305
12 Ellensburg M	1,872	1,897	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	8	0	0	6,881
61 Tumwater M	17	17	0	0	8	0	0	8	0	2	0	0	242
74 Clallam 2 D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53 Lake Forrest Pk M	43	43	0	2	43	0	1	46	0	1	0	0	535
64 Fircrest M	5	5	0	0	2	0	0	8	0	6	0	0	37
74 Algona M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
74 Sunnyside M	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 Pend Oreille D	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	25
33 Hoquiam M	311	321	16	77	180	1	4	278	4	10	0	7	2,116
32 Chelan M	385	363	7	61	360	1	3	432	0	2	0	0	2,554
74 N. Pacific D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
48 Anacortes M	108	84	4	0	77	0	4	85	3	4	0	0	1,392
Total: 80 Largest	687,414	686,811	32,067	1,592	466,406	335	31,558	531,958	2,960	20,626	1,548	373	6,690,927
Total: Remaining	73,156	70,584	339	143	40,098	89	1,320	41,989	89	451	5	52	610,740
Total: State	760,570	757,395	32,406	1,735	506,504	424	32,878	573,947	3,049	21,077	1,553	425	7,301,667

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

## Glossary

A glossary is included to assist in understanding the statistical tables.

### Infractions - Case Types

Infractions are identified and defined under RCW 46.63.020 and include violations of traffic statutes, laws, or ordinances that are not punishable by a jail sentence. There are three types of infractions:

**Traffic Infractions** -- Cases that pertain to (1) the operation or condition of a vehicle whether it is moving, standing, or stopping, and (2) pedestrian offenses.

**Non-Traffic Infractions** -- Cases including violations of RCW 18.27.340 and 18.106.020, contracting and plumbing license violations, and offenses decriminalized under municipal code, such as dog leash violations.

**Parking Infraction** -- Cases pertaining only to violations of parking statutes and ordinances.

### Infractions - Filings

**Notices of Infraction Filed** -- Individual Uniform Court Docket forms received by the reporting court during the year. Each notice of infraction can contain up to two charges. Previously closed matters that have been reopened (for example, FTA's) should not be counted. Violations charged are shown separately.

**Number Of Violations Charged** -- All violations for those infractions filed during the month as recorded on the Uniform Court Docket under the section entitled, "and did then and there commit each of the following offenses/infractions." There will be at least one, and no more than two, violations per notice of infraction.

### Infractions - Proceedings

Proceedings include all hearings held in open court. A proceeding is conducted in "open court" if it is held in a courtroom with the judge, at least one of the parties to the action is present, and court is "in session." Hearings outside the courtroom, such as those in chambers, should only be considered to be open court if they are "on the record" (electronically recorded where statute requires).

**Mitigation Hearing** -- A hearing at which the offender agrees to having committed the offense but wishes to explain the circumstances to the court, pursuant to provisions of RCW 46.63.100. Witnesses may not be required to attend but may attend voluntarily.

**Contested Hearing** -- A hearing at which the defendant contests the infraction pursuant to the provisions of RCW 46.63.090. Witnesses, including the citing officer, may be required to attend.

**Show Cause Hearing** -- A hearing resulting from a failure by the defendant to appear for a requested mitigation or contested hearing. If the show cause hearing is followed immediately by a mitigation or contested hearing, the second hearing is also reported in the appropriate category.

**Other Hearing On The Record** -- Any hearing, other than those above, that meets the criteria for proceedings that must be electronically recorded where statute requires. Routine paper signings are not counted in this category. Two criteria are used to determine this type of hearing. First, at the beginning of the hearing, the judge states the name and number of the case and the names of the attorneys for the parties who are represented. Second, records of the proceeding must be kept according to the appropriate method (i.e., electronically recorded where statute requires or recorded on the docket).

### Infractions - Dispositions

A disposition is the resolution of an issue that has been brought before the court. Each violation charged has one disposition. This includes all dispositions within the year, regardless of when the charge was originally filed.

**Paid** -- An instance when the offender has paid the penalty in full for the infraction offense without an appearance in court by himself or his representative. The Abstract of Judgment will be marked as "P."

**Committed--Failure To Respond/Failure To Appear** -- An instance when the defendant has failed to respond to a notice of infraction (FTR) or has failed to appear for a scheduled hearing (FTA). This is a final disposition regardless of any subsequent payments.

**Committed** -- A decision by the court that a defendant has committed the infraction that was charged.

**Not Committed** -- A decision by the court that a defendant has not committed the infraction that was charged.

**Dismissed** -- An infraction charged against the defendant that has been rejected by the court.

### Infractions - Appeals

All infraction cases that have been appealed to the superior court. Appeals are counted by case rather than by charge.

### Infractions - Revenue

All moneys received during the year for penalties and assessments in connection with infractions, regardless of when the original infractions were filed or processed. This does not include the 30

percent assessment implemented May 1, 1986.

### Misdemeanors - Case types

Misdemeanors are violations of traffic and criminal statutes, laws, or ordinances that are punishable by a jail sentence and not by imprisonment. This includes all traffic violations that may be classed as criminal offenses and are listed as exceptions under RCW 46.63.020.

**DWI/Physical Control** -- Cases that cite RCW 46.61.502, driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs, or RCW 46.61.504, actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drug.

**Other Traffic Misdemeanor** -- All citations/complaints other than those counted under DWI/Physical Control that pertain to the operation or use of a vehicle.

**Non-Traffic Misdemeanor** -- Criminal cases, excluding DWI/Physical Control, Other Traffic, and Felony complaints, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a fine of up to \$5,000.

### Misdemeanors - Filings

**Citations/Complaints Filed** -- Individual Uniform Court Docket forms received by the reporting court during the year. Each Uniform Court Docket form can contain up to two charges. These also include Misdemeanor Complaints filed by the prosecutor.

**Number of Violations Charged** -- All charges for those misdemeanors filed during the year as recorded on the Uniform Court Docket. There will be at least one, and no more than two, charges per citation. For DWI/Physical Control Citations, any secondary charge on the same complaint form is considered a drunk driving violation.

### Misdemeanors - Trial Settings

A setting is the establishment of a trial date and courtroom. Settings include all schedulings during the calendar year, regardless of the date for which the trial is set.

**Non-Jury Trials Set** -- Schedulings of bench trials before the judge (without a jury), at which the defendant contests the charges.

**Jury Trials Set** -- The setting or resetting of any trial on a jury trial calendar.

### Misdemeanors - Proceedings

All hearings, bench trials, and jury trials held in open court are included in proceedings.

**Arraignment** -- A separate hearing conducted in open court that consists of reading the complaint to the defendant or

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

stating the substance of the charge, and advising the defendant of his/her rights for the purpose of allowing the defendant to enter a plea.

**Non-Jury Trial** -- A bench trial before the judge (without a jury) at which the defendant contests the charges made against him/her. A witness must be sworn before a hearing may be counted as a non-jury trial. Introduction of exhibits and stipulation to the record are not sufficient criteria for counting a hearing as a non-jury trial.

**Jury Trial** -- A trial before a jury at which the defendant contests the charges. A jury trial is counted once, when it starts. A jury trial has started when the following events have taken place: (a) the jury has been impaneled, (b) voir dire has occurred, and (c) the jury has been sworn and is ready to hear evidence. Jury trials are reported regardless of whether the jury eventually turns in a verdict.

**Stipulation to the Record** -- A hearing before a judge at which the defendant maintains a plea of "not guilty," but stipulates to a reading of the record. Witnesses may be examined by the judge. A finding of guilt is normally entered based on the facts in record.

**Other Hearing on the Record** -- Any hearing other than those above that meets the criteria for proceedings that must be electronically recorded where statute requires. Routine paper signings are excluded from this category.

## Misdemeanors - Dispositions

A disposition is the resolution of an issue that has been brought before the court. Each violation charged will have one disposition. This includes all dispositions within the year, regardless of when the charge was originally filed.

**Bail Forfeiture** -- Cases in which the offender has paid the penalty for the offense without an appearance in court by the offender or his/her lawyer.

**Guilty** -- Cases in which the offender has been found guilty of the offense.

**Not Guilty** -- Cases in which the offender has been found NOT guilty of the offense following an appearance before the court.

**Dismissed** -- Cases in which the charge against the offender has been dismissed. This includes cases having successfully completed the probationary period resulting from deferred prosecution.

## Misdemeanors - Reduced/Amended to a Lesser Charge

DWI/Physical Control charges which are amended or reduced to other traffic misdemeanors. Activity subsequent to the reduction or amendment--including final

disposition--is counted under other traffic misdemeanors.

## Misdemeanors - Deferred Prosecution/Diversion

**Prosecution Deferred** -- Those citations or complaints for which prosecution has been deferred, as in RCW 10.05 for a "probationary period" (for which conditions may have been set by the court). Diversion intervenes either prior to arraignment or prior to trial.

**Prosecution Resumed** -- Those cases for which prosecution has been resumed following a failure by the defendant to meet or follow the conditions of deferred prosecution/diversion set by the court.

## Misdemeanors - Court Costs Recovered

Reimbursement by a convicted defendant of certain court costs incurred by local government in the disposition of an offense. These costs may include public defense, sheriff's fees, criminal witness fees, criminal jury fees, and court interpreter fees. Reimbursements reflect the actual amount recovered.

## Misdemeanors - Revenue

Moneys received during the month for fines, forfeitures, and penalties in connection with misdemeanors, regardless of when the original citations/complaints were filed or processed. This does NOT include transactions involving trust accounts, unless money that had been deposited in a trust account is forfeited to the court. (The 30 percent assessment implemented May 1, 1986 is NOT included).

## Domestic Violence Protection - Petitions Filed

A petition for orders of temporary protection filed by a person seeking relief from an allegedly violent person, either related to or living with the petitioner.

## Domestic Violence Protection - Proceedings

**Ex Parte Hearing** -- A hearing concerning temporary orders at which either the respondent, the petitioner, or their representative is present. Includes hearings which modify temporary orders for protection.

**Full Order Hearing** -- A hearing concerning full orders at which either the respondent, the petitioner, or their representative is present. Includes hearings which modify full orders for protection.

## Domestic Violence - Dispositions

**Full Orders Granted** -- The petition for the full protection order is granted by the court.

**Denied/Dismissed** -- Both temporary and full orders for protection were not granted by the court.

**Transferred to Superior Court** -- Full order petitions must be transferred to superior court if one or more of these conditions exist: (a) if the superior court has exercised jurisdiction over a proceeding involving the parties, (b) child custody is involved, or (c) there is a request to exclude a party from a dwelling which both parties share.

## Domestic Violence - Revenue

Filing fees for petitions, receipts from copying costs, and other receipts associated with domestic violence protection orders.

## Civil - Filings

All complaints or petitions filed by a private or corporate party against another private or corporate party requesting the enforcement or protection of a civil right, alleging civil damages, or calling for the redress or prevention of a wrong. Damages claimed may not exceed \$10,000. In addition, these filings include small claims judgments that have been transferred to the civil court.

## Civil - Trial Settings

A setting is the establishment of a trial date and courtroom. Settings include all schedulings during the calendar year, regardless of the date for which the trial is set.

**Non-Jury Trials Set** -- Schedulings of bench trials before the judge (without a jury).

**Jury Trials Set** -- The setting or resetting of any trial on a jury trial calendar.

## Civil - Proceedings

All hearings, bench trials, and jury trials held in open court are included in proceedings.

**Non-Jury Trial** -- A bench trial before the judge (without a jury) to decide the facts of the original issue of the case. A witness must be sworn before a hearing may be counted as a non-jury trial.

**Jury Trial** -- A trial before a jury. A jury trial is counted once, when it starts. A jury trial has started when the following events have taken place: (a) the jury has been impaneled, (b) voir dire has occurred, and (c) the jury has been sworn and is ready to hear evidence. Jury trials are reported regardless of whether or not the jury eventually turns in a verdict.

# The Courts of Limited Jurisdiction

Other Participatory Hearing -- A proceeding other than a trial in open court at which at least one of the parties to the case is present. Other participatory hearings include supplemental proceedings, 72-hour commitments for observation purposes, false alarm hearings, and vehicle impound hearings. Motions and reconsiderations argued in open court where one of the parties to the case is present are also counted.

## Civil - Dispositions

Default Judgment -- An instance where the defendant has failed to contest the action or failed to appear in court, and the court has found for the plaintiff on a motion for a default judgment.

Other Pretrial Disposition -- Instances in which the case has been disposed of by some judgment or manner other than a default judgment, without having proceeded to trial. Reasons for such dispositions include summary judgments, dismissals, agreed judgments, changes of venue, cases that were filed improperly due to the residency of the defendant, and small claims judgments transferred for collection purposes.

Judgment/Disposition After Trial -- Cases that have been disposed after having proceeded to trial, even if the case was disposed without successful completion of the trial. The important differentiation between this disposition category and those preceding is that a trial was commenced. Disposition may include dismissals or stipulations as well as judgments.

## Civil - Appeals

All civil cases that have been appealed to the superior court.

## Civil - Post-Judgment Writ

A writ issued after judgment for the purpose of capturing funds. These include writs of garnishment, execution, and replevin.

## Civil - Revenue

All moneys received during the year for payment of filing fees, fees for law library, writs, record searches, copying, and notarizing.

## Small Claims - Filings

Civil cases limited to redress through damages not to exceed \$1,000, and where parties are not represented by attorneys.

## Small Claims - Proceedings

Trial -- A trial in open court at which both parties to the action are present and contesting the matter and a witness is heard.

Other Participatory Hearing -- A proceeding in open court, other than a trial, where one of the parties is present.

## Small Claims - Dispositions

Default Judgment -- A judgment made when the defendant has failed to contest the action or failed to appear in court.

Other Pretrial Disposition -- A case which has been disposed of by some judgment or manner, other than a default judgment without having proceeded to trial. These dispositions include summary judgment, dismissal, agreed judgment, and transfers.

Judgment/Disposition After Trial -- A case which has been disposed after having proceeded to trial. This classification issued for dispositions even if the case was disposed of without successful completion of the trial. The important differentiation between this disposition category and those preceding is that a trial was commenced.

## Small Claims - Judgments Transferred to Civil Department

Judgments that are transferred for collection purposes. These are considered to be new filings in the civil section.

## Small Claims - Appeals to Superior Court

All small claims cases that have been appealed to the superior court. Appeal is possible only if the amount claimed was \$100 or more, and if the defendant did not make a cross claim against the plaintiff.

## Small Claims - Revenue

All moneys received during the year for payment of small claims filing fees and fees for record searches, copying, and notarizing.

## Felony - Complaints

Complaints filed in a trial court that allege the commission of a criminal act punishable by a prison sentence. The jurisdiction of district courts is to provide a preliminary hearing; superior courts have jurisdiction for trying felony complaints. Each defendant is counted only once, regardless of the number of charges on the complaint.

## Felony - In-Custody Defendants

All persons arrested on probable cause or held for investigation, and appearing before the court. These include all persons arrested on felony complaints and fugitive warrants alleging a felony.

## Felony - Proceedings

Preliminary Appearance -- A hearing at which a defendant is informed of the nature of the charges. Bail may be determined at this hearing.

Formal Charge Hearing -- A hearing at which the defendant is formally charged with a felony complaint. This hearing is sometimes called an arraignment, although the defendant cannot plead guilty to the felony charges.

Felony Preliminary Hearing -- A hearing in open court for the purpose of determining if there is sufficient cause to bind the defendant over for trial in superior court for the charges alleged. Witnesses may be required to attend and evidence may be introduced.

Other Participatory Hearing -- Any other hearing at which the defendant or an attorney representing either side is present. This category includes additional hearings to reduce bail, to release the defendant on personal recognizance, or to continue a previous hearing in order to receive additional information.

## Felony - Dispositions

Dismissed -- All charges against the defendant have been dismissed.

Bound Over to Superior Court -- Sufficient cause has been found to bind the defendant over to be tried in superior court for any of the charges alleged.

Reduced to Misdemeanor -- An instance in which all felony charges are dropped, but the defendant is still charged with a misdemeanor. The defendant may have entered a guilty plea to a lesser charge, a complaint may have been amended, or the case may have been re-filed as a misdemeanor.



# Reference



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## Chapter Contents

### Associations

County Clerks' Association  
Court Administration, Wash. State  
District & Municipal Crt Judges Assn  
Juvenile Court Administrators, Assn of  
Misdemeanant Corrections Assn  
Superior Court Administrators' Assn  
Superior Court Judges' Association

### Boards, Commissions, and Councils

Board for Judicial Administration  
Board for Trial Court Education  
Commission on Judicial Conduct  
Commission on State Law Reports  
Judiciary Editorial Board  
Limited Practice Board  
State/Federal Judicial Council

### Standing Committees

Bench-Bar-Press  
Courts and Community Committee  
Judicial Information Systems Comm  
Pattern Forms Committee  
Pattern Jury Instruction Committee

### Conferences, Seminars, and Symposia

Annual Judicial Conference  
Appellate Judges  
County Clerks  
District and Municipal Court Admin  
District and Municipal Court Judges  
General Programs  
Judicial Orientation  
Juvenile Court Administrators  
Superior Court Administrators  
Superior Court Judges

### Reference Material

Audio-Visual Library  
Benchbooks  
Formbooks  
Handbooks and Manuals  
Rules of Court

### State Supreme Court Offices

Administrator for the Courts  
Clerk of the Supreme Court  
Commissioner of the Supreme Court  
Reporter of Decisions  
State Law Librarian

## Associations

### County Clerks' Association

The Association of County Clerks provides a forum for the exchange of information and a base from which to coordinate their efforts to address problems of mutual concern. They hold a county clerk and deputy clerk workshop, and spring and fall conferences. Current issues facing the county clerks include access to, and use of, personal computers,

improved clerical procedures, and planning and budgeting.

The committees of this association are Legislative, Handbooks, By-laws, Education, and Court Rules.

Bob Freudenstein  
President 7/86-7/87  
Kitsap County

Thomas Faliquist  
President 7/87-7/88  
Cowlitz County

### Court Administration, Washington State Association for

The Washington State Association for Court Administration was formed in 1970 to enhance the knowledge of court personnel in limited jurisdiction courts, to improve court administration, and to cooperate and participate with other organizations dedicated to the improvement of court procedures. The membership consists of any person employed by a court of limited jurisdiction as a court clerk, court administrator, or in any other administrative capacity. The association's standing committees are Bylaws and Policy, Nominations, Annual Meetings, Publications (docket pages), Education, Membership and Credentials, Legislation, Historian, Resolutions, and Awards.

Additionally, the Association has liaison positions with the District and Municipal Court Judges Association, State Auditor, Department of Licensing, Office of the Administrator for the Courts, and County Clerks' Association. There are special committees which deal with the general procedures manual, statistical reporting, and the Board for Trial Court Education, as well as a task force for the Judicial Information System Committee.

Kathy Lohmeyer  
President 9/86-9/87  
Cowlitz County District Court

Le Sanchez  
President 9/87-9/88  
Aukene District Court

### District and Municipal Court Judges Association

The District and Municipal Court Judges Association was established by statute, as the Washington State Magistrates Association, to study and make recommendations concerning the operation of the courts served by its members.

The following are the committees within the District and Municipal Court Judges Association: Advisor Judge, Benchbook, By-laws, Conference Planning, Courts

and Community, Education, Judicial Assistance, Judicial Insurance, Legislative, Law-Related Education, Nominating, Rules, Uniform Forfeitable Penalties, and Survey and Study.

Honorable Edward Allan  
President 6/86-6/87  
Grant County District Court

Honorable Joel A. C. Rindal  
President 6/87-6/88  
Bellevue District Court

### Juvenile Court Administrators, Association of

The Washington Association of Juvenile Court Administrators (WAJCA), composed of juvenile court administrators statewide, has experienced a 50 percent change in members within the last five years. This turnover in membership, in combination with the impact of the 1978 juvenile code, prompted WAJCA to re-evaluate its role, adopt a new mission statement, and identify new association priorities in 1986. The new WAJCA mission statement is explained below:

The mission of the WAJCA is to provide support among, facilitate communication between, and educate the membership of, the association, and to advocate for and influence change in the juvenile justice system.

In response to the newly-adopted mission statement, the Association elected to become a pro-active force in the legislative arena. In 1986 the Association took a leadership role in organizing and conducting legislative "linkage" meetings. The meetings have provided a forum for associations with shared interests to meet and discuss their legislative proposals and positions.

Pam Shotwell  
President 9/87-9/88  
Lincoln County Juvenile Court

### Misdemeanant Corrections Association

Misdemeanant probation workers are responsible for services related to the supervision of misdemeanor probationers. Misdemeanant probation officers also supervise and train volunteers in programs operating in over 100 agencies. These trained volunteers spend thousands of hours assisting professional staff with report writing, case management, and other agency tasks.

The misdemeanor probation worker's professional group, Misdemeanant Corrections Association of Washington State, represents 125 misdemeanor corrections staffers in 27 probation departments across the state. District courts served by misdemeanor probation

departments include Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grant, Island, Jefferson, King (Airport, Bellevue-Mercer Island, Federal Way, Issaquah, Kent, Redmond, Renton, Seattle Main Office, Shoreline), Kitsap, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whatcom, Whitman, and Yakima. Municipal courts served by misdemeanor probation departments include Bellevue, Bremerton, and Seattle.

Gary Schaub  
President 6/86-6/87  
Seattle Municipal Court

Elaine McNally  
President 6/87-6/88  
Pierce County District Court

## Superior Court Administrators' Association

Superior court administrators face a myriad of problems in assisting judges in court operations. Assuring smooth case flow, orienting new staff, mediation techniques, mandatory arbitration, trial calendaring, and other administrative functions are their responsibility. In response to these demands, the Superior Court Administrators' Association holds conferences in the spring and fall.

Mark Oldenburg  
President 8/87-8/88  
Clark County Superior Court

## Superior Court Judges' Association

The Association of Superior Court Judges is created statutorily under RCW 2.16.010. The purpose of the association is to improve the administration of justice. Instructive programs, whereby higher standards of efficiency and excellence may be obtained, better equip the superior court judges of Washington in the proper performance of their duties. The Association supports and implements the canons of judicial ethics, promotes the interchange of ideas, and encourages cooperation and social contacts among the members of the judiciary. It promotes the objectives of statutes relating to the association and promotes better relations with the public and the other branches of government.

The Association's governing body is the Board of Trustees. Its officers are a President-Judge, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and seven Trustees.

The following are committees within the Superior Court Judges' Association: Auditing, Board of Trustees Executive Committee, Civil Law and Rules, Conference Arrangements, Court Rules Insanity Defense, Criminal Law and Rules,

Courts and Community, Judges' Benchbook, Judge/Media Handbook Steering Committee, Judicial Education, Judicial Ethics, Employment Benefits, Family and Juvenile Law, Improvement of Judicial Administration, Institutions, Nominating, Past Presidents, and Trust and Endowment.

Honorable John N. Skimas  
President-Judge 1986-1987  
Clark County Superior Court

Honorable Norman W. Quinn  
President-Judge 1987-1988  
King County Superior Court

## Boards, Commissions, and Councils

### Board for Judicial Administration

The Board for Judicial Administration (BJA) meets quarterly to discuss policy in the state's courts. BJA recommendations are used to advise and inform the Supreme Court of issues common to all court levels and as a policy base for legislative recommendations.

The eight-member Board is comprised of the Chief Justice and acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the presiding chief judge of the Court of Appeals and his designee, and the president-judge and president-elect of the Superior Court Judges and District and Municipal Court Judges Associations.

Chief Justice Vernon R. Pearson  
Chair, 1987-1988  
Supreme Court

### Board for Trial Court Education

The Board for Trial Court Education coordinates education programs for judges and court support personnel at the trial court level. The thirteen members of the Board include representatives of the judicial and administrative associations of the superior, district and municipal courts, the law schools, the Washington State Bar Association and the OAC. During 1987 the Board sponsored programs which provided educational opportunities for over 1200 individuals.

Honorable John P. Nollette  
Chair, 1985-1987  
Spokane District Court

Honorable James M. Murphy  
Chair, 1987-1988  
Spokane County Superior Court

## Commission on Judicial Conduct

A constitutional amendment became effective December 4, 1986 with voters' passage of SJR 136. The name of the Judicial Qualifications Commission was changed to Commission on Judicial Conduct; the membership of the Commission was expanded from seven to nine, with four of the nine members being non-lawyers. Any hearings held subsequent to proceedings to determine if further action is necessary are public, and Commission recommendations to the Supreme Court for removal of a judge shall result in suspension with salary until a final determination is made by the Supreme Court.

William W. Baker  
Chair 6/86-6/87  
Attorney at Law

Ann Sandstrom  
Chair 6/87-6/88  
Lay Member

## Commission on State Law Reports

The Commission on State Law Reports supervises the publication of the *Washington Reports* and the *Washington Appellate Reports*. By statute, the commission is composed of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, a judge of the Court of Appeals, the Reporter of Decisions, the State Law Librarian, the State Printer, and a representative of the Washington State Bar Association. The official reports are distributed with the aid of computer support provided by the state's Judicial Information System (JIS).

Chief Justice Vernon R. Pearson  
Chair, 1987-1988  
Supreme Court

## Judiciary Editorial Board

Composed of judges, court administrators and county clerks, this seven-member group advises on the editorial content of *Judiciary*, the quarterly for the Washington court system.

## Limited Practice Board

In January 1983 the Washington Supreme Court adopted Admission to Practice Rule 12 (APR 12) authorizing entry of certain lay persons (those involved in the selection and preparation of documents incident to property closings) to the limited practice of law. Since that time approximately 700 individuals have been certified for this purpose.

The nine-member Limited Practice Board is appointed by the Supreme Court and oversees rules governing procedures for certification, approval of

# Reference

forms, disciplinary action, and continuing education requirements.

To be certified, an individual must pass an examination, pay an annual fee, and annually complete ten hours of continuing education. Examinations for certification are administered each April and October by the staff of the Office of the Administrator for the Courts.

The following are committees within the Limited Practice Board: Continuing Education, Complaint Review, Exam, Financial Responsibility, and Forms Review

Gordon Schlicke  
Chair 6/86-6/92  
Attorney at Law

## State/Federal Judicial Council

Created in 1984, the Council was established to expedite the administration of justice, to promote harmonious relationships between state and federal courts in Washington State, and to provide a discussion mechanism where both could explore and solve problems of mutual interest and concern.

Council membership includes judges of the U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, the U.S. District Court in Washington, the Washington Supreme Court, the state Superior Court Judges' Association, and the state Administrator for the Courts. The president of the Washington State Bar Association is an ex officio member.

Because of its informal, discussion-group nature, the group operates without officers and by-laws.

## Standing Committees

### Bench-Bar-Press Committee of Washington

Organized in 1964, the Bench-Bar-Press Committee of Washington provides an ad hoc forum for the discussion of fair trial/free press conflicts between judges, attorneys and the media. Nationally, it is one of the oldest groups of its kind.

The full, 50-plus member Committee meets during the fall of each year. A smaller Steering Committee, appointed by the chairman and composed of committee officers and others, may meet between annual meetings to discuss items which arise in the interim or which were referred to it by the full Committee. Committee discussions occasionally result in a request for additions or changes to court rules which address media activity in state courts.

A Liaison Committee is also appointed by the chairman to provide, as requested, on-the-spot advice to lawyers, judges and media personnel concerning First v. Sixth Amendment problems. Known popularly as the "Fire Brigade,"

this subcommittee is available to consult with any judge, attorney, reporter, or editor who is experiencing a current, court-media problem.

Committee by-laws name the Chief Justice of the Washington Supreme Court as chairman and the Acting Chief Justice as vice-chairman. A secretary-treasurer is appointed by the Committee.

Chief Justice Vernon R. Pearson  
Chair, 1987-1988  
Supreme Court

## Courts and Community Committee

Composed of members of judicial, legal, and media professional groups plus the community at large, this 13-member ad hoc committee was created in 1985 by then-Chief Justice James M. Dolliver to advise on ways of improving public knowledge and perception of state courts.

The Committee has focused its efforts on the development of a statewide, public opinion poll to determine (1) how much the public knows about Washington's courts, and (2) where that knowledge was obtained. The survey also measured the public's confidence in courts and the legal system, and tested the extent to which that confidence is linked to knowledge.

To gather preliminary data preparatory to conducting the survey, three "focus groups" of citizens selected at large, were video-recorded in the summer of 1987. The survey was conducted in January 1988.

Chief Justice Vernon R. Pearson  
Chair 1987-88  
Supreme Court

## Judicial Information System Committee

It is the intent of the Supreme Court that a statewide Judicial Information System (JIS) be developed. The system is to be designed and operated by the Administrator for the Courts under the direction of the Judicial Information System Committee (JISC) and with the approval of the Supreme Court pursuant to RCW 2.56. The system is to serve the courts of Washington State.

The Judicial Information System Committee sets the overall direction and policy for the Judicial Information System, determines the priority of projects, appoints project committees as needed, approves the two year plan for development and maintenance, and is responsible for recommendations to the Supreme Court concerning policies, procedures, and rules which affect the operation of the

Judicial Information System within the state judiciary.

The committee consists of four members from the Appellate level, four members from the Superior level, four members from the Limited Jurisdiction court level, plus two at-large members, at least one of whom will be a member of the Washington State Bar Association.

The following four advisory committees are empowered to suggest projects and raise issues: ACORDS User Advisory Committee, DISCIS User Advisory Committee, JUVIS User Advisory Committee and SCOMIS User Advisory Committee.

Three project committees were created in 1987 to monitor specific projects, resolve project related issues, report to JISC, and manage projects according to the two-year plan. The three committees are DISCIS Conversion Project Committee, Budget Project Committee, and Connectivity Project Committee.

Chief Justice Vernon R. Pearson  
Chair 1987-1988  
Supreme Court

## Pattern Forms Committee

The purpose of the Pattern Forms Committee is to expedite the administration of justice by improving the quality of forms used in the courts. To this end, the committee tries to draft forms which are concise, legally accurate, and easy to use. The objective is to provide pattern forms for attorneys, judges, and clerks that reduce confusion and save time. The committee membership includes superior, district, and municipal court judges; representatives from the bar; and superior, district, and municipal court administrators and clerks.

Honorable Herbert E. Wieland  
Chair  
Pacific/Wahkiakum Superior Court

## Pattern Jury Instruction Committee

The purpose of the Pattern Jury Instruction Committee is to enhance the quality of justice in our courts by improving the quality of instructions given to juries. To this end, the committee tries to draft instructions which are straightforward. The intention is to present patterns which are simple, brief, and accurate, and unbiased statements which are free from argumentative suggestions. The committee membership includes superior court judges, district and municipal court judges, and representatives from the bar.

Honorable George T. Shields  
Chair  
Spokane County Superior Court

## Conferences, Seminars, Symposia

### Annual Judicial Conference

The 1987 annual Judicial Conference was held in Tacoma. The Conference provided a mix of general sessions and choice sessions to meet the varied needs of judges of all court levels. General sessions included gender and justice, ethics and Canon VII and constitutional interpretations. Choice sessions included jury voir dire, discretionary review, video technology in the courts, Sentencing Reform Act, and crime victims.

### Appellate Judges

The Appellate seminar was held in April and examined problems related to attorney misconduct at the trial court and appellate levels. Interaction between the press and the courts was also addressed utilizing a panel of judges, print and broadcast media representatives, and a representative of the Bar Association.

### County Clerks

Improving the efficiency of the courts was the central theme of all education seminars planned by the education committee of the clerks. The Spring Conference focused solely on records management. The Fall Conference and Deputy Clerks Workshop included personal computer applications, cost control, client/user surveys, child support collection, and revenue/expenditure management.

### District and Municipal Court Administrators

Primary focus was on the joint Fall Conference with the Oregon Association for Court Administration. General sessions included situational leadership, conflict productivity and interpersonal communication, courts and the media, and ethics and the court employee.

Budgeting, team building, and stress on the job, and legislative issues were the main topics of the Spring Conference and Summer Updates.

### District and Municipal Court Judges

Programs developed by the education committee of the District and Municipal Court Judges Association focused primarily on substantive law issues such as "Evidence and the Constitution."

The spring conference dedicated a major portion of the program to the issues of lawyer misconduct and civil procedures.

### General Programs

General programs are sponsored by the Board for Trial Court Education to meet the needs of multiple constituencies. The programs are planned by committees which are representative of the probable attendees. During 1987 the following general programs were held:

**Court Support Orientation:** a program designed for court support personnel with limited work experience in the court system. Topics included public image of the courts, role of courts, ethics in the court system, communication, and hostile client management.

**Law-Related Education:** a program designed to identify LRE needs and explore successful LRE programs in the courts. As a result of this conference, a LRE needs assessment of the court system was planned.

**Congestion and Delay:** a program planned in cooperation with the Washington State Bar Association to identify solutions to congestion and delay in the court system. Attended by over 125 judges, administrators, and attorneys from King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties, the program encouraged the formation of local task forces to implement reform.

**Guardian Ad Litem:** a program implemented to establish communication among the Guardian Ad Litem coordinators throughout the state. The program provided an opportunity for identification of needs, sharing of resources, and showcasing successful programs.

### Judicial Orientation

This annual program is designed to meet the needs of new judges and commissioners of the municipal, district, and superior court levels. It also provides an opportunity for non-attorney judges to receive "refresher" instruction.

Sessions are designed to address critical issues vital to new judges and to increase awareness of available resources. Topical areas include evidence, search and seizure, traffic, ethics, contempt, decision-making, criminal procedure, juvenile law, domestic relations, sentencing, small claims, and jury trials.

### Juvenile Court Administrators

The programs designed by the education committee of the juvenile court administrators reflect many of the current pressures facing juvenile courts today. Programs on juvenile suicide prevention, court/school liaison programs, and detention standards enabled juvenile court administrators to examine issues, successful programs, and resources related to these topics. Other seminars

focused on the administrative responsibilities and included labor/management relations and sexual harassment in the workplace.

### Superior Court Administrators

The Fall and Spring Conferences of the Superior Court Administrators focused on effective communication (written and oral) and on court applications of the personal computer (arbitration, calendaring, spread sheets, word processing).

A new workshop was implemented in the fall to address more general concepts of effective court management. The seminar "Running the Courts Like a Business" utilized the expertise of two former court administrators who are now managing law firms.

### Superior Court Judges

"The Trial" was the primary theme of the 1987 Spring Conference. Faculty from the National Judicial College presented sessions on decision-making, jury management, and objections to evidence. In addition, a workshop was held on child support determination.

Tort reform, judicial discretion, and gender and justice were the topics of the 1987 Regional Seminars. Nearly 100 judges attended these seminars. The Experienced Judges Symposium, initiated in 1986, was successfully replicated in March 1987.

## Reference Material

### Audio-Visual Library

The Audio-Visual Library, open to all court personnel and containing educational films of specific interest to the courts, was created in August 1985. It was developed by the Board for Trial Court Education in cooperation with the Washington State Film Library.

Videotapes of judicial education programs are available to those who are either unable to attend seminars or who simply wish to have more information on a seminar topic. Other films and tapes, including those produced commercially or by other court-related agencies, have been added to the library's collection. It is the goal of the library to provide low-cost, accessible educational resources to all court personnel. To obtain a catalog of all titles, or to obtain a videotape, contact Judicial Education in the Office of the Administrator for the Courts.

Several management tapes and additional crime file tapes were purchased and placed in the library during 1987. New purchases include the following titles: New Supervisor: Making the Transition, Sexual Harassment, Communicating Non-Defensively, Performance Standards, Conflicts-Conflicts, Negotiating,

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Neighborhood Safety, Biology and Crime, Deadly Force, and Jobs and Crime.

## Publications

### Benchbooks

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Criminal Procedure**

This benchbook is a ready reference source of case law, court rules, and statutes applicable to criminal procedure, arranged in the sequence in which events occur from the beginning of a criminal case through post-conviction matters in both the superior and district courts. These volumes are also cross-referenced to the Criminal Forms benchbook. 1985, 524 pp., 2 vol., 3rd Ed.

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Criminal Procedure, Courts of Limited Jurisdiction**

This is a companion volume to the *Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Criminal Procedure*, focusing on court rules, case law, statutes, and procedures unique to the courts of limited jurisdiction. This volume also allows easy cross-referencing to the main Criminal Procedure benchbook. 1984, 313 pp., 1 vol., 2nd Ed.

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Civil Procedure**

This volume provides the trial judge with a procedural reference of pertinent case law, court rules, and statutes when hearing civil matters, and is organized chronologically in the order most likely to be used in conducting a civil trial. 1985, 419 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Domestic Relations**

This benchbook provides superior court judges and commissioners with statutes, court rules, and case law in domestic relations areas such as marriage, changes in marital status, adoption, and paternity. Also included are topics as they occur in pre-trial, trial, and post-trial settings. 1986, 340 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Juvenile Procedure**

This publication provides a procedural reference for juvenile court matters including dependency proceedings, alternative residential placement, involuntary civil commitment, juvenile offense proceedings and miscellaneous proceedings. It also provides detailed procedural checklists for each topic. This benchbook is cross-referenced to the Juvenile Forms benchbook. 1983, 246 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

### Formbooks

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Criminal Forms**

This is a compilation of pattern forms developed by the Washington Pattern Forms Committee covering procedures prior to arrest, rights of defendants, procedures prior to trial, change of judge/venue, procedures at trial, procedures following conviction, special proceedings, and the Sentencing Reform Act. The publication is organized to follow the applicable court rules. 1984, 246 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Washington State Judges' Benchbook, Juvenile Forms**

This compilation of pattern forms follows the organization of Juvenile Court Rules and covers the topics of shelter care proceedings, dependency proceedings, proceedings to terminate parent-child relationship, proceedings for alternative residential placement, juvenile offense proceedings, diversion agreements, right to lawyer and experts in all juvenile court proceedings, and juvenile court records. 1983, 190 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

### Handbooks and Manuals

#### **A Citizen's Guide to Washington Courts**

This booklet, prepared to create greater public understanding of the state's court system, describes what types of cases are heard at each court level and how those courts operate, as well as describing the general judicial process and providing specifics as to how a trial proceeds. Also included is a glossary of commonly used legal and judicial terms. 1985, 42 pp., 1 vol., 3rd Ed.

#### **County Clerks' Handbook**

This is the most general of the various manuals written for the clerk of the superior court and the clerk's employees, providing an overview of the clerk's duties including financial matters and recordkeeping, while containing appropriate cross-references to the Docketing Manual, Judgment Manual, or Records Management Guidelines. 1984, 435 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Deskbook for Superior Court Administration**

This deskbook is designed to provide helpful information to administrators of superior courts on topics such as fiscal management, personnel management, legal parameters, and general administration. 1984, 198 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Directory of Interpreters Used in Washington State Courts**

This compilation lists by name, address, and language expertise those foreign language interpreters employed in superior,

district, and municipal courts. Also included are names and addresses of agencies providing information and referral services for the deaf and hard of hearing. 1985, 20 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Electronic Recording Task Force Report and Recommendations**

This report is intended to assist superior, district, and municipal courts in implementing electronic recording procedures and determining the financial impact of implementation, while also providing updated information about improvements in recording technology. 1986, 125 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Juror's Handbook to Washington Courts**

This booklet is designed to help jurors perform effectively by providing information about the trial process and their role in it, the do's and don'ts of jury service, as well as a glossary of legal terms encountered during their service as jurors. 1985, 14 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Juvenile Court Administrator's Desk Manual**

This manual is intended to standardize procedures between juvenile courts and related agencies. In addition, it provides a quick reference to the juvenile code. 1987, 300 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Washington Standards Relating to Jury Use and Management**

These standards, following the structure of the ABA standards, are grouped by the topics "Selection of Prospective Jurors," "Selection of a Particular Jury," "Efficient Jury Management," and "Juror Performance and Deliberations," and are followed by references to appropriate statutes and court rules, recommendations, committee comments, experience of Washington courts, and implementation considerations. 1985, 55 pp., 1 vol., 1st Ed.

#### **Washington State Manual for Courts of Limited Jurisdiction**

This manual is a comprehensive source of information on the organization, administration, and procedures of courts of limited jurisdiction providing specific "how to" information for judicial officers and support personnel to perform their jobs successfully. 1985, 679 pp., 1 vol., 3rd Ed.

### Rules of Court

The Washington State Bar Association submitted for consideration proposed changes to the Superior Court Criminal Rules (CrRs). Proposed changes were submitted to the Supreme Court under General Rule (GR) 9, using the normal review cycle.

**CrR 2.1** The standard for permitting the amendment of a bill of particulars is changed from "as justice requires" to "if substantial rights of the defendant are not prejudiced."

**CrR 3.1** A new subsection, (d)(3), states that information furnished by a defendant to assist in determining whether a person is financially able to obtain counsel will be made under oath and will not be available by the prosecution for use in the case.

**CrR 3.2** The amendments to this rule will permit a court to consider an accused's likelihood to commit a violent crime or to seek to intimidate witnesses or otherwise interfere with the administration of justice in determining whether or not the accused should be released on personal recognizance pending trial, or in setting the amount of bail subject to standards and procedures.

**CrR 3.3(d)** Subsection (4) was amended to clarify that the 60-day or 90-day time for trial is measured from the defendant's next appearance in superior court, when both parties are notified of the appearance, after the receipt of the appellate court mandate.

**CrR 4.2(g)** A new sentence is added to the written statement on a guilty plea to inform a defendant that the court may require the payment of restitution, costs, assessments, and recoupment of expenses or defense services provided by the court.

**CrR 7.1(b)** This amendment requires the presentence report, if one is ordered, to contain information about the victim.

**New CrR 7.8** This new rule entitled "Relief From Judgment or Order" codifies decisional law and selectively incorporates relevant portions of CR 60 to criminal cases.

In addition, the Supreme Court adopted CAR 26 which established a special panel of judges pro tempore to reduce the backlog of cases in the Court of Appeals. It terminated on July 1, 1987.

## State Supreme Court Offices

### Administrator for the Courts

The Office of the Administrator for the Courts was created in 1957. The Administrator is empowered, under the direction of the Chief Justice, to examine the judiciary and make recommendations for modernization and improvement. The office provides budgeting, accounting, and personnel services to the Supreme Court. It also provides various support services to the courts in general.

The following are the divisions within the Office of the Administrator for the Courts: Administration, Client Services, Court

Services, Data Administration, Education, Fiscal, Information Services, Legal Services, Maintenance, New Development, Personnel, Production Services, Public Information, Software Services, Research and Statistics, Superior Court, and Support Services.

### Clerk of the Supreme Court

Established under Article IV, Section 22 of the Washington Constitution, the Clerk of the Supreme Court maintains the court's records, files, and documents. The clerk is responsible for managing the Court's caseload including the docketing of all cases and papers filed, arranging for the reproduction and service of all briefs filed, and preparing court calendars, as well as arranging for pro tem judges. All special court proceedings and ceremonies are either arranged by, or coordinated through, the Clerk's Office.

The clerk rules on allowable costs, such as attorney fees, in each case decided by the Supreme Court, and may also rule on various other procedural motions. Indigent appeal cost bills for the Supreme Court and the three divisions of the Court of Appeals are also approved for payment by the clerk.

The Clerk's Office is the repository for all records concerning admissions and discipline of those authorized to practice law in Washington State, and of all disciplinary proceedings referred to the Court by the Commission on Judicial Conduct.

### Commissioner of the Supreme Court

The Office of Commissioner was created by rule in 1975. The Commissioner serves the Supreme Court by appointment. The Court delegated certain decision-making functions to the Commissioner subject to the court's review. The Commissioner's office also aids the court's preparation of decisions, principally through memoranda of analysis and recommendation.

### Reporter of Decisions

The Reporter of Decisions is responsible for publishing the *Washington Reports* and the *Washington Appellate Reports*. These publications contain the full text of the formal written opinions decided by the state's Supreme Court and its Court of Appeals. Advance sheets containing the most recent cases are published on alternating weeks for each set of reports.

A codification of official court rules is published each September and is distributed free of charge to subscribers to the *Washington Reports* advance sheets. Bound volumes of the reports, containing approximately 1,000 pages of opinions and editorial matter, are published five or six times each year. These constitute

the final authoritative source of the Washington appellate court decisions.

The Reporter and his attorney staff draft legal headnotes detailing the precedential holdings in the opinion and factual paragraphs summarizing the nature of the case and its disposition at every court level. The headnotes and statement of the case are approved by the author of the opinion.

The Reporter publishes the *Washington Reports Style Manual* which sets forth rules of style as adopted by the Supreme Court. All published appellate court opinions are edited for style and made to conform to the rules in the manual. The Reporter's staff also checks format and legal citations. Any discrepancies found are resolved by communicating with the author of the opinion.

### State Law Librarian

The State Law Library maintains a legal research facility for the use of all three branches of state government. Service is also provided statewide to attorneys, units of local government, other libraries, and the general public. Its nearly 250,000 volumes make it one of the largest legal research collections in the Northwest.

The library has automated, on-line bibliographic search capabilities which yield information on state and federal case law, administrative rules and regulations, and state and federal statutory codes, plus citations from a broad range of other publications including newspapers, technical journals, government documents, dissertations, and legal periodicals.

The library's periodical collection of 2,000-plus titles is now totally incorporated into the Washington Library Network (WLN) database which provides immediate access to the more than 284 libraries participating in WLN. Off-system libraries access the collection through microfiche catalogs.

In June 1984 the library's major card catalog was reproduced in microfiche, thereby providing a catalog that could be easily duplicated and distributed to other libraries. Through the microfiche catalog, the library of each division of the state Court of Appeals has a major portion of the State Law Library's holdings immediately available to them.

An in-house, multi-user/multi-tasking microcomputer system for serials control and fund accounting was completed in 1985. Approximately 4,000 serial publications and fund accounting records are stored on the system.

A bimonthly publication, *Selected Recent Acquisitions*, is currently distributed to over 250 state and county offices, law firms, and general and law libraries throughout the state. It is also

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sent to selected law libraries in other states. An abbreviated acquisitions list is published in the *Washington State Bar News*. A "Book Notes" column, begun in 1985, is prepared for *Judiciary*, a quarterly publication issued to members of the state's judicial community by the Office of the Administrator for the Courts.