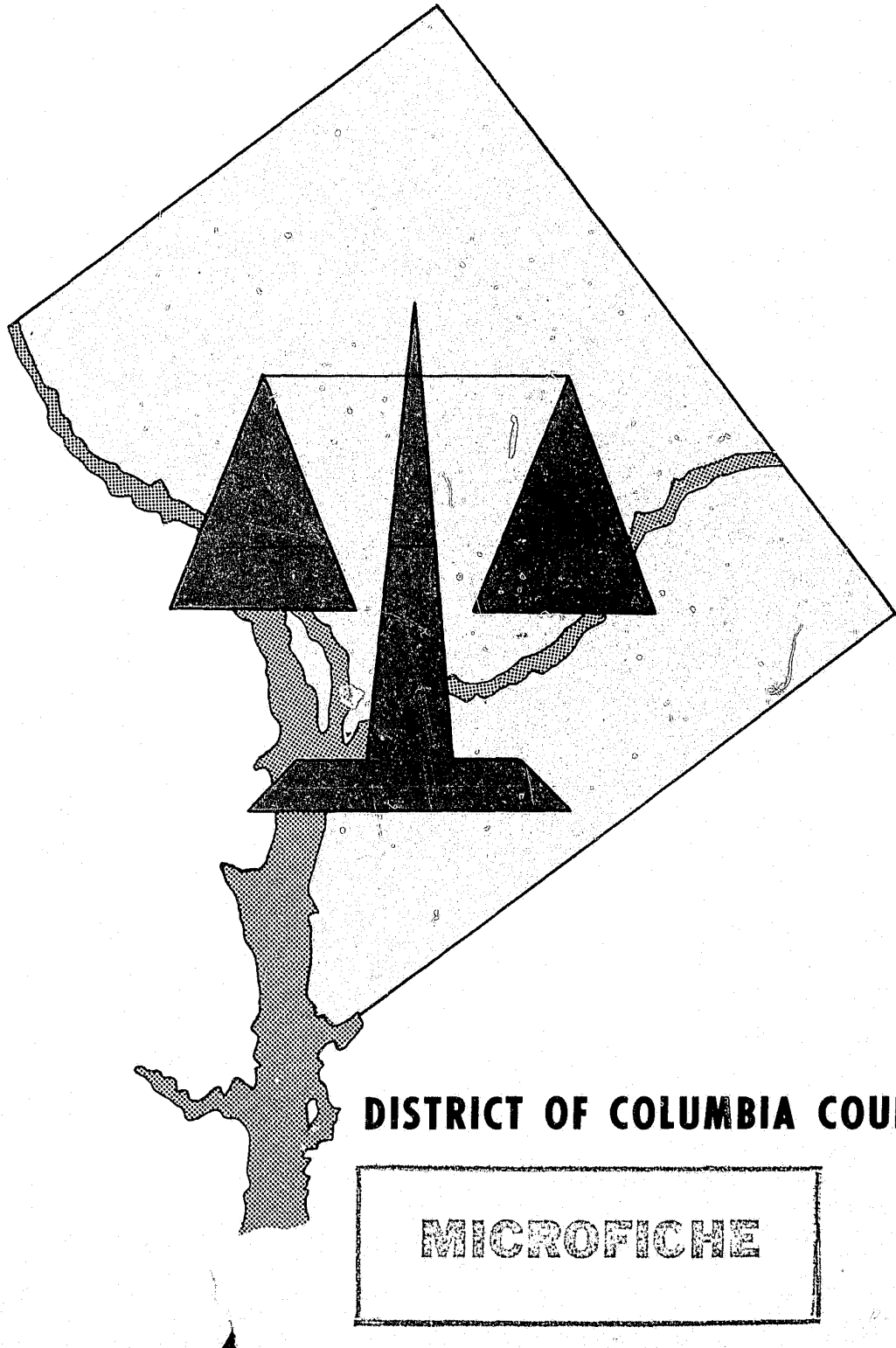


# 1976 ANNUAL REPORT



**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**

**MICROFICHE**

42374

Cover designed by Carolyn R. Davenport

# 1976 ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-COURTS**

NCJRS

JUL 1 1977

ACQUISITIONS

Under the provisions of 11 D.C. Code 1701 (c)(2) and 1745(a), the Joint Committee on Judicial Administration in the District of Columbia and the Executive Officer publish the 1976 Annual Report of the District of Columbia Courts.



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**JOINT COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



**Chief Judge Theodore R. Newman, Jr.**  
District of Columbia Court of Appeals  
Chairman



**Chief Judge Harold H. Greene**  
Superior Court of the  
District of Columbia



**Judge Frank Q. Nebeker**  
District of Columbia  
Court of Appeals



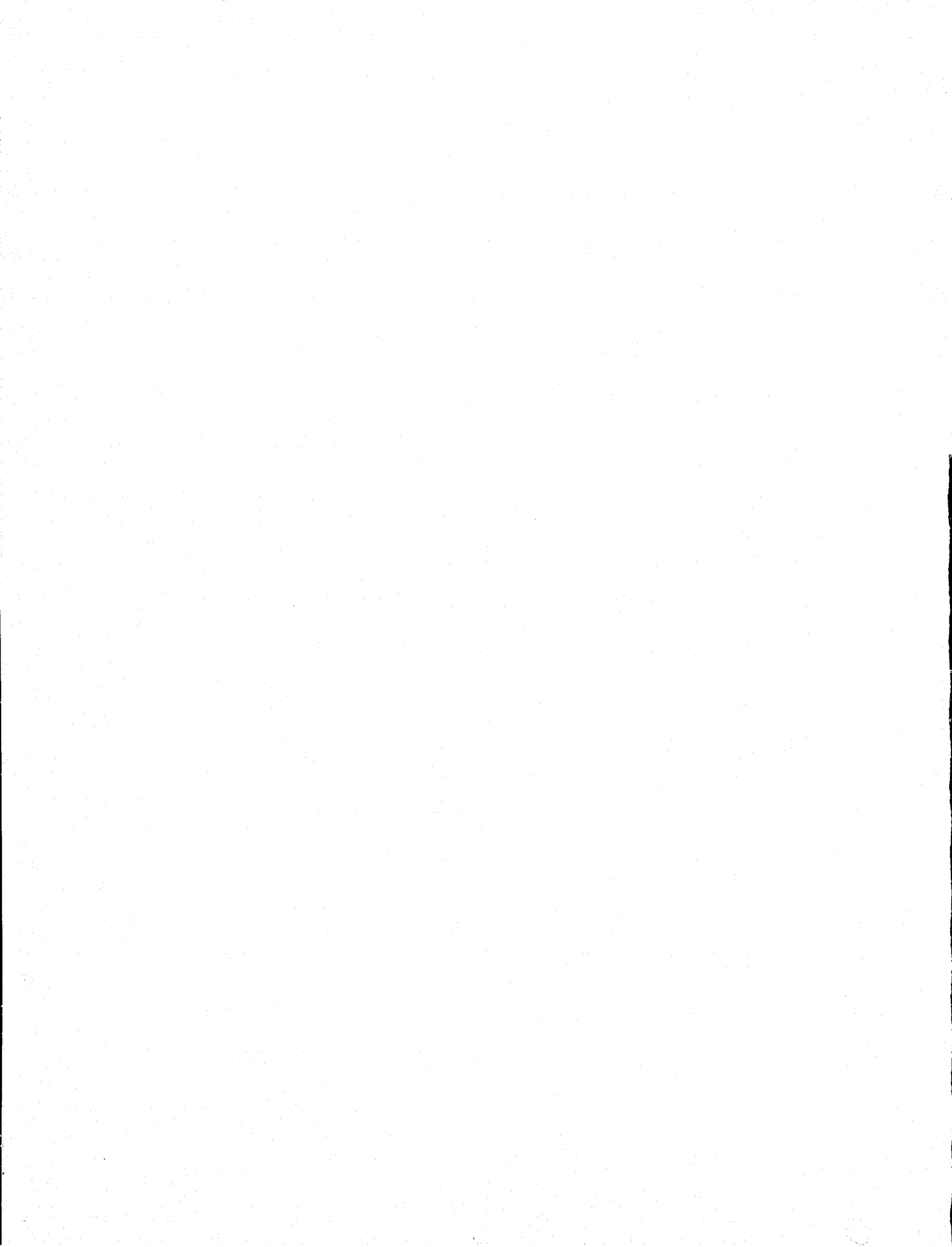
**Judge Fred L. McIntyre**  
Superior Court of the  
District of Columbia



**Judge William S. Thompson**  
Superior Court of the  
District of Columbia



**Arnold M. Malech**  
Executive Officer







**COURT  
OF  
APPEALS**

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS**

*Chief Judge*

Theodore R. Newman, Jr.

*Associate Judges*

Catherine B. Kelly

Austin L. Fickling

John W. Kern III

George R. Gallagher

Frank Q. Nebeker

J. Walter Yeagley

Stanley S. Harris

Julia Cooper Mack

*Retired Judges*

Nathan Cayton

Andrew M. Hood

Hubert B. Pair

Gerard D. Reilly

*Clerk of the Court*

Alexander L. Stevas

JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT OF APPEALS



Chief Judge Theodore R. Newman, Jr.



Judge Catherine B. Kelly



Judge Austin L. Fickling



Judge John W. Kern III



Judge George R. Gallagher



Judge Frank Q. Nebeker



Judge J. Walter Yeagley



Judge Stanley S. Harris



Judge Julia Cooper Mack

# REPORT OF CHIEF JUDGE THEODORE R. NEWMAN, JR., ON THE STATE OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

On October 26, 1976, I was designated Chief Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, replacing retired Chief Judge Gerard D. Reilly. Although my tenure in office during this reporting period has been brief, I am pleased to submit statistics which indicate that the Court, under Judge Reilly's leadership, was able to keep up with the burgeoning case load.

A brief review of some pertinent statistics illustrates the position in which the Court now finds itself: In 1971, of the 613 cases filed, 502 (82 percent) were terminated by final disposition, leaving 111 pending. In 1976, of the 1,342 cases filed, 1,195 (89 percent) were terminated by final disposition; however, including the accumulation of annual shortfalls, 1,147 remained pending. Thus, even with the increase in the percentage of dispositions, the backlog has reached ominous proportions. At the end of 1976, the Court had virtually as many cases pending as were disposed of during the year, and we presently have a backlog of undecided and unargued cases equal to a full year's work.

Immediately upon taking office in October, I sought to increase the efficiency of the Court. Some of the actions taken during these last two months of 1976 are:

1. *Pre-Argument Settlement Conferences.* Pre-argument settlement conferences are being used throughout the country for settlement or simplification of issues on appeal. Such conferences have been utilized with success in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, several divisions of the Supreme Court of New York, and the Third District Court of Appeals in California.\* Satisfied that such a program would prove useful in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, I requested and obtained LEAA funding for a seminar for District of Columbia Court of Appeals judges and members of the bar to consider adoption of pre-argument settlement conferences.

The seminar will be scheduled in early 1977, and panelists will be Judge George Parris of California, Judge David Benjamin of New York, and Mr. Nathaniel Fensterstock of the United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit.

I am confident that implementation of this program will have a salutary effect on our backlog.

2. *Internal Operating Rules.* The District of Columbia Court of Appeals does not have formal internal operating rules, and I believe adoption of such rules would facilitate more orderly conduct of the Court's business. The Rules Committee of the Court has been charged with drafting such initial rules and with presenting them to the Board of Judges for consideration.

3. *Computerization of Dockets.* Despite constant efforts toward administrative efficiency, the docketing function in the clerk's office remains somewhat delayed. My review of this function indicates that it is an appropriate area for computer utilization. The Court has sought and tentatively received federal grant funds in the amount of \$21,000 to accomplish this task in 1977.

While these steps and others will increase our production, I believe more is needed. We must plan for the extended future, i.e., how do we get from here to where we want to be five years hence? One way is through the establishment of a Judicial Planning Committee. Such a Committee was authorized in each state and the District of Columbia by the Crime Control Act of 1976, Public Law 94-503 (approved October 16, 1976). The Act guarantees planning funds and contemplates both annual and multi-year planning. It is the multi-year planning which presents a unique and challenging opportunity for the entire Court system. The Committee will be appointed and operational in early 1977.

Another step toward improving not only the District of Columbia Court of Appeals but the entire Court system was taken in June of 1976. At that time I was serving as a judge in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. That step was the first meeting of the Judicial Conference of the District of Columbia, authorized by Public Law 94-193 (approved December 31, 1975). This Conference brought together local trial and appellate judges and distinguished members of the legal community to discuss mutual problems relating to the operations of the Courts and the administration of justice.

Motions approved by the Conference include the following:

1. *ABA Standards Study Committee.* The Conference chairman is authorized to appoint a special committee to study the ABA Standards relating to judicial administration and the various supporting staff studies. The committee will present a report to the Conference

\*See article entitled "The Appellate Settlement Conference," published in the ABA Journal, November 1976, Vol. 62, p. 1433.

next year on how best to implement those standards which are found applicable to the District of Columbia.

2. *Recidivism Statistics Study Committee.* The Chief Judge is to appoint a joint committee of the Judicial Conference and the bar (which will include representatives of criminal justice agencies involved, the unified bar, and the voluntary bar associations) to examine the general problems of recidivism. The committee will study statistics presently available or which will be available in the course of the next year to determine appropriate action with respect to bail and other administration of justice questions in the District of Columbia.

Two resolutions were adopted by the Conference:

1. *Bar Admission on Motion.* It was resolved that admission to the Bar of the District of Columbia without examination requires practice for the last five years or, in the alternative, treatment of the applicant in a reciprocal manner as his state would treat an applicant from the District of Columbia, excluding residency.

The proposed amendment to Rule 46 of the General Rules, which incorporates this resolution, will be considered at the January 1977 Board of Judges meeting.

2. *Conference Support of Judges Regarding Pre-Trial Release.* It was resolved that the Conference:

a. Supports the proper application of the law of the District of Columbia regarding pre-trial release by the judges of the Courts of the District of Columbia, including the statutory prohibition against utilizing money bond rather than other conditions specified in the statute to assure the community safety;

b. Deplores unfounded criticism of judges for carrying out their obligation to enforce the law;

c. Supports all efforts for expediting trials of accused persons who are thought to pose high risks of future criminal offenses;

d. Urges a careful analysis of the facts to determine the extent of crimes committed by persons on pre-trial release;

e. Supports the provision of adequate supervision for persons released pending their trials, including appropriate treatment for and monitoring of narcotic addicts;

f. Supports a high priority of public funding to enable the Courts to carry out their responsibilities to the public; and

g. Directs the transmission of this resolution to the Congress of the United States, the Mayor, the Chief of Police, the United States Attorney, the Corporation Counsel, and the District of Columbia City Council.

---

The details of the status of the business of the Court follow:

In 1976, the Clerk's Office docketed a record number of appeals, i.e., 1,342; 826 criminal case filings; 346 civil filings; and 170 administrative agency filings. The steady increase in case load since 1971 continued.

CHART A  
DISTRIBUTION OF FILINGS

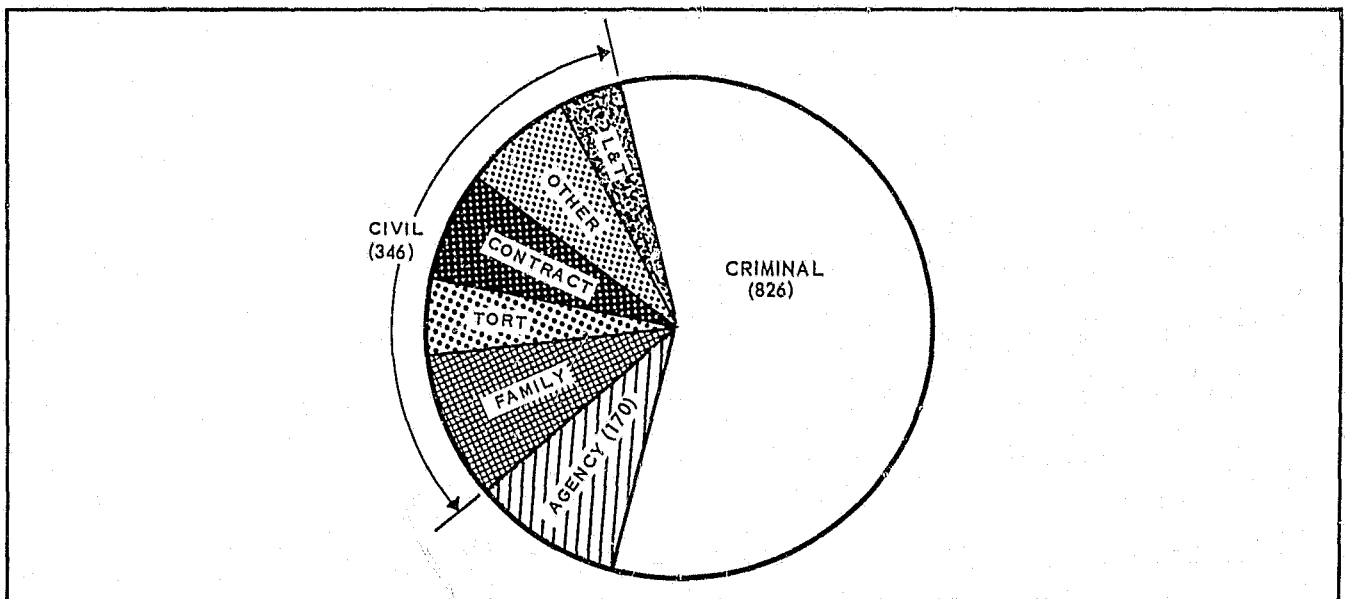


CHART B  
CASE FILINGS

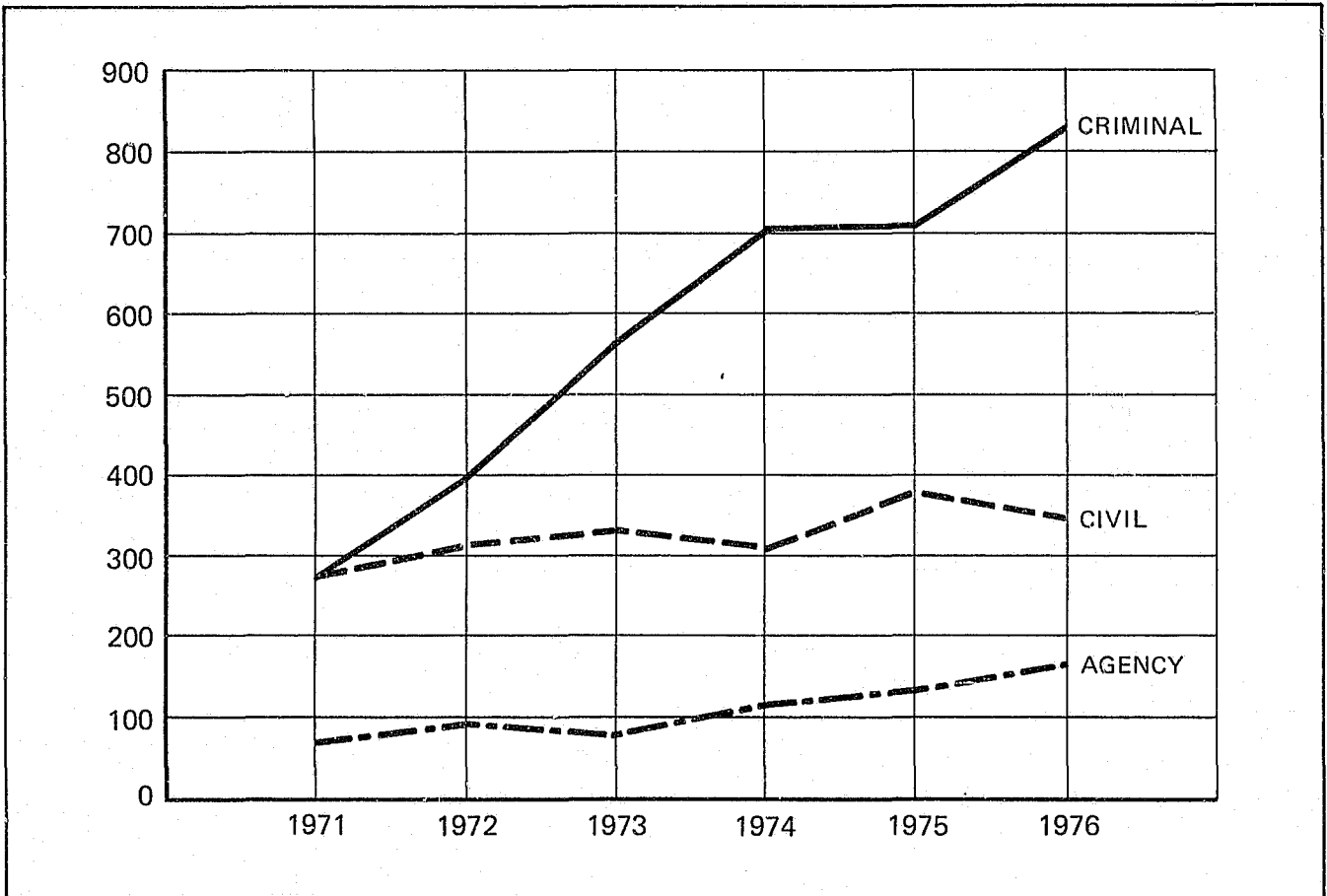


TABLE 1  
APPEALS AND PETITIONS FOR REVIEW

Filings	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	Percent Change	
							1975-76	1971-76
Criminal	269	392	569	702	706	826	16.9	207.1
Civil	274	310	329	308	380	346	-8.9	26.3
Agency	70	94	82	118	135	170	25.9	142.8
Total	613	796	980	1,128	1,221	1,342	9.9	118.9

As in the past, the Court's docket in 1976 was dominated by criminal appeals. Although the 9.9 percent increase from 1975 to 1976 (121 cases) is below the average annual percentage of increase for the entire six-year history of the Court as now constituted of 17.2%, it is greater than the percentage of increase from 1974 to 1975 of 8.2%. This may indicate that the increase is again on the rise.

TABLE 2  
SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF FILINGS

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>
Total Filings:	613	796	980	1,128	1,221	1,342
Increases:	(71-72)	(72-73)	(73-74)	(74-75)	(75-76)	
Numerical	183	184	148	93	121	
Percentage	29.8	23.1	15.1	8.2	9.9	

The number of indictments filed in the Superior Court each year appears to have a direct relationship to the number of criminal appeals filed in the Appeals Court. As the indictment rate has grown, so has the number of criminal appeals. Chart C indicates that the rate of criminal appeals has tended to increase at a slightly greater pace. Moreover, the criminal appeals case load continued to increase in 1976 notwithstanding the decline in indictments.

TABLE 3  
PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE

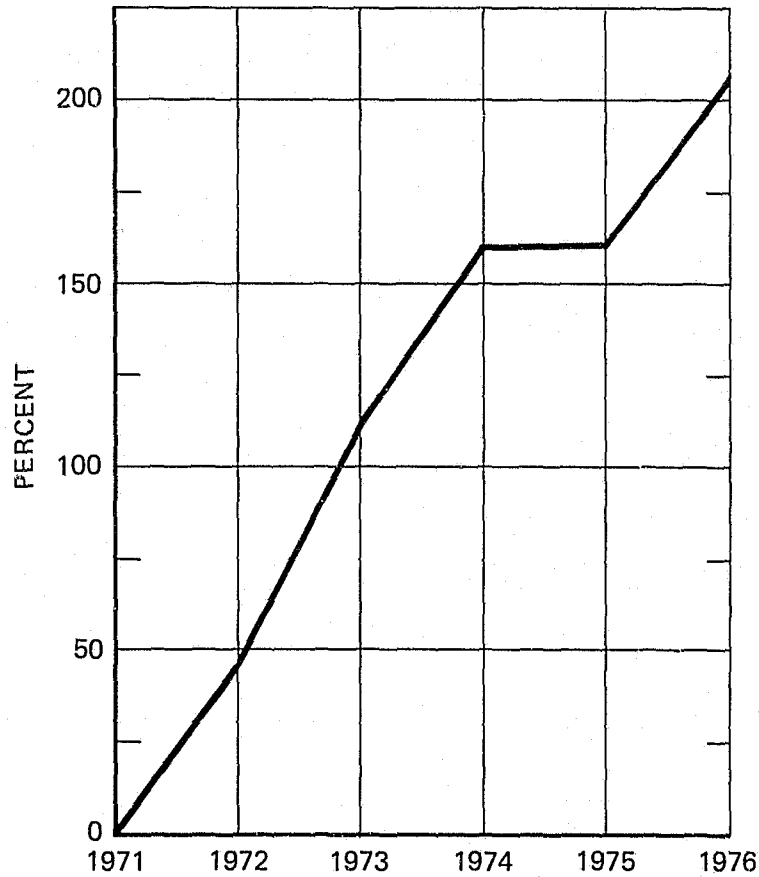
	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>
Criminal Appeals	269	392	569	702	706	826
Indictments	1,841	2,348	3,354	3,514	4,138	3,737

CHART C

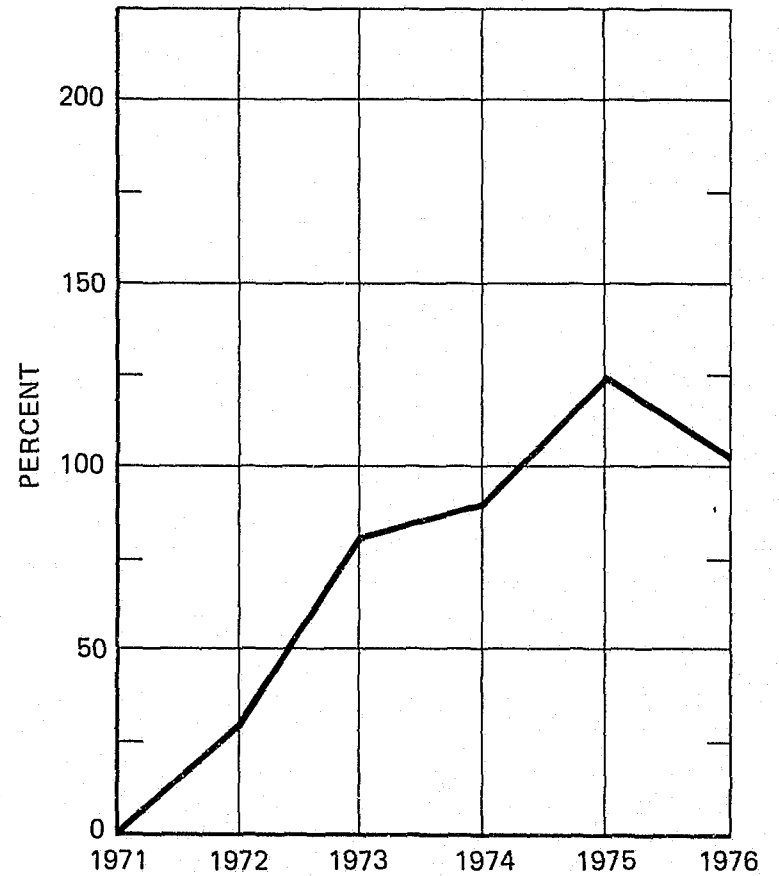
COMPARISON OF CRIMINAL APPEALS AND INDICTMENTS  
(by percentage of increase of subsequent years over year 1971)

COMPARISON OF CRIMINAL APPEALS AND INDICTMENTS  
(By percentage of increase of subsequent years over year 1971)

CRIMINAL APPEALS



INDICTMENTS







It is significant to note that although criminal appeals and petitions for review from administrative agencies increased in 1976 by 16.9% and 25.9% respectively, civil appeals dropped by 8.9%. This decline was not anticipated since 1975 was a year of record growth.

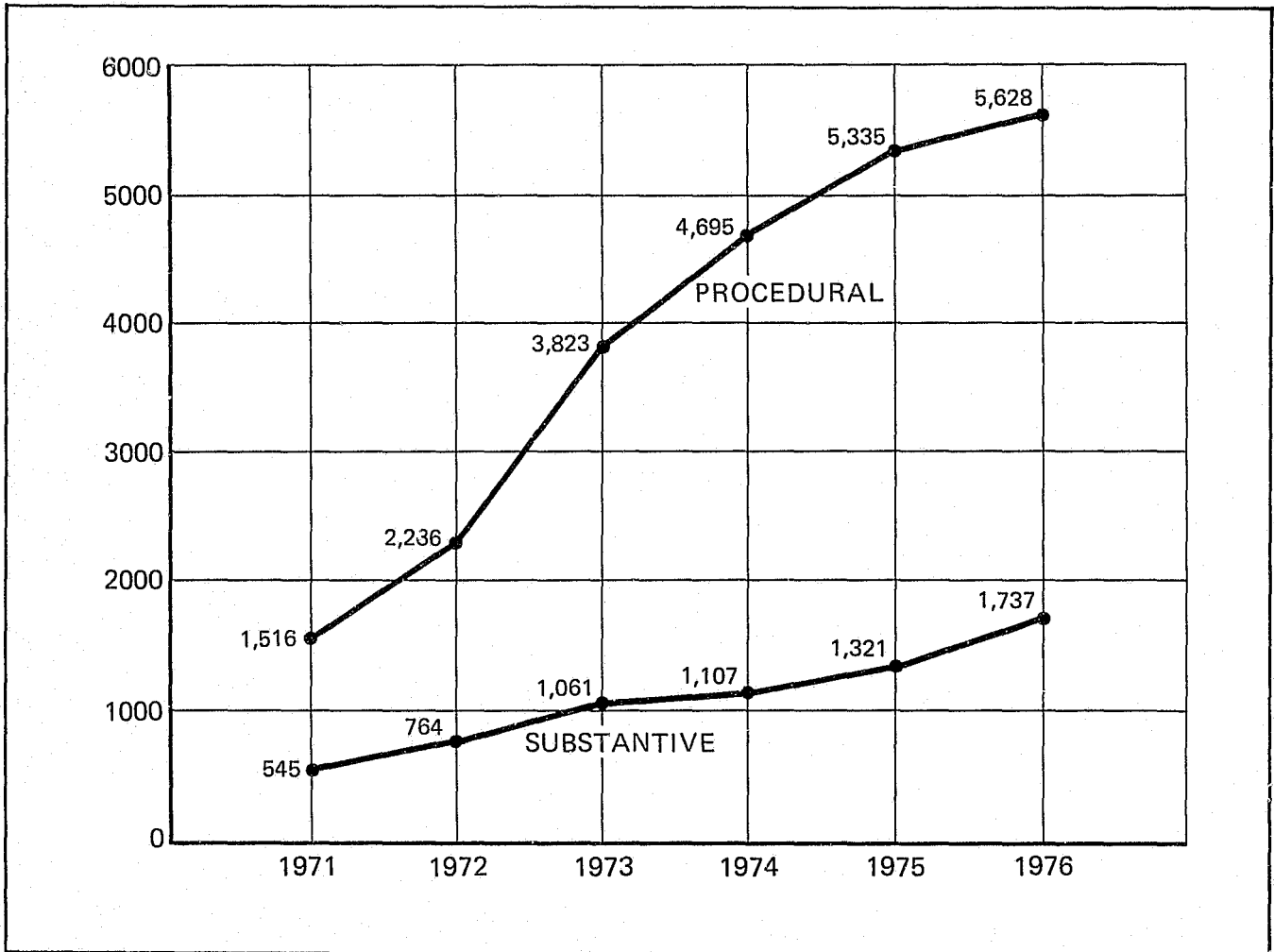
In order to accurately reflect the Court's case load in 1976, two other aspects of the work load should be mentioned: (1) motions; and (2) pending cases.

Table 4 provides yearly data on the two types of motions which are filed with the Court, i.e., procedural motions which are handled by one judge and include requests for extensions of time to enlarge the record, to appoint counsel, etc.; and, substantive motions which necessitate study and resolution by a three-judge panel and may often dispose of the case before argument. This year the total number of motions increased by 709 motions over 1975 (293 procedural and 416 substantive). The number of substantive motions which require significant judicial research and deliberation increased by 31.5%. This represents the greatest increase in substantive motions recorded. The increase in motions work load is illustrated in Table 4 and Chart D.

TABLE 4  
MOTIONS

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	Percent Change	
							1975-76	1971-76
Procedural Motions	1,516	2,286	3,823	4,695	5,335	5,628	5.5	271.2
Substantive Motions	<u>545</u>	<u>764</u>	<u>1,020</u>	<u>1,107</u>	<u>1,321</u>	<u>1,737</u>	<u>31.5</u>	<u>218.7</u>
Total	2,061	3,050	4,843	5,802	6,656	7,365	10.6	253.3

CHART D  
SUMMARY OF MOTIONS CASE LOAD



Efforts by the Court to keep abreast of its case load have resulted in a steady increase in the rate of dispositions. Notwithstanding the fact that the rate of dispositions by the Court has increased over the past few years at approximately the same pace as the rate of case filings with a slightly greater increase in 1976, when coupled with the pending case load on January 1, it is readily apparent that the case load has become insurmountable (Chart F). Indeed, in 1976 almost as many cases were pending as were disposed of.

CHART E  
COMPARISON OF CASE LOAD TO DISPOSITIONS

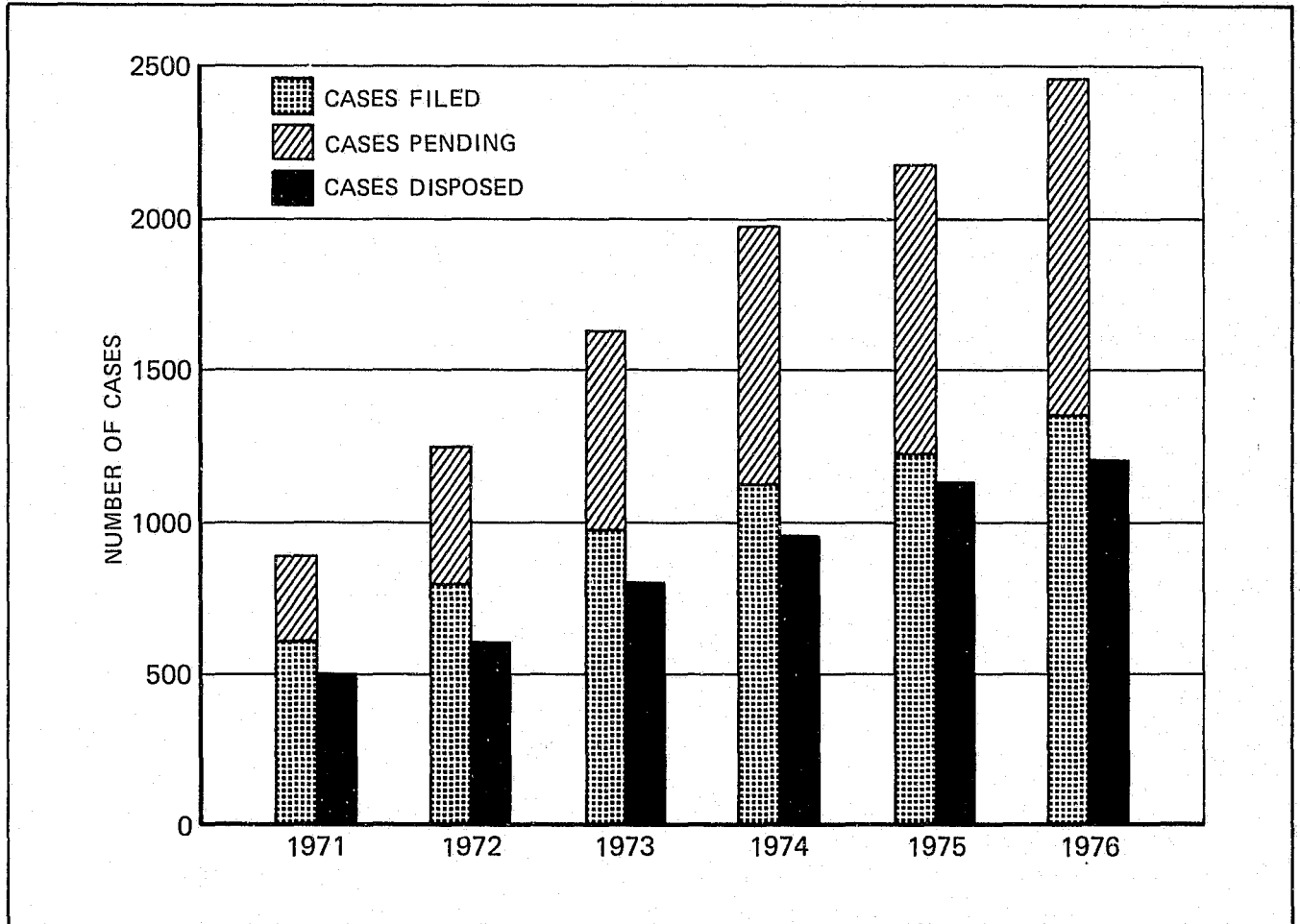
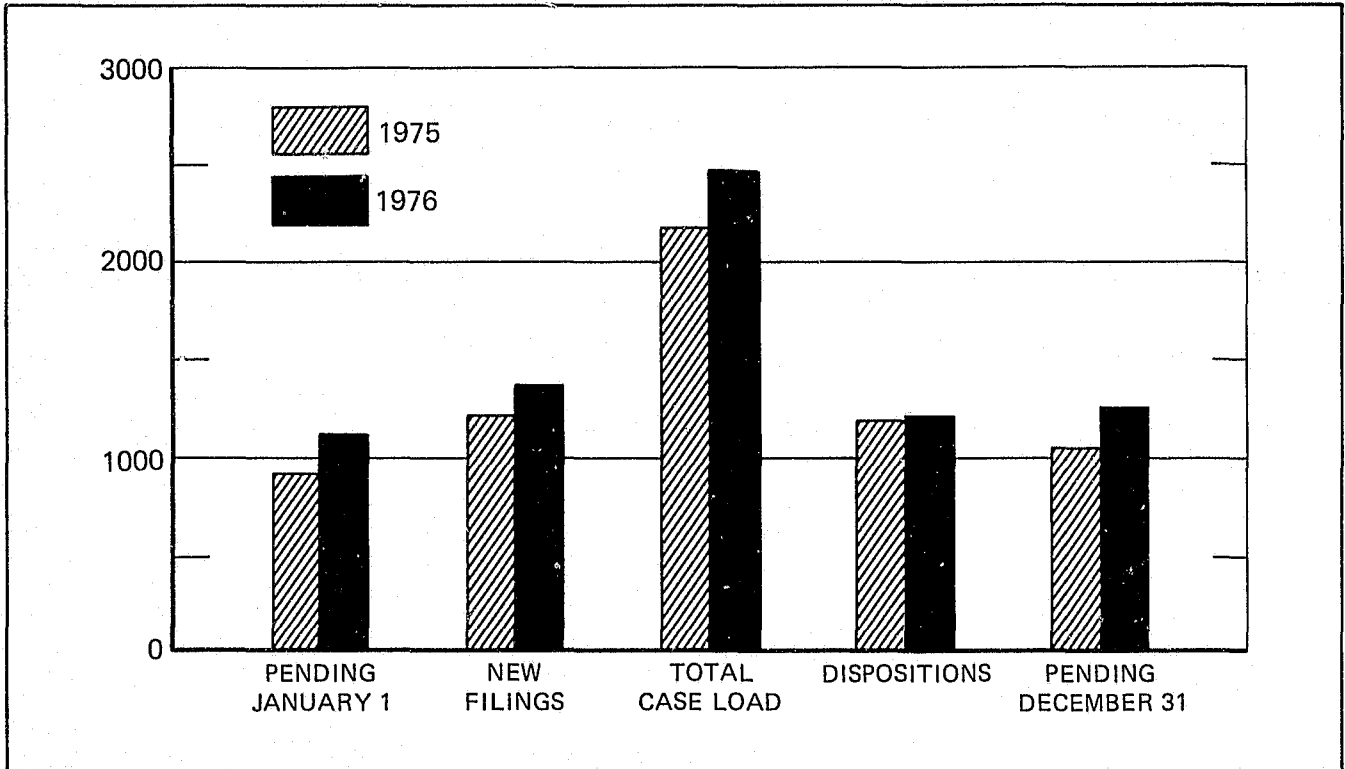


CHART F  
1976 SUMMARY OF CASE LOAD



The above chart summarizes the overall work load of the Court during the previous year. In terms of output, i.e., the Court's disposition rate, it is noteworthy to examine the work load of appellate courts in other jurisdictions to illustrate the heavy burden placed upon the judges of this Court in 1976. During that year, of the eight appellate benches in the country with nine judges, the District's work load was greatest (D.C.—1,342; Washington—489; Oklahoma—1,200; Iowa—956; Alabama—448). Moreover, four of these jurisdictions, i.e., 50%, have intermediate courts which sift out many of the appeals. If population is used as a measuring stick, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals must also cope with the largest case load for jurisdictions of approximately 800,000 (Idaho—274; Montana—266; New Hampshire—269). In sum, compared to other jurisdictions, the work load of our judges has reached record proportions.

One measure taken by the Court which contributed significantly to the growth of its output in 1976 was to increase the number of cases calendared during the year, thereby placing more cases in the decision-making process at an earlier stage. During 1976, 239

appeals were scheduled on the Summary Calendar, and 376 were scheduled on the Regular Calendar for a total of 615, an increase of 108 cases over the number calendared in 1975. The judges heard oral argument in 420 cases as compared to 358 in 1975. Faced with this additional work load and in spite of the additional time devoted to oral argument, the judges wrote more opinions than ever before. In 1976, the number of opinions increased by 60 opinions or 24.3%. Each judge wrote approximately seven more opinions in 1976 than in 1975. In addition to the increase in the total number of opinions, the number of dissenting and concurring opinions which require an equal amount of judicial time as the principal opinion have increased from 1971 when 8 were recorded to 36 in 1976; 11 concurring, 25 dissenting. This represents a 350% increase from 1971 to 1976. At the same time as opinions increased and after four years of steady increase, the number of judgments declined by 121 or by 24.5% below the disposition rate in 1975. The greatest increase in dispositions was by order. Cases disposed of by order increased by 138 or 36.4% over the previous year.

CHART G  
DISPOSITIONS

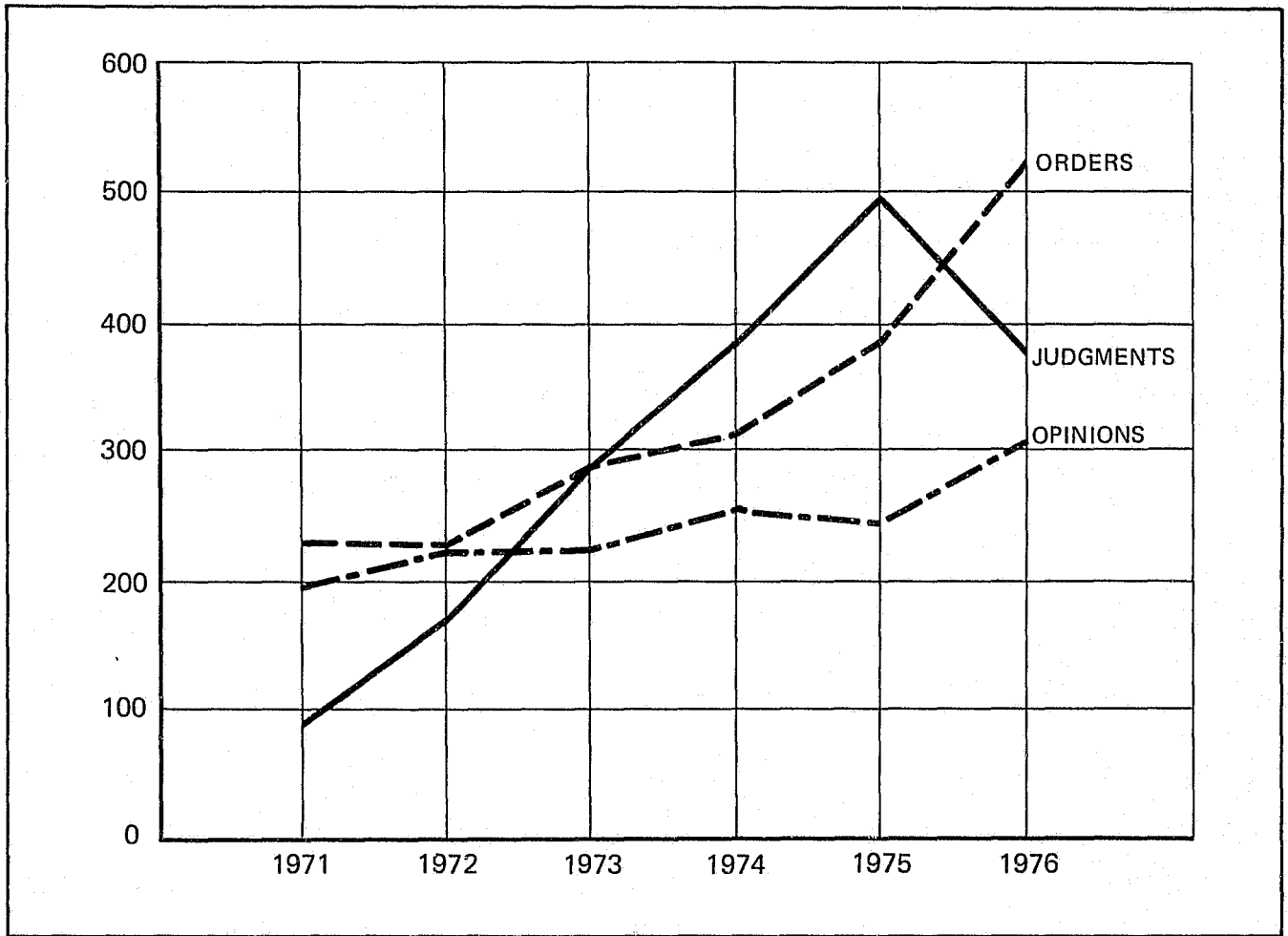


TABLE 5  
DISPOSITIONS

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	Percent Change	
							1975-76	1971-76
Opinion	190	219	221	251	247	307	24.3	61.6
Judgment	86	165	284	382	494	373	-24.5	333.7
Order	<u>226</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>284</u>	<u>312</u>	<u>379</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>36.4</u>	<u>128.8</u>
Total Dispositions	502	608	789	945	1,120	1,197	6.9	138.4

Another step taken to increase the disposition rate in 1976 was the frequent utilization of retired judges. In addition to this increased judicial support, the year 1976 was the first full year since 1974 that the Court did not suffer a judicial vacancy during a substantial part of the year, and the first full year with one additional law clerk assigned to each judge.

While the judges were increasing their output of opinions, they were also contributing to the reduction of some four weeks (28 days) in the average length of time from argument or submission to disposition. This is particularly significant for a number of reasons: (1) more cases were scheduled; (2) more cases were argued; and (3) more cases went to a merits division for disposition. It is also noteworthy that this is the first decrease in six years and at a time when all other stages of appeal increased by a total of 81 days.

TABLE 6  
SUMMARY OF TIME ON APPEAL

Stages of Appeal	Number of Days					
	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Time from notice of appeal to the filing of the record	67	65	61	62	63	82
Time from filing of record until briefing is completed	97	96	97	90	94	122
Time from completing briefing to argument	24	25	47	62	67	101
Time from argument to decision	55	79	81	97	155	127
Overall time from notice of appeal to decision	243	265	286	311	379	432

Since 1971, this Court has been vested by statute, D.C. Code 1973, §11-2501, with the authority to make rule with respect to the examination, qualification, and admission of persons to membership in the bar of this jurisdiction, and the exercise of disciplinary action over members of the bar. In 1976, under the direction of our Committee on Admissions, two bar examinations were administered. The number applying for admission by examination was 1,094, a slight increase from the total of 1,072 in 1975. The number of lawyers from other jurisdictions who were moved for admission increased by 305, from 1,162 in 1975 to 1,467 in 1976. The bar admission figures are shown in Table 7. Disciplinary actions against attorneys in 1976 are broken down by categories in Table 8.

TABLE 7  
BAR ADMISSIONS

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
<b>Applications for Admission to Bar by Examination</b>					
Total Number Filed.....	785	1,265	1,155	1,072	1,094
Number of Applications Withdrawn.....	51	84	53	47	53
Number of Applications Rejected.....	3	5	7	13	7
Number of Unsuccessful Applicants.....	173	443	389	347	394
Number of Successful applicants.....	558	733	696	656	636
Number of Applicants Admitted.....	556	733	235	1,097**	662
Number of Applicants Pending Admission.....	2	2	463	22	22
<b>Applications for Admission to the Bar by Motion</b>					
Total Number Filed.....	402	809	1,005	1,496	1,319
Number of Applicants Admitted.....	195	705	829	1,162	1,467
Number of Applications Rejected.....	8	3	18	31	56
Number of Applications Pending.....	199	300	458	538*	470

\*Of the 538 applications pending, 93 are being investigated by the National Conference of Bar Examiners; 266 applicants have been notified to come in and take the oath; and 101 are in process.

\*\*Includes persons who had passed examinations in 1974, but were not sworn in until 1975.

The Court also monitors the Law-Students-in-Court program which provides for limited practice in the local Courts for third-year law students. The program now has 390 participants.



**TABLE 8**  
**DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Disbarments.....	0	1	4	6	4
Suspensions.....	10	10	12	9	7
Public Censure.....	—	—	—	1	—
Petitions for Reinstatement.....	0	3	2	4	3
Petitions of Bar Counsel of Disciplinary Board to conduct formal hearing.....	0	1	16	20	8
Miscellaneous Petitions .....	0	5	7	1	5



**SUPERIOR  
COURT**

# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## *Chief Judge*

Harold H. Greene

## *Associate Judges*

Orman W. Ketcham  
DeWitt S. Hyde  
Joseph M. F. Ryan, Jr.  
Edmond T. Daly  
Charles W. Halleck  
Richard R. Atkinson  
Harry Toussaint Alexander  
Tim Murphy  
Milton D. Korman  
Fred L. McIntyre  
Alfred Burka  
John D. Fauntleroy  
Joyce Hens Green  
James A. Belson  
William C. Pryor  
W. Byron Sorrell  
George Herbert Goodrich  
William S. Thompson  
George H. Revercomb  
James A. Washington, Jr.  
John F. Doyle

Paul F. McArdle  
William E. Stewart, Jr.  
Dyer Justice Taylor  
Leonard Braman  
Nicholas S. Nunzio  
Sylvia Bacon  
John Garrett Penn  
Norma Holloway Johnson  
Eugene N. Hamilton  
George W. Draper II  
Samuel B. Block  
Margaret Austin Haywood  
Joseph Michael Hannon  
Robert H. Campbell  
Luke C. Moore  
John R. Hess  
Donald S. Smith  
H. Carl Moultrie I  
David L. Norman  
Fred B. Ugast  
Bruce S. Mencher

## *Retired Judges*

George D. Neilson  
Thomas C. Scalley  
Milton S. Kronheim, Jr.  
Mary C. Barlow  
John J. Malloy  
Robert M. Weston  
Edward A. Beard

## *Clerk of the Court*

Joseph M. Burton

**JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



Chief Judge  
Harold H. Greene



Judge Orman W. Ketcham



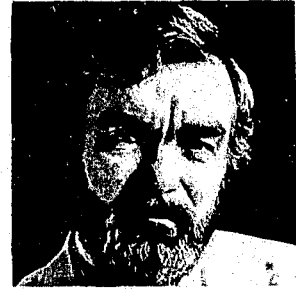
Judge DeWitt S. Hyde



Judge Joseph M. F. Ryan, Jr.



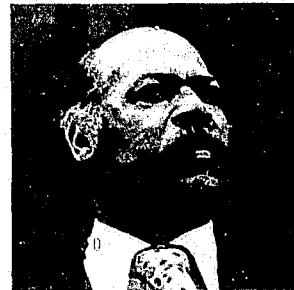
Judge Edmond T. Daly



Judge Charles W. Halleck



Judge Richard R. Atkinson



Judge Harry Toussaint Alexander



Judge Tim Murphy



Judge Milton D. Korman



Judge Fred L. McIntyre



Judge Alfred Burka



Judge John D. Fauntleroy



Judge Joyce Hens Green



Judge James A. Belson



Judge William C. Pryor



Judge W. Byron Sorrell



Judge George Herbert Goodrich



Judge William S. Thompson



Judge George H. Revercomb



Judge James A. Washington, Jr.



Judge John F. Doyle



Judge Paul F. McArdle



Judge William E. Stewart, Jr.



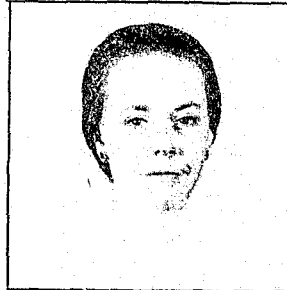
Judge Dyer Justice Taylor



Judge Leonard Braman



Judge Nicholas S. Nunzio



Judge Sylvia Bacon



Judge John Garrett Penn



Judge Norma Holloway Johnson



Judge Eugene N. Hamilton



Judge George W. Draper II



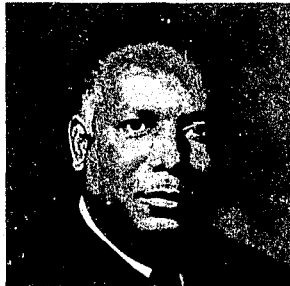
Judge Margaret Austin Haywood



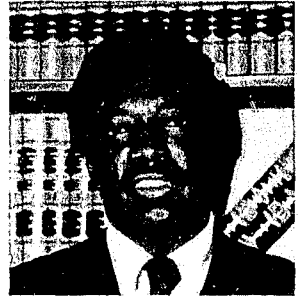
Judge Samuel B. Block



Judge Joseph Michael Hannon



Judge Robert H. Campbell



Judge Luke C. Moore



Judge H. Carl Moultrie I



Judge John R. Hess



Judge Donald S. Smith



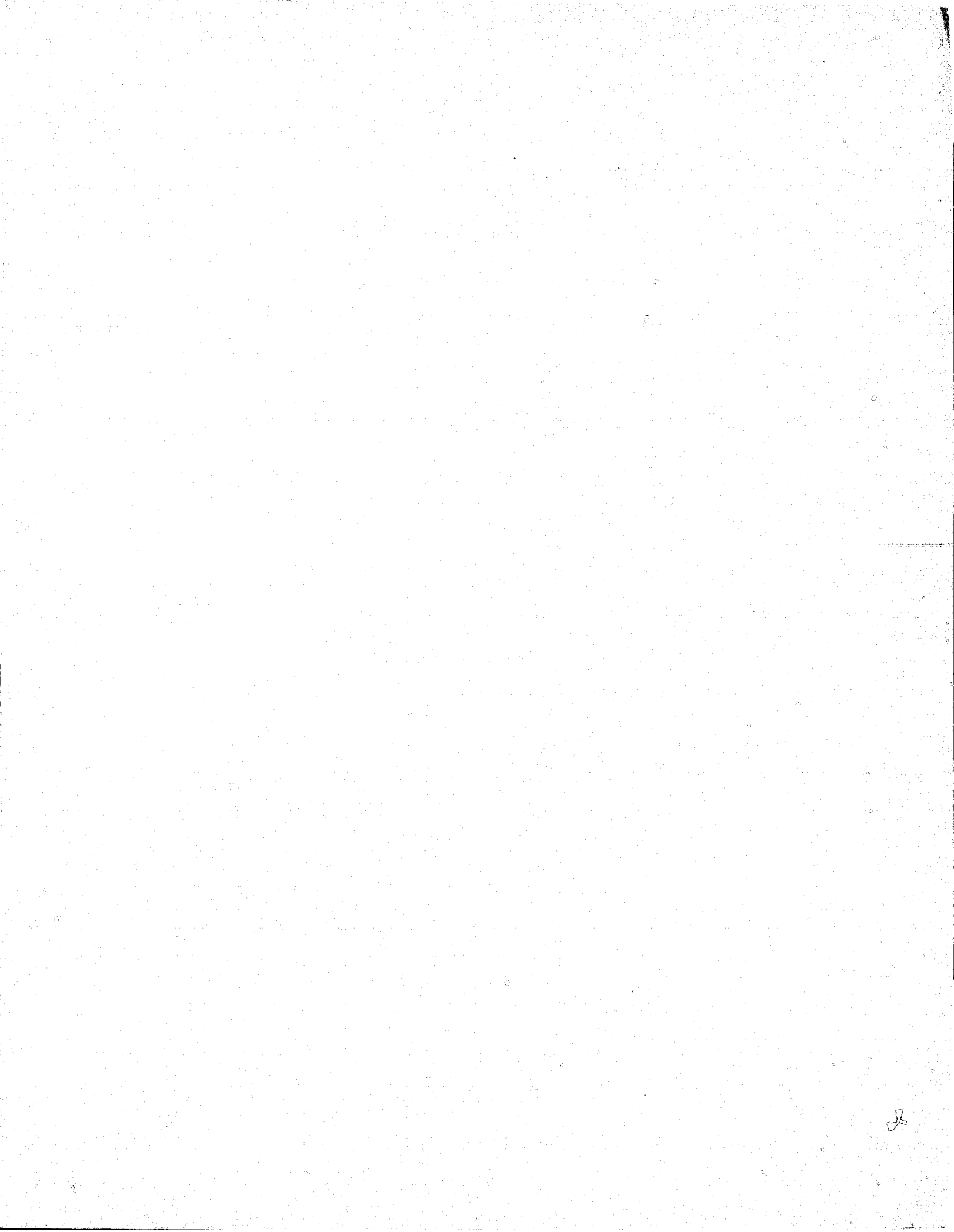
Judge David L. Norman



Judge Fred B. Ugast



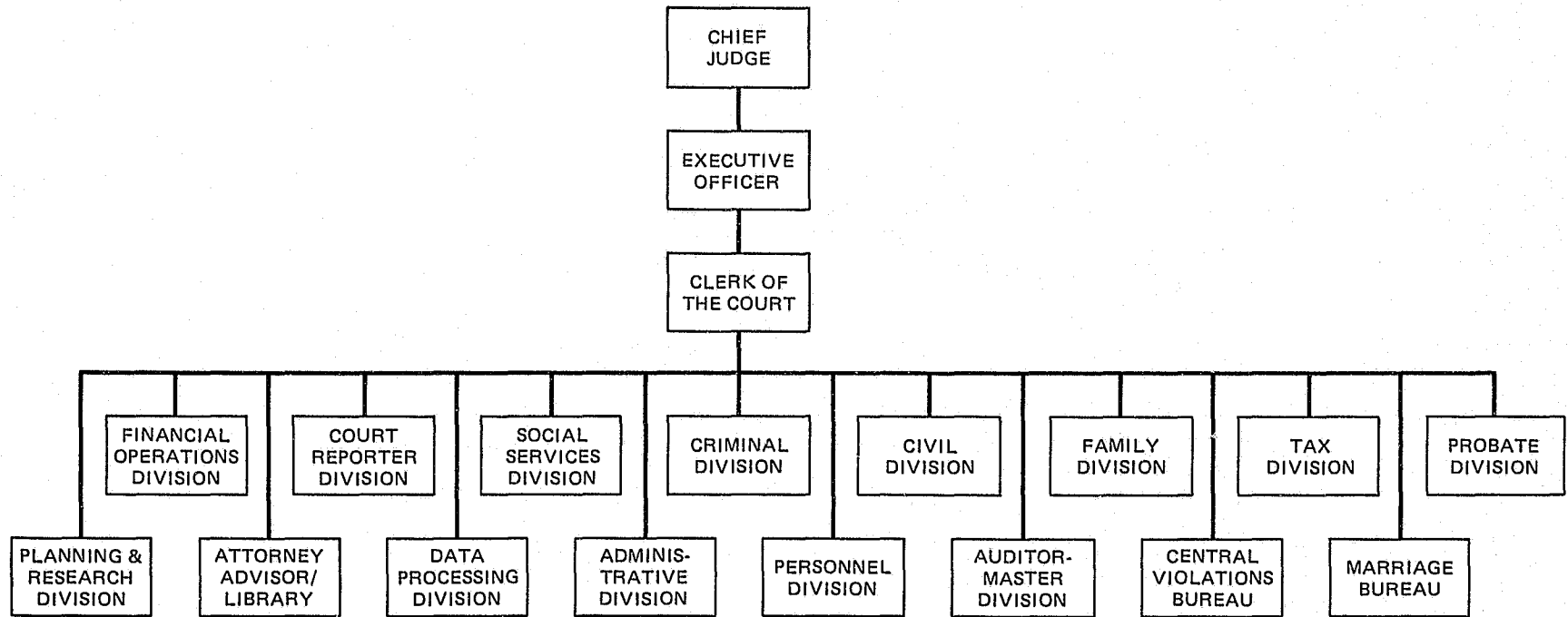
Judge Bruce S. Mencher





# SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE



**REPORT OF  
CHIEF JUDGE HAROLD H. GREENE  
SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

In November 1976 when I was designated for a second term as chief judge of the D.C. Superior Court, I agreed to report to the District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission and to the community on the status of the Superior Court and improvements in judicial administration and to provide similar reports periodically thereafter. The first report was submitted in four parts, as follows:

The first part deals with the Court's principal calendars during 1976 in comparison with the preceding year. The second part describes the Court's shortage of judicial manpower in relation to its work load. The third part discusses deficiencies in the Court's budget, their origins, and the need to overcome them if the administration of justice is not to suffer. The fourth part relates specific actions taken to improve the Court's ability to dispose of its business fairly and expeditiously.

**I**

The past year was dominated in aggravated form by the same twin pressures which had been exerted on the Court during the previous years: a constantly increasing case load, on the one hand, and a reduction in resources, on the other. Recently, this tension has been

exacerbated by the fact that the Court has had to operate on the basis of an unprecedented number of unfilled judicial positions.<sup>1</sup>

In spite of this shortage of judges, the Court increased its productivity in almost all areas of litigation. The work load, however, also continued to rise, and ultimately, while the number of pending cases was reduced in some fields, it increased in some others. The total effect was that, notwithstanding a higher number of cases and a lower number of available judges, the overall number of pending cases at the end of 1976 was approximately the same as it had been at the end of 1975. Specifically, the number of pending felony cases and juvenile cases is lower than one year ago, the number of serious misdemeanors is substantially unchanged, and the number of civil and domestic relations cases is higher. When the new judges are confirmed, I expect to launch an effort to reduce the pending civil, domestic relations, and misdemeanor case load, while attempting to prevent a rise in felony and juvenile delinquency cases.

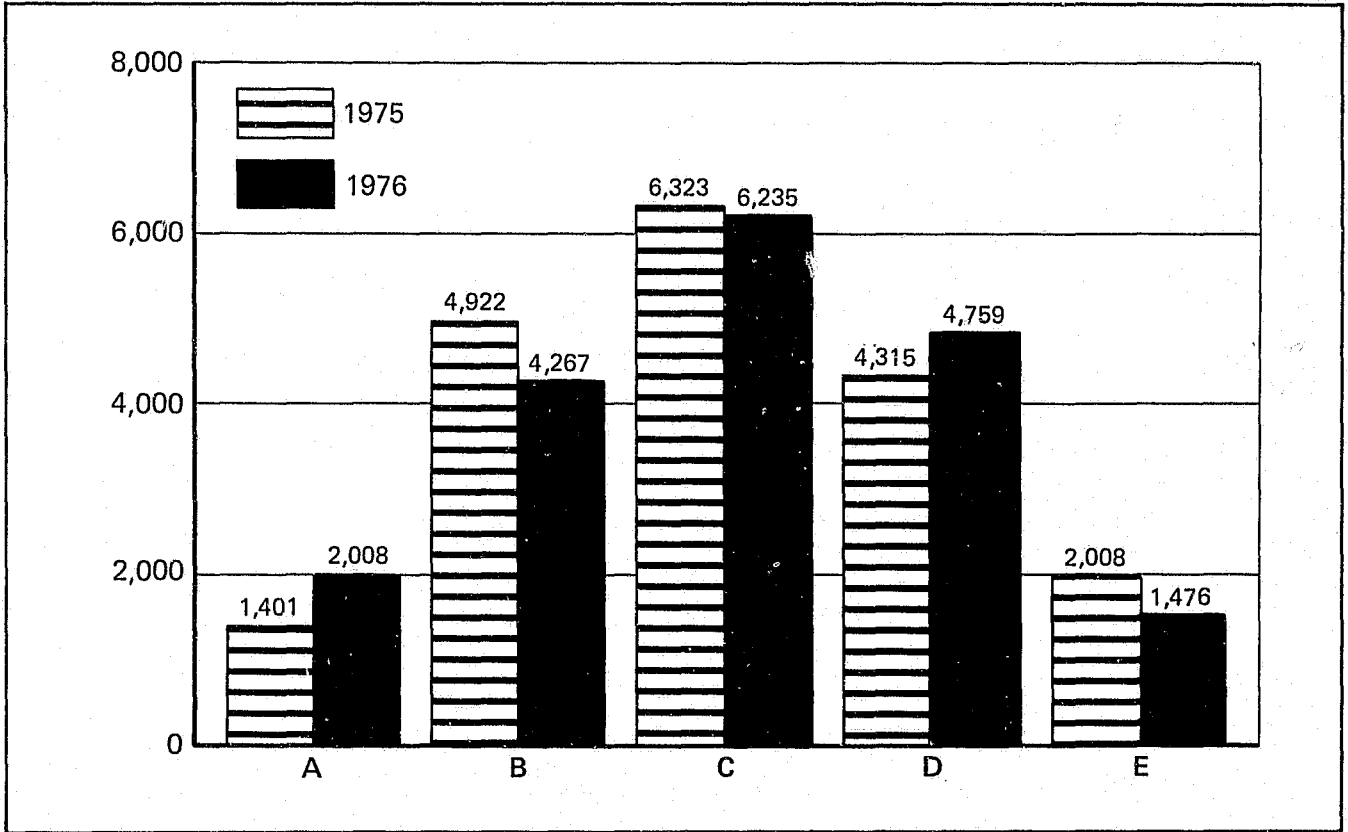
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<sup>1</sup>There are currently four judicial vacancies; in addition, one judge is ill.

### A. FELONIES

The number of felony dispositions increased by 444 cases as compared with 1975, largely as a result of a special drive in the Spring of this year. Fewer than 1,500 felonies were pending on December 31, 1976.<sup>2</sup>

CHART A: FELONY CASES



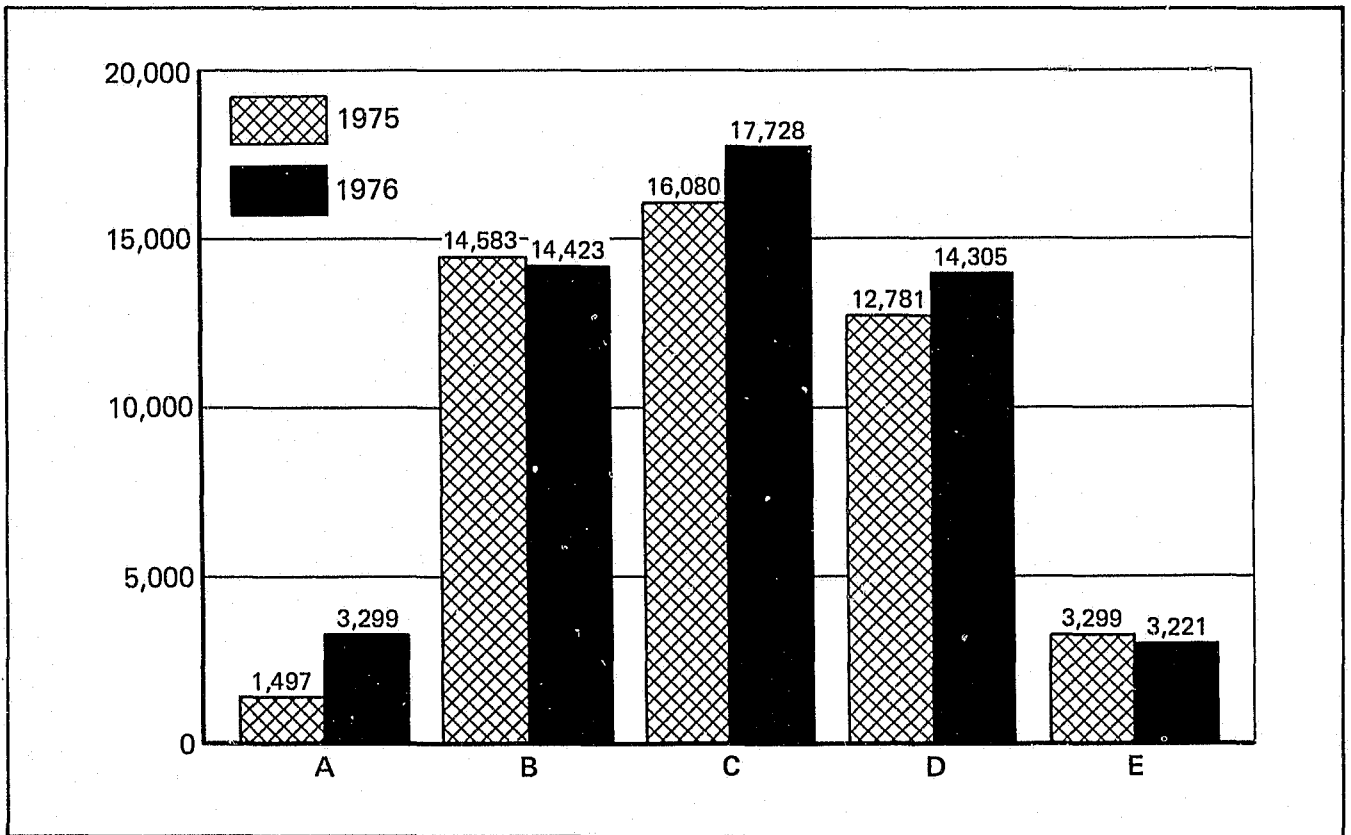
<sup>2</sup>The graphs in the charts are designated as follows:

- A—Pending at beginning of year
- B—New filings (or reinstatements) between January 1 and December 31
- C—Total work load for year
- D—Dispositions during year
- E—Pending at end of year

**B. U.S. MISDEMEANORS**

Although the misdemeanor work load was ten percent higher in 1976 than in 1975, the number of dispositions was increased by over 13 percent, with the result that the number of pending cases was slightly lower at the end of this year than last.

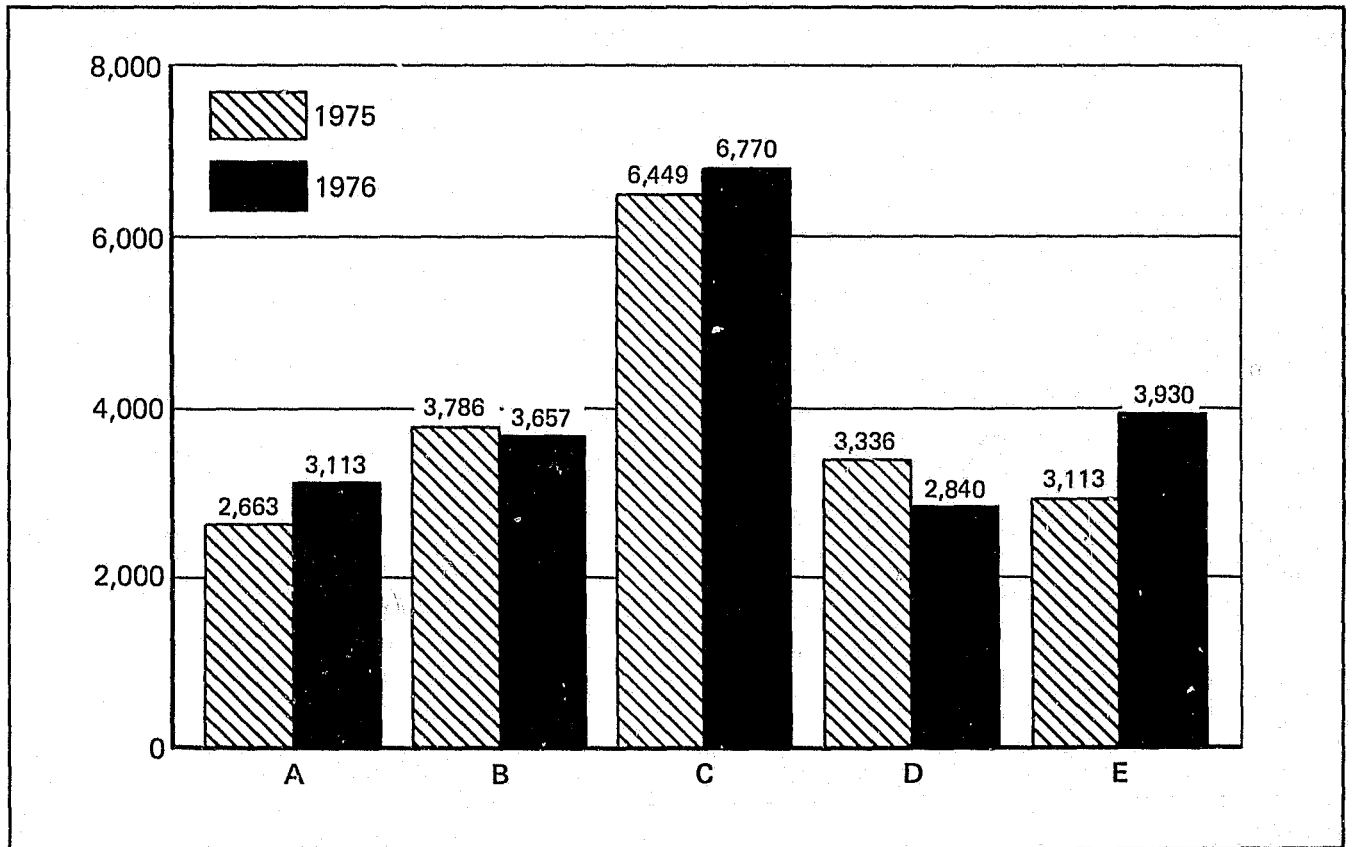
**CHART B: U.S. MISDEMEANOR CASES**



### C. CIVIL JURY

As a consequence of the diversion of judicial manpower to felonies and to juvenile delinquency cases, the number of civil jury dispositions decreased. As a consequence, the number of pending cases at issue increased by approximately 25 percent.

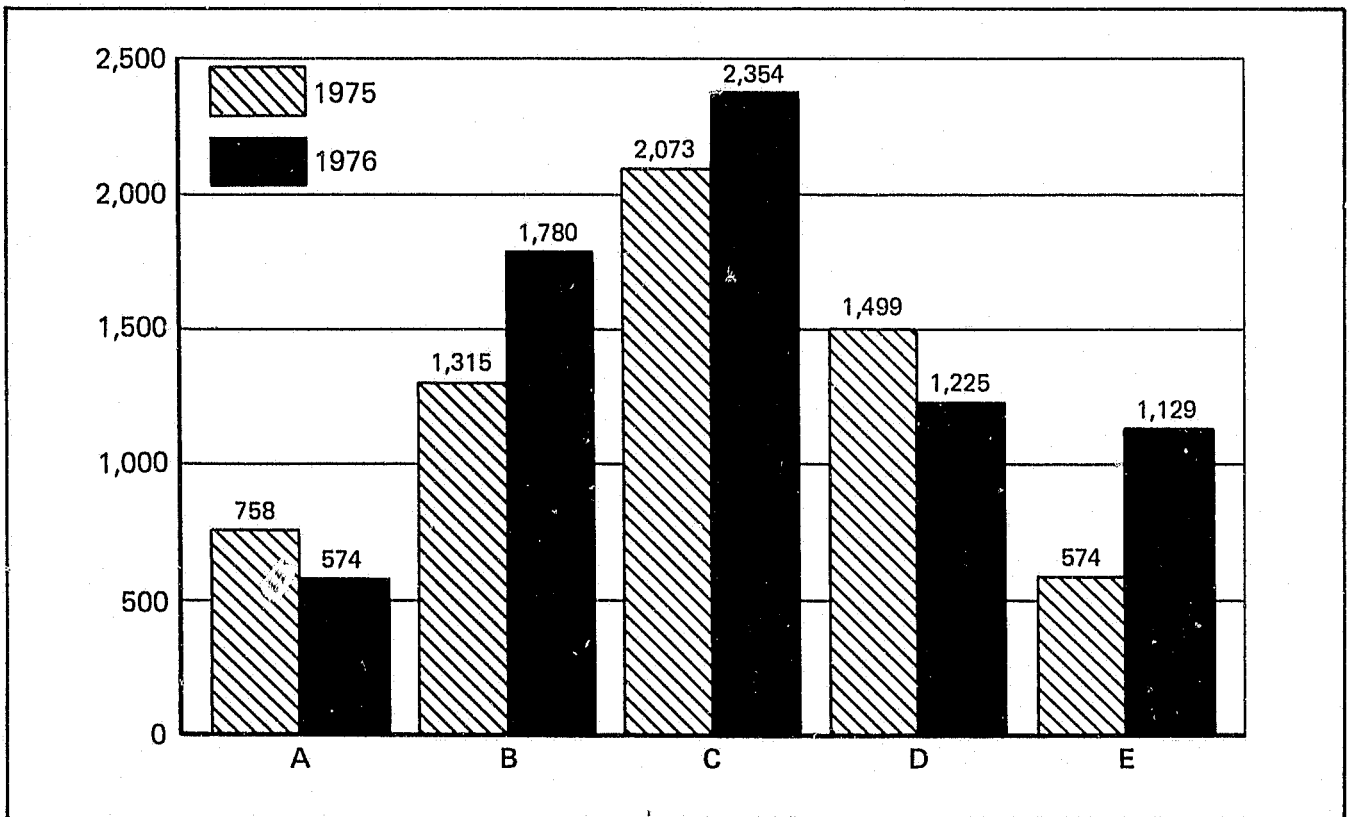
CHART C: CIVIL JURY CASES



**D. CIVIL NON-JURY**

New non-jury cases on the calendar increased by over one-third compared to one year ago. Largely as a consequence of that rise, the number of pending cases rose by over 500. However, because of the relatively uncomplicated nature of most of these cases, undue difficulty in the reduction of this backlog during the coming year is not expected.

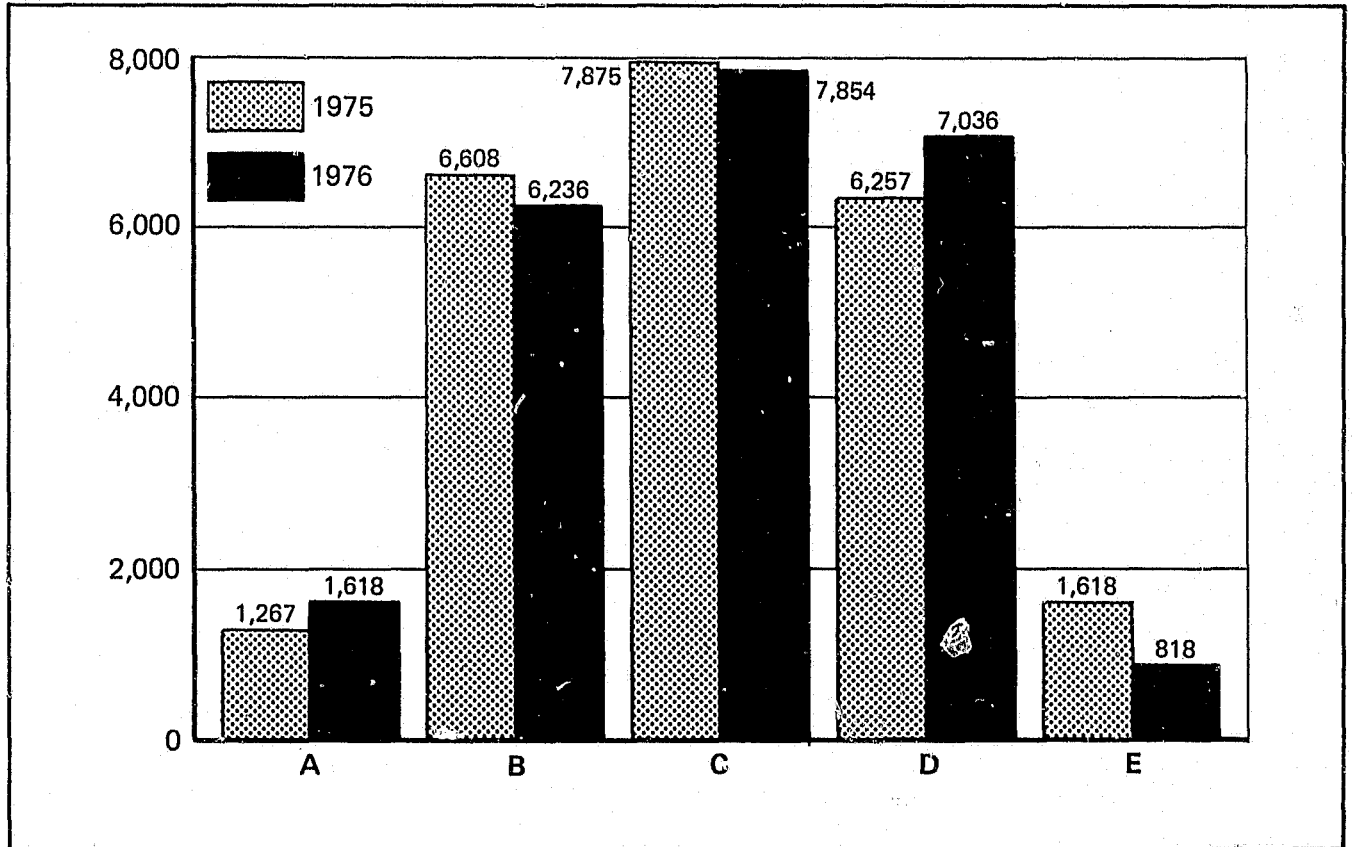
**CHART D: CIVIL NON-JURY CASES**



**E. JUVENILE DELINQUENCY**

While juvenile cases pending had risen substantially by the Fall of 1976, with the assignment of additional judges to the Juvenile Branch it was possible to reduce the number of juvenile delinquency cases pending initial hearing or trial to one-half of what it was at the end of 1975. The dispositions both for 1975 and for 1976 include pleas, court trials, prosecutor and court dismissals, and cases dismissed for social reasons.

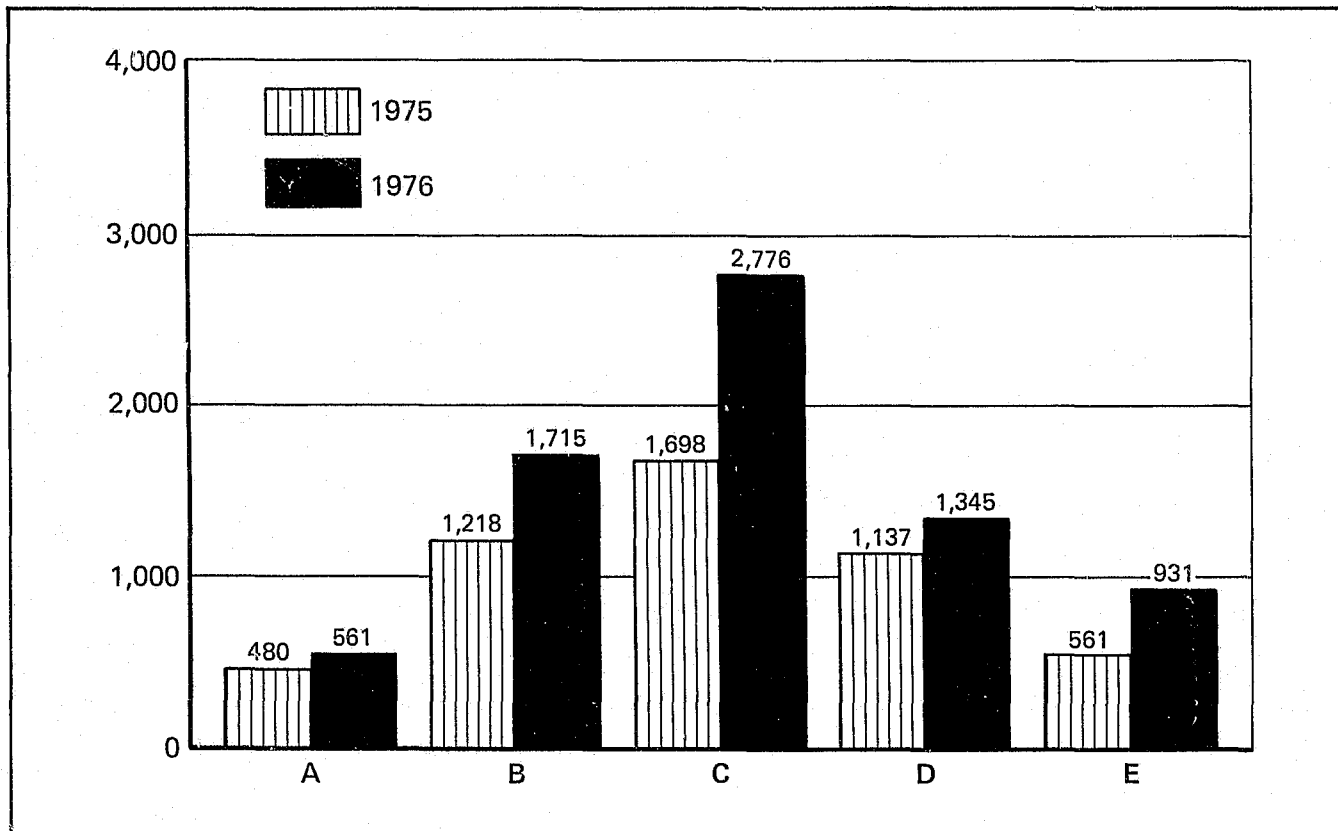
**CHART E: JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES**



**F. CONTESTED DIVORCE**

The number of contested divorce cases filed rose by about 40 percent. Although the number of dispositions also increased (by about 20 percent), the number of cases pending was higher by almost 400 at the end of this year than at the end of 1975. More certain scheduling was achieved by an experimental on-call system for attorneys and witnesses. If this system proves to be successful in domestic relations cases, it may be expanded to the general civil calendar.

**CHART F: CONTESTED DIVORCE**





## G. OTHER DISPOSITIONS

In addition to the dispositions in the major categories of litigation, the Court during 1976 disposed of 37,936 small claims cases, 114,564 landlord-tenant cases, 2,540 jury-demandable D.C. and traffic prosecutions, 17,928 other D.C. and traffic prosecutions, 1,762 probate cases, 121 tax cases (68 criminal and 53 civil), 1,747 uncontested divorce cases, 1,991 miscellaneous family matters, and 4,675 preliminary hearings in felony cases.<sup>3</sup>

## H. DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE

In the criminal area, the Court continued its pattern of disposing of a higher proportion of the case load by trials than in comparable tribunals in other large cities (where a trial rate of 2 to 10 percent is typical).

A total of 4,759 felony cases were disposed of during 1976, 1,029 without Court participation (most of them dismissals by the prosecutor), leaving 3,730 felony indictments for adjudication by the Court. Of these, 899 (or 23.5 percent) were trials, 2,807 (or 75 percent) were guilty pleas, and 46 (or 1.5 percent) were dismissals by the Court. Insofar as misdemeanors are concerned, as might be expected, a much larger number were disposed of short of Court intervention (9,143 cases), leaving 5,362 cases for disposition through the judicial process. A total of 992 cases (or 18.5 percent) were disposed of by trial, 3,675 (or 68.5 percent) by guilty plea, and 695 (or 13 percent) by dismissal by the Court.

## II

As the statistics in Part I of this report show, and as I have indicated on previous occasions, the central problem facing the Superior Court is that the number of judges allocated to it may be inadequate for the large, complex, and growing work load. During the past several years, we have succeeded in maintaining manageable backlogs and relatively reasonable trial delays by constantly shifting emergency assignments of judges from one of the Court's major divisions and branches to another, wherever the situation threatened to get out of hand. This kind of emergency action and reaction is, however, not conducive in the long run either to the most effective operation of the Court or to providing the quality of justice that this community, the Nation's Capital, has a right to expect. Moreover, and most importantly, in spite of these efforts, in significant areas of the Court's jurisdiction (e.g., civil jury trials) the litigants and the bar have had to wait longer for the resolution of their disputes, and have been inconvenienced more during the interim (such as by unwarranted continuances and unnecessary waiting to proceed to

<sup>3</sup>In addition, the Court heard several thousand civil, criminal, and family motions, as well as a number of adoption, paternity, support, habeas corpus, and reciprocal support cases.

trial) than I believe to be consistent with the due administration of justice.

Our purpose is now and always has been to operate a model urban court system, with an emphasis on fairness and quality in the administration of justice—not simply to accumulate impressive statistics. The question that must now be faced is whether it is possible to operate that kind of a system given the number of available judges (and the lack of other resources discussed under III below), and if not, what steps should be taken to provide the judicial and other resources that are needed.

By any objective standard, the number of judges allocated to the Court under the court reorganization legislation is inadequate. That statute provides for 44 judges. Analysis reveals that more judges are needed to handle the Court's work load (or alternatively, that the work load must be reduced). Such an analysis can be made in several different ways:

First. At the time of court reorganization, the then existing Court of General Sessions had 23 judges, the Juvenile Court had three judges, and the Tax Court had one judge, for a total of 27 judges. In the period prior to court reorganization as many as 12 to 14 of the U.S. District Court's 16 active judges were at various times assigned to that court's criminal case load. The difficulty the District Court had in dealing with that case load even with so high a proportion of its total judicial manpower was a significant factor in court reorganization.<sup>4</sup> Almost the entire District Court criminal case load was transferred to the new Superior Court, and it may reasonably be assumed that at least 12 judges should be allocated to the continued handling of that work load.<sup>5</sup> On that basis, then, the Superior Court required at that time a minimum of 39 judges solely to deal with the existing case load as it was being disposed of at that time.

However, not only has the work load in almost all areas of the Superior Court's jurisdiction risen—often

<sup>4</sup>As the then Chief Judge Edward M. Curran of the U.S. District Court stated, there is no more effective deterrent to crime than a speedy trial and swift punishment for the guilty. Unfortunately these objectives are not being attained in the District of Columbia under the present court structure despite the fact that a great majority of the regular judges of the United States District Court have been assigned to hear criminal cases and motions exclusively for over a year and a half." Statement of Chief Judge Edward M. Curran, Hearings of Senate Committee on the District of Columbia and on the Judiciary on S. 1066 and related bills dealing with the reorganizations of the District of Columbia courts, 91st Cong., 1st Sess. (July 11, 1969).

<sup>5</sup>Chief Judge Curran testified that "15 additional judges would be a realistic minimum figure just to try [D.C. Code] indictments if such indictments are to be tried expeditiously." S. Report No. 91-405 of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia, to accompany S. 2601, 91st Cong., 1st Sess. (Sep. 16, 1969), p. 7. Judge Hart estimated that 10 to 15 judges would be needed at the very outset of the transfer of the criminal jurisdiction. Hearings on S. 1066, *supra*, p. 1193.

dramatically—but we were and are committed to disposing of cases more swiftly than was true prior to court reorganization.<sup>6</sup>

The increase in work load has been particularly drastic with respect to felonies. In 1970, and during the preceding years, the number of felony indictments remained steady at around 2,100 per year. As noted, the District Court committed the bulk of its judicial manpower to the handling of that case load, but even so the time interval between indictment and trial averaged nine to twelve months. Since 1970, the number of indictments has risen by well over one hundred percent, and during the past two years the Superior Court has had to cope with between 4,000 and 5,000 felony cases annually. With a felony case load that had far more than doubled, only five “new” judgeships (in addition to the 39 already allocated to existing work) were available; yet judging by the 1970 standard, 14 to 16 additional judges at a minimum should have been required for the additional felonies alone. Additionally, the Superior Court took over substantial civil (and all probate) jurisdiction from the U.S. District Court and, as a result of both an increase in the work load and swifter case processing, particularly with respect to juvenile cases (including the new category of intra-family and neglect matters), the number of judges assigned to Family Division litigation had to be increased from six to nine.

Thus, on the basis of its total work load, and on the basis of its own experience and that of the U.S. District Court prior to court reorganization, the Superior Court would appear to require no less than 55 judges rather than 44.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>6</sup>With the possible exception of the processing of misdemeanor cases, all litigation prior to court reorganization was disposed of too slowly to serve the ends of justice. Delays of more than a year in felony cases, 18 months or more in juvenile cases, and 2 years or more in civil cases heard by the Court of General Sessions were not uncommon.

<sup>7</sup>Since judges are entitled under law to one month of vacation per year (and they attend judicial conferences and are subject to illness) this means that on an over all basis, four judges may at all times be expected to be absent (one month multiplied by 44 judges equals 44 months, or close to four judge-years). Thus, in reality only 39 judges are consistently available to the Court. Fifteen of those are normally assigned on a relatively long-term basis to individual calendar branches (felonies, complex civil, and domestic relations). An additional 12 judges must be assigned to the Court's specialized branches (Small Claims, Landlord-Tenant, Traffic, Civil Pretrial, Judge-in-Chambers, Arraignments, Criminal Calendar Control, Preliminary Hearings, New Referrals, Family Calendar Control, Family Motions, and Civil Motions). This means that only 12 judges may be expected to be available for the disposition of all the Court's other business (including several thousand cases each in the civil, misdemeanor, and juvenile categories). It is obvious from a mere recital of the figures that this is hardly an adequate number. Individual judges also perform the following part-time or supplemental functions taking substantial amounts of time: Mental Health, Tax, Probate, Bail Violations, Mental Competency, Condemnation, Civil Screening, and Emergency Duty.

Second. An impartial outside study has confirmed that, while the number of judges available to all courts in the District of Columbia (federal and local combined) was adequate in 1970, the Superior Court's case load after court reorganization would entitle it by one realistic standard to 54 rather than 44 judges.

An Advisory Commission to the Joint Committee on the Structure of the Judiciary of the California legislature applied California's weighted case load system—one method for attempting to determine the amount of judicial manpower needed to effectively handle a particular case load—to Washington, D.C.'s local judicial work load both before and after court reorganization. Although the primary purpose of the Advisory Commission's examination of the Washington, D.C., court system was to determine the extent to which a full unification of the court system may have lead to more efficient case processing, the conclusions of the Commission concerning the number of judicial personnel needed to process the D.C. case load are enlightening.

The Commission applied California's weighted case load to the D.C. case load for the years 1968 to 1973 to determine how many judicial positions California would have allocated to handle a comparable case load. The Commission concluded that 28.19 federal and local judges would have been required to handle the District's local case load in 1968, but that that number would have needed to be increased to 53.77 judicial positions to handle the local case load in 1973. As the Commission noted, “The weighted case load *nearly doubled* in that time, yet with only a 63 percent increase in judicial manpower the District of Columbia Superior Court was able to reduce its backlog as drastically . . .” Since the number of case filings has increased rather significantly since 1973, it is probable that an application of California's weighted case load system to the current work load would conclude that the appropriate number of judges is somewhere between 56 and 58.

Third. It appears at first blush that 44 judges would be a substantial number for a single court, until it is considered that the Superior Court of the District of Columbia is perhaps the only fully unified tribunal in the Nation.

This Court combines all local litigation functions—criminal, civil, juvenile, domestic relations, probate, tax, small claims, landlord-tenant, traffic, and others—functions which in most places are spread among several courts operating on municipal, county, and state levels.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup>It is not the purpose of this report to discuss the merits of that type of combinations of functions which was made by deliberate choice of the Congress. I personally believe that the choice was a correct one. See Greene, Trial Court Unification: Justice and Efficiency, Litigation Magazine. Spring 1976.

A comparison with cities of comparable size indicates that, when the judges assigned to the various fragmented tribunals which deal with the functions combined in the Superior Court are added up, the District of Columbia has fewer rather than more judges than many other cities. For example, Boston (population 641,000) has 60 judges; Pittsburgh (pop. 520,000) 45 judges plus 18 justices of the peace; Greater Miami (pop. 1,600,000) 79 judges; Cleveland (pop. 679,000) 55 judges; San Francisco (pop. 687,000) 45 judges. The population of the District of Columbia is 702,000.

Fourth. While the Court Reorganization Act was being considered by the Congress, I was asked for my views with respect to the number of judges the new court would require. It was my expressed opinion then that the appropriate number was fifty.<sup>9</sup> The Report of the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia on S. 2601 noted (S. Rep. No. 91-405, 91st Cong., 1st Sess., p. 7) that "while recommending authorization now for an eventual Superior Court bench of 50 judges at the completion of all civil and criminal jurisdictional transfer (compared with 27 at present), the administration has suggested that experience in the first months and phase of the reorganized courts may justify a legislative adjustment at some future date in the overall authorization."

It is obvious from these analyses that the current number of judges is inadequate if the Court is to be a truly effective instrument of justice with respect to every facet of its jurisdiction.

I am in full agreement with the principles which led the Congress to create one centralized tribunal for the handling of all local litigation. It is only the flexibility inherent in this approach which has enabled the Court to manage its overall case load in spite of relatively limited judicial manpower. Had there been during the past few years specialized tribunals with fixed responsibilities for, say, felonies or juvenile matters, rather than one unified court, it would not have been possible to shift judges to areas where they were most needed and thus to overcome various case load crises. At the same time, it is also clear that a constant shifting of judges on a fairly short-term basis to meet crises in various divisions and branches of the Court is not, for the long run, satisfactory. What obviously is needed is sufficient judicial manpower to handle the Court's work load so that a shifting of judges from one division to another may be reserved for extraordinary or unforeseen contingencies.

<sup>9</sup>Hearings before the Senate Committee on the District of Columbia and the Subcommittee on Improvements in Judicial Machinery on S. 1066 and related bills, 91st Cong., 1st Sess., Part 3, p. 1209 (July 11, 1969).

When the Court faces a situation, as I think it presently does, where the total number of judges available is less than adequate to meet the demands imposed by the total case load, maximum judicial manpower will of necessity have to be assigned wherever a backlog crisis may have arisen, and then, when this crisis has been stemmed, judges will be reassigned wherever a critical situation developed while the first crisis was being met. Yet in view of the relative shortage of judges and growing case filings over which the Court has no control, such reassignments are inevitable if backlogs and delays are to be prevented from getting out of hand.

To continue this approach for an indefinite period, however, must ultimately have the effect that the Court's case load cannot really be effectively managed, and the Court will be increasingly less able to render to the public the level of effective, efficient, and predictable services which the citizens of this city have every right to expect. Among other things, this firefighting approach to the administration of justice sometimes results in large-scale continuances when a number of judges must be shifted from one division to another because of a case load backlog which may have developed there. Moreover, when the great bulk of the Court's limited resources must be assigned to processing the most serious and complex business of the Court—civil, criminal, juvenile, and domestic relations trials and related proceedings—it becomes virtually impossible to make meaningful improvements in the high volume, so-called people's courts—traffic, landlord-tenant, minor civil, and small claims. I regard such relative neglect of the branches with which most citizens are likely to come in contact as especially undesirable.

In short, it seems apparent that if this city is indeed to continue to have the model court system it deserves, and if its citizens are to receive fair and speedy justice in all areas, there will have to be either an increase in the number of judges allowed to the Court or a diversion of some of its jurisdiction to other methods of adjudication.

In view of the obvious financial cost to the District of additional judgeships and necessary supporting staff, I have been and I still am reluctant to recommend their establishment unless and until this is absolutely necessary. It may well be that this decision need not be made immediately. As indicated, the Court is now short five judges. When that situation has been remedied, it may be somewhat easier to deal with the case load, although, as the figures cited above suggest, this is not likely to be a permanent solution. Moreover, as noted, I have appointed a committee to evaluate and report on the Court's calendaring systems, with particular emphasis on an exploration of an increased use of the individual

calendar. Again, without anticipating what the conclusions of that committee will be, any changes in calendaring methods are unlikely to alter fundamentally the relationship between the Court's work load and the number of its judges.

I expect to review the entire situation later this year, and at that time (probably in the Fall) make a recommendation as to whether, and how many, additional judges or magistrates<sup>10</sup> the Superior Court requires in order effectively and fairly to administer justice in the District of Columbia.

### III

During the last several years the Court has had to labor not only under the handicap of a shortage of judges but also under that of ever-diminishing non-judicial resources. As the work load steadily climbed, the Congress, acting upon the recommendations<sup>11</sup> of the Mayor and the City Council, just as steadily reduced<sup>12</sup> both the funds for paying the salaries of non-judicial employees of the Court and its general operating budget. In the last three years alone, the Court has failed to receive requested appropriations for, among others, the following expenses mandated by

<sup>10</sup>It may well be that certain functions—such as arraignments, preliminary hearings, new referrals, pretrials, many of the responsibilities of the Judge-in-Chambers—could be carried out by magistrates, masters, or hearing officers. The establishment of such positions might require legislative authority; it certainly would require additional appropriations.

<sup>11</sup>D.C. Code §11-1743 provides, in a like manner as the laws granting fiscal independence to the Federal Judiciary, that "The Joint Committee [on Judicial Administration] shall prepare and submit [a budget to the Mayor]. All such estimates shall be forwarded to the Bureau of the Budget by the District of Columbia without revision, but subject to the recommendations of the District of Columbia. Similarly, all estimates shall be included in the budget without revision by the President but subject to his recommendations." In practice, the District's Office of Management and Budget submits to the Congress a budget balanced in accordance with law, not on the basis of the Judiciary's appropriation requests, but on the basis of the Mayor-Council's "recommendation." This practice has had the effect of placing upon the courts both the burden of justifying any departure from the Budget Office's balanced-budget figures and of having to recommend to the Congress reductions in the amounts sought by other District agencies (if the courts expect the Congress to approve their own appropriation requests and if the District's over-all budget is to remain in balance). The net effect of the Budget Office's practice has been to stand the statute on its head: the executive-legislative "recommendations" on the Judiciary's budget have for all practical purposes become the official District request concerning that budget, and the courts' official requests have become mere recommendations impossible to implement without disturbing the balance of the total District budget.

<sup>12</sup>There was no reduction in the dollar amounts; but when the effects of inflation and mandatory pay raises are taken into account the reduction, as noted below, has been substantial.

law or otherwise required: government-wide pay increases \$920,000; within-grade pay increases of employees \$484,000; paid overtime \$120,000; required terminal leave payments \$80,000; reductions in the budget base for supplies, computer operations, etc. \$150,000; across-the-board reduction in personnel compensation mandated by the executive branch \$240,000; denial of full funding for newly-authorized positions \$107,000; reduction of funds for witness fees \$100,000; and denial of increased jury fee costs \$248,000—for a total effective reduction of approximately \$2.5 million.

The consequence of these reductions has been that the Court has had to cut the number of its employees (from 1,004 in 1973 to 930 in 1976) and has had to curtail other expenditures to cover funding deficiencies. Service to the public and the bar has been adversely affected by these developments in a variety of ways. For example, substantial backlogs have developed in the Civil Clerk's Office due to the absence of a sufficient number of trained and experienced employees. The not unexpected result has been that the level of service has deteriorated. The public and members of the bar complain (not without justification) that entries are not being made on the docket on a timely basis and that difficulty is being experienced in locating jackets.

The Landlord-Tenant Branch, which is staffed by nine persons and which has had to handle approximately 115,000 cases during 1976, has found it increasingly difficult to remain current without substantial hours of overtime. However, the Court lacks the authority to authorize overtime pay as needed because funding for overtime pay has been denied in the appropriation process.

The Criminal Division is experiencing delays in providing information to the public and to members of the bar due to the inability of available personnel to update the records for retrieval of data at the computer and the Court's Information Center. Personal inquiries at the Court's Information Center number approximately 1,500 per week, and telephone inquiries over 500, and it is, of course, most important that accurate information be provided. The inability to update records promptly has also meant that proper notices cannot always be given to the members of the bar and others as to the time and place of cases scheduled for any given day. These problems cause inconvenience and create difficulties for the public and the bar as well as for such criminal justice agencies as the Public Defender, the D.C. Bail Agency, the Department of Corrections, the U.S. Attorney, and the Corporation Counsel. These examples could obviously be multiplied.

I fully understand and appreciate the fiscal restraints under which the District government must operate.

Still, it is unreasonable to expect that the court system can, year after year, cope with ever-rising increases in work load (over which it has no control) while being forced at the same time to absorb reductions in personnel and other necessary operational items. It may well be possible for a manufacturing plant to increase its output without significant increases in personnel; but any organization dealing in services, whether governmental or private, can hardly do so without a decrease in quality and effectiveness.

By improving the efficiency of its operations, and by requiring greater efforts and longer hours of work from judicial and non-judicial personnel, the Court has managed thus far to avert the kind of disastrous deterioration in services that might well have been expected. Nevertheless, it is quite clear that the present budgetary trend, if allowed to continue, will inevitably result in a serious reduction in the quality of justice in this city. It remains for the Congress, the City Council, and the Executive Branch of the District government to determine what value is to be placed on justice, on law, and on public safety.<sup>13</sup>

#### IV

Recently, the Superior Court has taken a number of initiatives to improve the administration of justice in the District of Columbia.

##### A. *Juvenile Justice*

It became apparent in the Summer of 1976 that, because of the general shortage of judges described above, and more particularly because of a drive conducted in the Spring to reduce the number of pending felony cases<sup>14</sup> which absorbed the time and the energies of a number of judges, the number of pending juvenile delinquency cases had risen so that the Court was no longer able to adhere to its objective of disposing of such cases within 45 days or less.

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<sup>13</sup>I believe that the bar has a special interest in a financially healthy and thus efficient, fair, and effective court system, and it may be hoped that the organized bar will support the efforts of the judiciary to secure adequate financial resources.

<sup>14</sup>At that time a crisis arose by a coincidence of factors; (1) the orders of Judge Bryant of the U.S. District Court requiring actions to be taken to reduce overcrowding at the D.C. Jail, (2) the fact that the new D.C. Jail was not yet completed, and (3) public clamor concerning individuals accused of serious offenses committing new crimes while on bail pending trial. It was my view that the Superior Court could best assist in minimizing these problems and concerns by providing swifter justice in felony cases. That objective could realistically be achieved only by diverting judges to the trial of felonies from other Divisions and Branches of the Court, i.e., from civil and juvenile. The felony effort was fully successful.

During the seven-week period between November 1 and December 17, 1976, six judges were assigned to trying juvenile cases, and I assigned myself to the control of the Family Division calendar. During that period, the number of juveniles awaiting trial was reduced from 1,537 to 704, and, except for cases presenting unusual circumstances, juvenile cases were and are being set for trial within three weeks of the initial court appearance. Judicial assignments are currently being maintained in the Juvenile Branch at a level which would preclude a rise in either the backlog or trial delays.

In conjunction with this effort to deal with the temporary backlog problem, a study was conducted of more fundamental issues affecting the administration of juvenile justice. As a result of this study, I issued a comprehensive report on December 21, 1976, which announced a number of initiatives which the Court would take on its own to deal with these issues, and which recommended other steps to be taken by the Department of Human Resources and the Corporation Counsel.

The report addressed itself to two fundamental problems from which the juvenile justice system of the District is suffering—first, the inadequate attention that is being paid to juveniles who repeatedly commit violent offenses, and second, the overabundance of minor cases being filed in the juvenile branch—cases involving disputes which should be resolved within the family or the schools rather than in the courts.

In conjunction with the issuance of the report of December 21, 1976, I instructed the Court's Social Services Division to give special attention to juveniles defined as dangerous, that is, juveniles over a certain age who were charged with certain violent offenses<sup>15</sup> and who had previously been found guilty of one or more similar offenses (or had within the preceding three years been found involved in any other felony-type law violation). Specifically, the Social Services Division was directed to recommend that any individual in this category be detained pending trial and that, if found guilty, he be committed rather than be placed on probation. In the event a judge decides not to follow the recommendation to detain or commit such a juvenile, the Social Services Division is to provide especially intensive supervision pending trial and during any period of probation. The Social Services Division was also instructed to recommend in all cases involving dangerous juveniles that the Court order confinement for two years, the maximum allowable under the law. I

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<sup>15</sup>Murder, manslaughter; forcible rape; armed robbery; assault with a dangerous weapon involving a gun or resulting in substantial injury; assault with intent to kill, rape, or maim; burglary in the first degree involving use of a weapon.

further directed (1) that the cases of these dangerous juveniles, and of any other juveniles detained pending trial, be given priority; and (2) that in the case of a dangerous juvenile, arrangement be made to have all charges against the juvenile adjudicated prior to disposition (sentencing).

The report went on to suggest that the Department of Human Resources move annually to extend the commitment of any dangerous juvenile at the expiration of the two-year period<sup>16</sup> until he has been rehabilitated, is no longer deemed dangerous, or has reached the age of twenty-one. It was also recommended that the Department of Human Resources confine juveniles defined as dangerous only in secure facilities. Beyond that, the report "emphasized . . . that the provision of substantial rehabilitative services in the institutions maintained by the Department of Human Resources for those found involved in acts of juvenile delinquency is a significant ingredient in [the Court's program]. The Court could hardly systematically and indefinitely engage in a program to commit children for very substantial periods of time without some assurance that these juveniles were being given an opportunity for meaningful rehabilitation."

Mr. Albert Russo, Acting Director of the Department of Human Resources, has assured me that the Department will fully cooperate with all aspects of the Court's program.

A review of current charging practices revealed that 91 percent of the children referred to the Corporation Counsel by the police were actually prosecuted in court, compared to, for example, 33 percent in Connecticut and 60 percent in Philadelphia. This high prosecution rate suggested to me lack of adequate prosecutorial screening. Experience has shown that many schoolyard squabbles and other similar incidents can and should be settled short of court referral or adjudication. Indeed, close to one-half of the cases that are actually filed in the Juvenile Branch are subsequently either dismissed outright by the Corporation Counsel or are made the subject of a so-called consent decree (which means a diversion of the child out of the judicial process for a six-month probationary period). It seemed to me that most of the decisions to dismiss or to divert might be made at the outset of the court process rather than near its conclusion. Pendency of these minor and frequently technical violations clutters up the court system; brings children in contact with the Court who do not require such treatment; unnecessarily absorbs the energies of judges, prosecutors, and probation officers; and prevents concentration on the more serious criminal incidents.

<sup>16</sup>The two-year commitment may under law be extended only upon motion of that Department.

Accordingly, I recommended to the Corporation Counsel that more effective screening of charges be undertaken, and I offered the assistance of personnel in the Court's Social Services Division with respect to that screening process. Corporation Counsel John R. Risher, Jr., was most cooperative, and at least one meeting of the entire staff of the Juvenile Branch of the Corporation Counsel's Office with the staff of the Juvenile Branch of the Court's Social Services Division has already been held with the view toward implementing this recommendation.

#### B. Jurors

During 1976, in hearings before the City Council and otherwise, there was extensive discussion concerning problems surrounding jury service in the Superior Court. Various studies were conducted within the last several months concerning various aspects of the juror problem. I plan to issue a report shortly which will consider the several issues surrounding jury service in the District, which will direct that certain changes be made, and which will recommend additional changes of a legislative nature.

The changes to be made directly by the Court as a result of this report include the following: (1) the orientation and registration procedure will be significantly streamlined and shortened; (2) the responsibility for hearing and deciding on routine jury excuses will be transferred from a judge to hearing examiners; (3) the daily roll call of jurors will be dispensed with; (4) measures will be adopted designed to spread actual service on juries more evenly among all the jurors called to the Superior Court; (5) the function of notifying jurors will be assumed by the Court from the U. S. Marshal so as to insure that jurors summonses will be sent out more promptly; (6) the personnel of the Court's jury office will be increased; (7) a system will be established for excusing jurors during afternoons when it appears that they will no longer be needed that day; and (8) there will be experimentation with a reduction of jury service from one month to two or three weeks.

Among the recommendations for legislative changes are the following: (1) reduction in the number of peremptory challenges in criminal cases so as to obviate the need for very large jury panels; (2) adoption of a Court rule to provide for six-member juries in all civil cases; (3) enactment of a statute which would require employers to continue to pay to their employees their regular salaries while serving on juries;<sup>17</sup> and (4) enactment of legislation prohibiting the termination of

<sup>17</sup>This would be partially offset by (1) the daily juror fee, and (2) a tax deduction. See *Dean v. Gadsden Times Publishing Corp.*, 412 U.S. 543 (1973).



employment of citizens called for jury service.<sup>18</sup> It is my expectation that these changes will go far toward eliminating legitimate juror complaints.

### C. *Calendar Control*

Over the years, the Court has experimented with various methods of calendar control. Basically, what evolved as a result of experience was a mixed system: individual calendars for cases which are relatively few in number but complex, and central calendar control for types of cases which are very numerous and relatively uncomplicated.

The calendaring system which now exists in the Superior Court consists of an individual calendar for all felony cases and for all complex civil cases, with a master calendar system for the other cases. This system was adopted so that the most commonly cited advantages of the individual calendar—continuity of judicial interest, judicial accountability, minimization of witness and attorney waiting time, and more thorough attorney preparation—could be achieved in those cases which appear to be of the complexity to warrant the assignment of a particular judge to handle all aspects of those cases. On the other hand, a central calendar system is maintained for those types of cases which are relatively simple and are being dealt with in very high-volume branches (misdemeanor, juvenile, uncomplicated civil) and which are thus particularly vulnerable to individual calendar weaknesses—case assignment rigidity; problems associated with shifting many cases per day from one individual calendar to another; difficulty in assuring uniform procedures and the collection of data; administrative confusion; and attorney scheduling.<sup>19</sup>

<sup>18</sup>Suggestions were also made for relatively minor changes in the method of selection for the general juror pool and the effect of a juror excuse.

<sup>19</sup>A study prepared for the American Bar Association Commission on Standards of Judicial Administration entitled *Caseflow Management in the Trial Court* (1973) noted (pp. 20-21) that "in recent years, the individual calendar system has been widely advocated in articles and at judicial seminars and conferences. Impetus toward adoption of the individual calendar seems to have begun in the federal court system. In response, some federal courts implemented an 'individual' case assignment system and were able to show subsequent declines in their inventory of pending cases and a simultaneous reduction of the delay to disposition. While some federal courts using a 'master calendar' have a low backlog and delay to disposition, the majority of federal courts which are 'in good shape' are using the individual assignment system. Notwithstanding these apparently good results, there are reasons to believe that the individual assignment system will not necessarily be as satisfactory in trial courts outside the federal systems. First, the federal courts, generally speaking, have fewer judges than metropolitan state courts, a five-judge court being considered a large court in the federal system. The problems of coordination that may arise under an individual assignment system, particularly coordination of the schedules of lawyers, are much easier to

Nevertheless, it is useful regularly to reexamine policies and procedures to determine whether they are in need of change or improvement. That has been the policy of the Court since I have been its chief judge. Reexamination of calendaring procedures is particularly indicated at a time when the Court's increasingly large and complex work load may well be beyond the capabilities of the presently authorized judicial manpower. Accordingly, on December 7, 1976, I appointed a committee under the chairmanship of Judge William Stewart to reexamine the Court's calendaring practices, and to report to the Board of Judges, to me, or both, as may be appropriate, whether any changes are indicated. When that report is received, a decision will be made with respect to calendaring procedures. The report may also provide a further indication as to whether the Court can efficiently dispose of its current and projected work load under any calendaring system, or whether an increase in the number of judges must be sought.

### D. *Diversion of Litigation to Non-Judicial Tribunals*

One method of permitting a court to function without undue backlogs and delays is to divert some of its responsibilities from judges to others, within or without the court. There are, to be sure, basic philosophical differences concerning the appropriateness of such diversions. One view is that the types of cases which are the usual candidates for such transfer—small claims, other civil cases involving relatively small amounts, minor misdemeanors, litigation concerning local regulations—are as much deserving of the best in judicial ability as the relatively fewer lawsuits where more is at stake, either in monetary terms or in terms of deprivation of liberty; that it is in these relatively minor cases that most of our citizens have their sole exposure to the American judicial system; and that to shift the whole burden of the so-called "peoples' courts" from courts to other agencies may have the effect of causing judges and citizens to forget that constitutional guarantees are important, and everyday, aspects of American life. I believe this point of view to be largely sound.

Absent special circumstances, it seems to me that a court, particularly a local tribunal, should not without

cope with in such small courts; they become far more urgent where the number of judges is much larger. Second, the federal courts tend to process more complex cases. Case complexity implies a valid need for judicial familiarity with the peculiar character of each case, which in turn is the principal strength derived from the individual assignment system. It is probable that even in a master calendar system in state courts similarly complex cases would benefit from special assignment to one judge for all purposes. The master assignment system seems to predominate in state court systems, particularly in courts with 15 or more judges. However, there is an increasing trend in state courts toward development of hybrid case assignment systems."

very good reason close its doors to that overwhelming part of the population which becomes involved in legal disputes only in the context of the so-called minor branches. On the other hand, it appears that there are certain functions which can more effectively and more justly be exercised by specialized personnel who are not necessarily judges, and that there are other areas where basic rights can be protected through an effective system of judicial review used in conjunction with hearing examiners or magistrates in the Court.

Thus, I suggested in 1972 that most landlord-tenant disputes be adjudicated by hearing examiners, attached either to the Court or to the Executive Branch of the District government. It was my view then, and it is my view now, that such hearing examiners—particularly if they would have at their disposal several trained housing inspectors—could more justly and more expertly decide housing code type disputes and many other housing matters than could the judges of the Superior Court. A committee of judges reviewed my suggestion and in response to the strongly expressed views of landlords and tenants suggested the use of hearing examiners within the Court for handling the bulk of such cases. That proposal received at the time broad support, and it failed of implementation only when Congress did not appropriate the necessary funds. I have begun the process of reviving this proposal by seeking to ascertain the views of the City Council, and I expect to pursue it further.

On another topic, I have had a number of discussions in recent weeks and months with the Director of the D.C. Department of Transportation, the Corporation Counsel, and the Chief of Police with a view toward decriminalizing all minor traffic offenses<sup>20</sup> and transferring their enforcement from the Superior Court to the Department of Transportation. New York City, Rhode Island, and several other areas have recently moved to such systems whereby traffic laws and regulations are enforced in administrative proceedings by means of civil penalties, impounding of vehicles, withholding of tags and of drivers' licenses, and the like. Such an approach obviates the necessity for involvement of the court in most traffic matters, and permits the enforcement of traffic rules to be more directly related to traffic safety and other traffic policy considerations, which are beyond the purview of a court. The Department of Transportation has developed a very detailed proposal, which the Mayor has agreed to in principle, and with which I expressed general agreement, making it clear, however, that a final decision of the Court would have to await action by the Board of Judges. I expect that the matter will be submitted to that Board at an

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<sup>20</sup>Except such major offenses as drunk driving, hit-and-run, and driving after revocation.

early opportunity. If the Board of Judges is in agreement, I expect to support this proposal before the appropriate legislative body.

In an effort to explore further the possibilities for resolution of disputes outside the judicial process without doing violence to legal rights and public policy, I have written to such organizations as the D.C. Bar, the Bar Association of the District of Columbia, the Washington Bar Association, D.C. Law Students in Court, the Legal Aid Society, Neighborhood Legal Services, the Superior Court Trial Lawyers' Association, and the American Arbitration Association to solicit their views with respect to such transfers, their suggestions as to appropriate areas for the use of alternatives to full-scale court adjudication, and their assistance in the event these transfers appear appropriate. I expect to consult further with these organizations as well as within the Court, with the Bar, with the City government, and with others in the community concerning the possibility of such transfers after replies to my inquiries have been received and considered.<sup>21</sup>

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The enactment of the court reorganization legislation in 1970 gave the Superior Court of the District of Columbia an opportunity to become a truly model trial court. This legislation, which created for the District what at that time was, and apparently still is, the only fully unified trial court system in any major urban area, provided to the Court the resources necessary to dispose expeditiously of the Court's case load as it existed at that time. The new Court, I believe it is fair to conclude, fully met that responsibility. Moreover, the Superior Court has been a leader in innovation, and it has taken many steps calculated to improve the administration of justice not only through the more expeditious processing of cases, but also through providing new alternatives for the handling of cases and through programs designed to make justice more fair and more equal to rich and poor alike.<sup>22</sup> Thus, despite what may in some ways be regarded as a pessimistic note sounded in this report, the Superior Court has, I think, brought to this City a system of justice second to none, and its members can justly be proud of the Court's record. However, this system of justice can be further improved or even maintained only if the Court is given the resources necessary effectively to process the cases coming before it.

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<sup>21</sup>The Court Calendaring Committee is likewise considering the general topic of adjudication of disputes by non-judicial personnel and organizations.

<sup>22</sup>By systematic appointment of counsel to indigents, various methods to reduce disparity in sentencing, the use of law students to represent poor people, to mention just a few of these programs.



Within the next twelve months the Superior Court is scheduled to move into a new building which will enable it to overcome many of the problems of inconvenience, inefficiency, and lack of decorum which have been caused, over the past several years, by the necessity to operate out of six or seven buildings located many blocks apart. The new structure has been designed to utilize new technologies to the maximum extent possible and to enable us, insofar as architecture can do so, to improve the efficiency of the judicial process. While one could easily go overboard in assuming that improving the efficiency of the judicial process is equivalent to improving the level of justice, it is quite clear that without an adequate number of judges, non-judicial employees, and other resources, many new programs designed to provide better justice would be doomed to failure. A court—like any other organization, public or

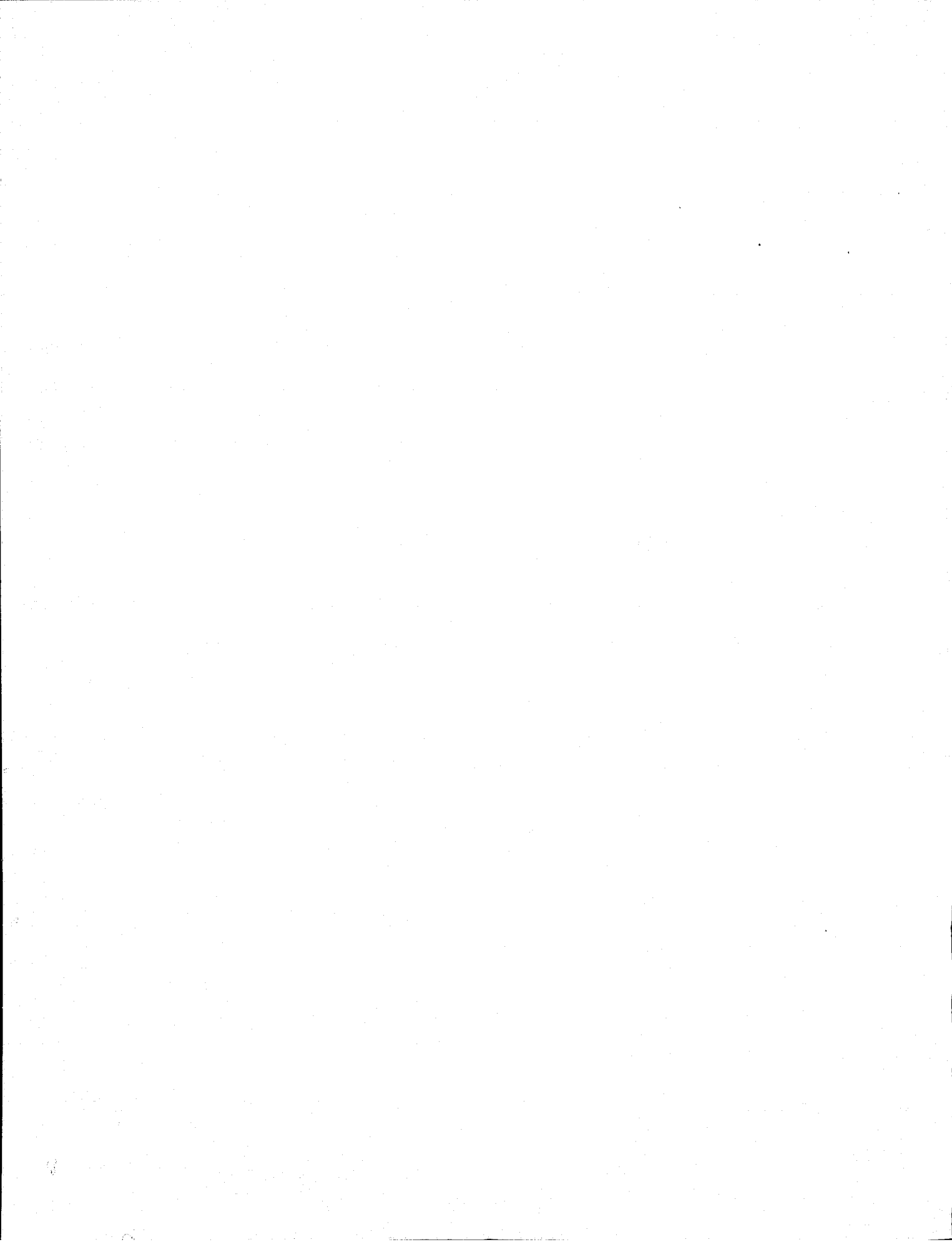
private—which is constantly on the verge of being overwhelmed by its work load for lack of adequate manpower and materials will have great difficulty embarking upon imaginative ventures designed to improve quality if these ventures would place a further strain on limited resources.

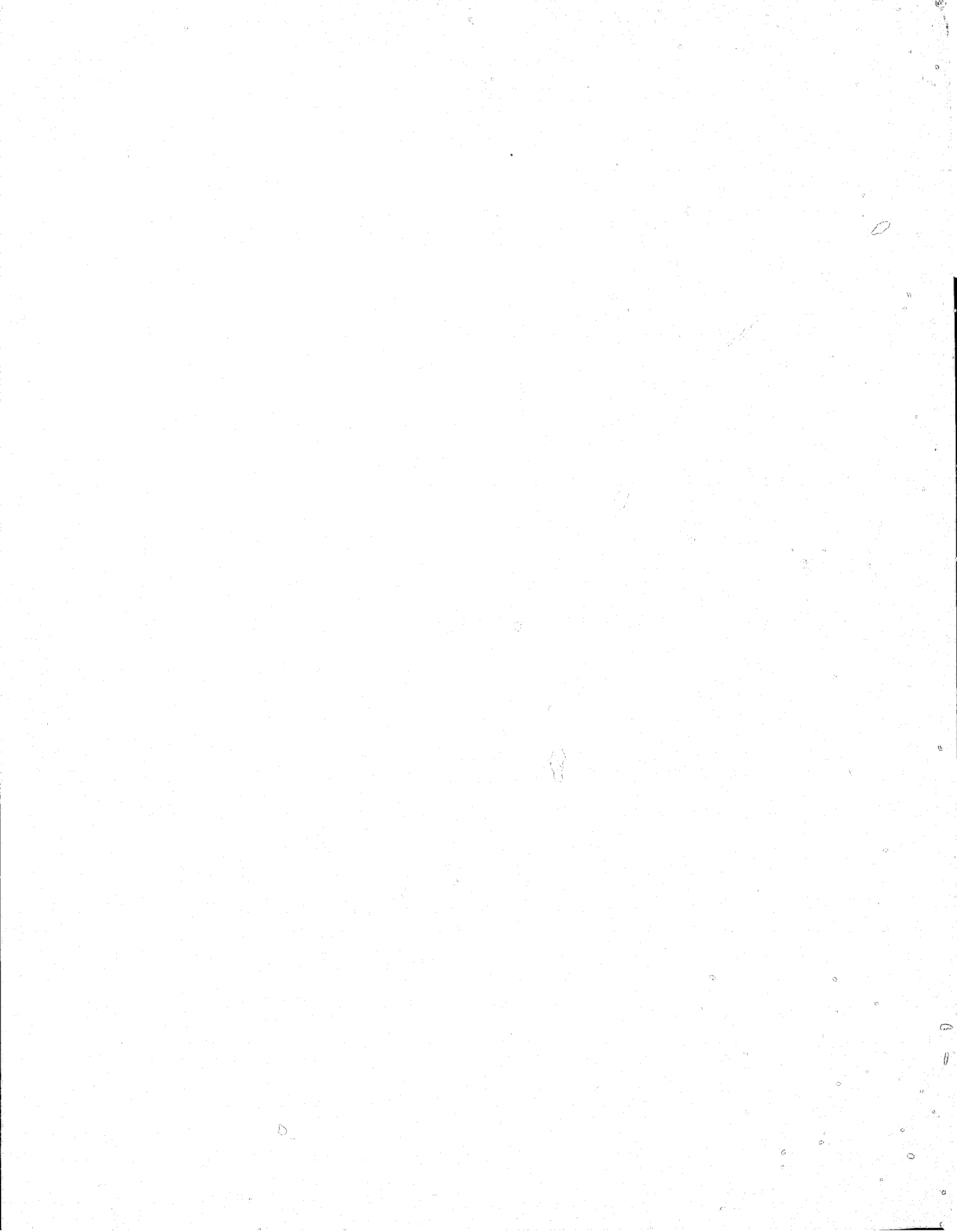
I believe that it would be unfortunate indeed if the resources available to the District's justice system continued to be maintained at an inadequate level precisely at the time when the completion of the new court building will at last place the courts in a position where they could fully achieve the goal of court reorganization—the establishment in the Nation's Capital of a court system which will be a model for the Nation. I am convinced that, given those resources, that goal is easily within our grasp.



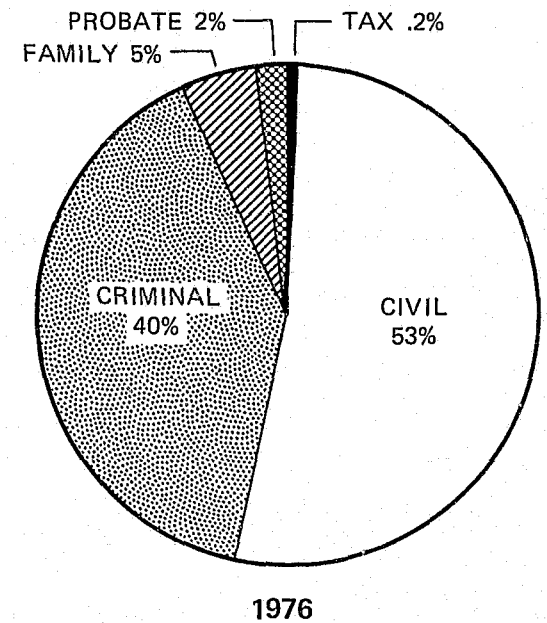
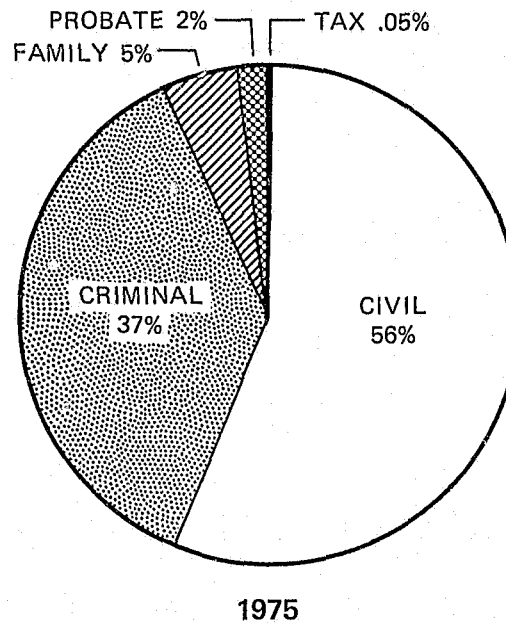
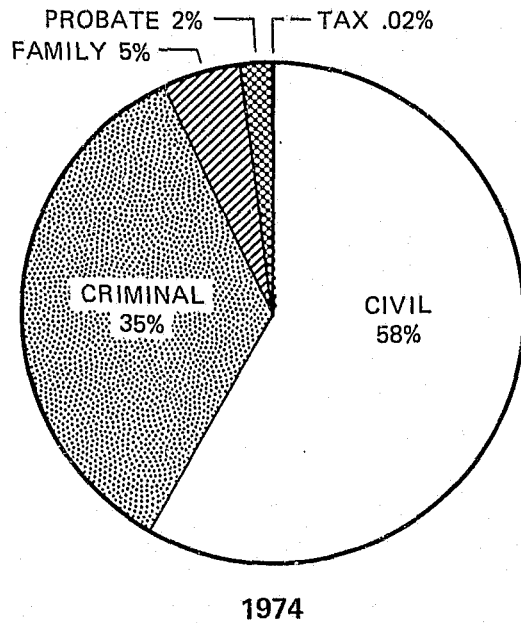
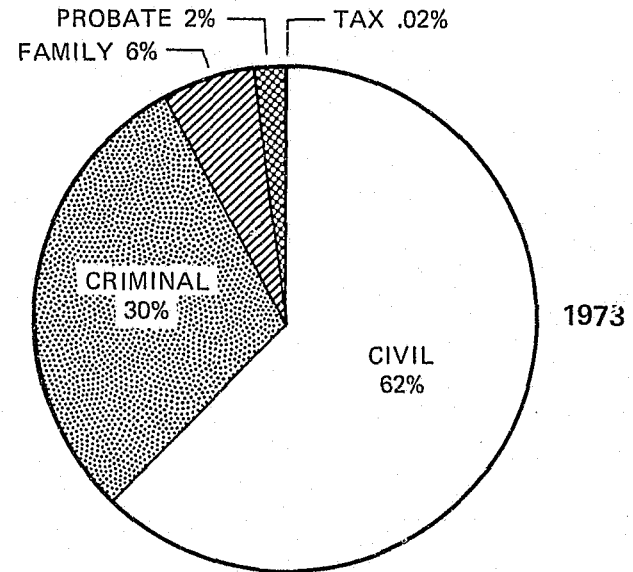
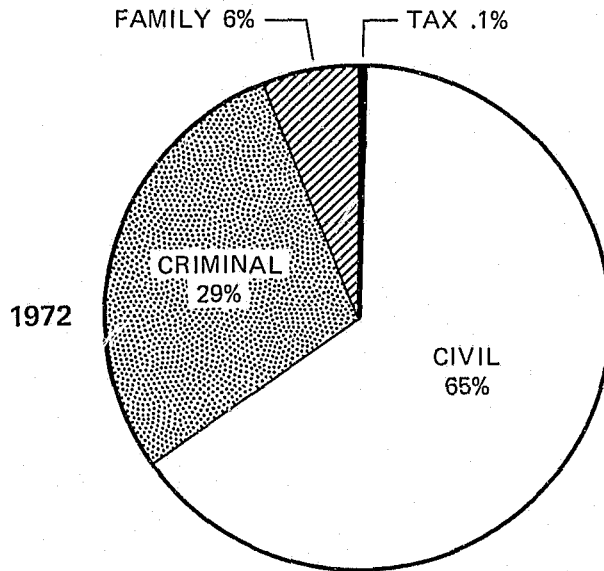
**SUPERIOR COURT**  
**DETAILED STATISTICAL TABLES**

**APPENDIX I**





# DISTRIBUTION OF CASE FILINGS



COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF THE BUSINESS OF THE COURT

DIVISION	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
<b>Criminal Division</b>							
District of Columbia Branch	3,427	3,238	3,383	3,010	3,004	-.2%	-12.3%
United States Branch	23,097	23,166	25,282	27,024	25,462	-5.8%	10.2%
Traffic Branch	47,771	51,464	65,549	74,905	87,583	16.9%	83.3%
Total	74,295	77,868	94,214	104,939	116,049	10.6%	56.2%
<b>Civil Division</b>							
Civil Actions Branch	9,734	10,981	11,361	11,716	12,674	8.2%	30.2%
Landlord & Tenant Branch	120,653	115,703	116,782	120,608	114,408	-5.1%	-5.2%
Small Claims Branch	33,967	35,832	30,512	27,839	28,347	1.8%	-16.5%
Total	164,351	162,516	158,655	160,163	155,429	-2.9%	-5.4%
<b>Family Division</b>							
Domestic Relations Branch	6,813	6,230	6,250	6,166	5,919	-4.0%	-13.1%
Intrafamily Branch	968	907	734	795	818	2.9%	-15.5%
Neglect Branch	577	659	693	544	565	3.9%	-2.1%
Juvenile Branch	7,088	7,188	7,079	7,212	6,826	-5.3%	-3.7%
Total	15,446	14,984	14,756	14,717	14,128	-4.0%	-8.5%
<b>Tax Division</b>							
Civil Tax Cases	21	26	53	78	63	-19.2%	200.0%
Criminal Tax Cases	240	91	7	64	562	778.1%	134.2%
Total	261	117	60	142	625	340.1%	139.5%
<b>Probate Division</b>							
New Wills	0	2,283	2,240	2,048	2,134	4.2%	—
New Decedents' Estates	0	2,456	2,452	2,430	2,416	-.6%	—
New Minors' Estates	0	165	158	177	152	-14.1%	—
Total	0	4,904	4,850	4,655	4,702	1.0%	—
<b>Grand Total</b>	254,353	260,389	272,535	284,616	290,933	2.2%	14.4%
<b>Monthly Average of New Cases</b>	21,196	21,699	22,711	23,718	24,244	2.2%	14.4%

**CRIMINAL DIVISION**



**SUMMARY OF MAJOR CRIMINAL TRIABLE CASES<sup>a</sup>**

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS					% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Pending January 1	2,223	1,974	2,892	3,391	6,528	92.5%	193.7%
New Filings	11,509	16,341	17,577	20,300	20,754	2.2%	80.3%
Reinstated	73	1,131	2,368	2,682	2,314	-13.7%	3069.9%
Total to be Disposed	13,805	19,446	22,837	26,373	29,596	12.2%	114.4%
Dispositions by Court							
Jury Trial	1,292	1,065	1,291	1,095	1,203	9.9%	-6.9%
Trial by Court	703	786	878	919	856	-6.9%	21.8%
Plea	4,132	4,776	6,027	7,234	8,625	19.2%	108.7%
Dismissed	596	455	972	868	948	9.2%	59.1%
Subtotal	6,723	7,082	9,168	10,116	11,632	15.0%	73.0%
Dispositions Prior to Adjudication							
No Papers	0	3,108	3,007	2,653	2,693	1.5%	100.0%+
Nolle Prosequi	3,775	3,536	4,125	3,520	5,060	43.8%	34.0%
Absconded	1,063	1,672	1,893	2,516	2,756	9.5%	159.3%
Mental Observation	0	116	164	108	92	-14.8%	100.0%+
Transfer Rule 105	0	422	277	350	427	22.0%	100.0%+
Dismissed	295	378	658	424	497	17.2%	68.5%
Others <sup>b</sup>	48	240	154	158	253	60.1%	427.1%
Subtotal	5,181	9,472	10,278	9,729	11,778	21.1%	127.3%
Total Dispositions	11,904	16,554	19,446	19,845	23,410	18.0%	96.7%
Pending December 31	1,901	2,892	3,391	6,528	6,186	-5.2%	225.4%

<sup>a</sup>Includes felonies, misdemeanors, and serious District of Columbia and traffic cases.

<sup>b</sup>Includes cases exiting because of the death of the defendant or transfer to another jurisdiction pursuant to court rule; these are mostly final dispositions.

## FELONY BRANCH

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS					% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Pending January 1	556	802	1,529	1,401	2,008	43.3%	261.1%
New Filings (Indictments)	2,348	3,354	3,514	4,138	3,737	-9.7%	59.2%
Reinstated	73	91	780	784	490		571.2%
Total to be Disposed	2,977	4,247	5,823	6,323	6,235 <sup>a</sup>	-1.4%	109.4%
Dispositions by Court							
Jury Trial	466	428	731	667	795	19.2%	70.6%
Trial by Court	80	65	96	63	82	30.1%	2.5%
Plea	1,117	1,373	2,296	2,463	2,807	14.0%	151.3%
Dismissed	13	16	58	7	46	557.1%	253.8%
Subtotal	1,676	1,882	3,181	3,200	3,730	16.6%	122.5%
Dispositions Prior to Adjudication							
Dismissed	295	378	658	424	497	17.2%	68.5%
Nolle Prosequi	2	1	10	18	21	16.7%	950.0%
Absconded	154	428	538	637	463	-27.3%	200.6%
Others	48	29	35	36	48	33.3%	—
Subtotal	499	836	1,241	1,115	1,029	-7.7%	106.2%
Total Dispositions	2,175	2,718	4,422	4,315	4,759	10.3%	118.8%
Pending December 31	802	1,529	1,401	2,008	1,476	-26.5%	84.0%

MISDEMEANOR BRANCH

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS				% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Pending January 1	913	996	1,497	3,299	120.4%	261.3%
New Filings	10,967	11,976	12,984	12,909	-.6%	17.7%
Reinstated	859	1,335	1,599	1,520	-4.9%	76.9%
Total to be Disposed	12,739	14,307	16,080	17,728	10.2%	39.1%
Dispositions by Court						
Jury Trial	585	527	396	372	-6.1%	-36.4%
Trial by Court	562	657	713	620	-13.0%	10.3%
Plea	2,476	2,637	3,350	3,675	9.7%	48.4%
Dismissed	343	748	669	695	3.9%	102.6%
Subtotal	3,966	4,569	5,128	5,362	4.6%	35.2%
Dispositions prior to Adjudication						
No Paper	3,108	3,007	2,653	2,693	1.5%	-13.3%
Nolle Prosequi	2,964	3,608	2,975	4,306	44.7%	45.3%
Absconded	957	1,069	1,445	1,424	-1.4%	48.8%
Mental Observation	116	164	108	92	-14.8%	-20.7%
Transfer Rule 105	421	274	350	423	20.8%	.5%
Others	211	119	122	205	68.0%	-2.8%
Subtotal	7,777	8,241	7,653	9,143	19.5%	17.6%
Total Dispositions	11,743	12,810	12,781	14,305	13.5%	23.5%
Pending December 31	996	1,497	3,299	3,221	-2.4%	223.4%

## TRAFFIC CASES

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS			% Changes 1975-1976	% Changes 1974-1976
	1974	1975	1976		
<b>MAJOR TRIABLE TRAFFIC CASES<sup>a</sup></b>					
Pending January 1	357	473	1,209	155.6%	238.7%
New Filings	1,970	3,141	3,998	27.3%	102.9%
Reinstated	239	297	299	.7%	25.1%
Total to be Disposed	2,566	3,911	5,506	40.8%	114.6%
Dispositions by Court					
Jury Trial	31	32	36	12.5%	16.1%
Trial by Court	122	142	153	7.7%	25.4%
Plea	1,058	1,411	2,099	48.8%	98.4%
Dismissed	156	185	196	5.9%	25.6%
Subtotal	1,367	1,770	2,484	40.3%	81.7%
Dispositions prior to Adjudication					
Nolle	439	500	701	40.2%	59.7%
Absconded	284	432	862	99.5%	203.5%
Transfer Rule 105	3	0	5	—	66.7%
Subtotal	726	932	1,568	68.2%	116.0%
Total Dispositions	2,093	2,702	4,052	50.0%	93.6%
Pending December 31	473	1,209	1,454	20.3%	207.4%
<b>OTHER TRAFFIC CASES</b>					
Pending January 1	772	1,658	3,078	85.6%	298.7%
New Filings	63,579	71,764	83,585	16.5%	31.5%
Reinstated	889	1,697	10,021	490.5%	1027.2%
Total to be Disposed	65,240	75,119	96,684	28.7%	48.2%
Dispositions by Court					
Trial by Court	1,522	758	752	.8%	50.9%
Plea	4,248	3,890	3,941	1.3%	7.3%
Dismissed	1,425	1,458	2,867	96.6%	101.2%
Security Forfeit	2,781	4,337	9,367	116.0%	236.8%
Subtotal	9,976	10,443	16,927	62.1%	69.7%
Dispositions prior to Adjudication					
No Paper	5,190	3,880	3,852	.7%	25.8%
Nolle	7,151	8,516	10,992	29.1%	53.7%
Absconded	1,720	2,167	1,137	47.5%	33.9%
Transfer Rule 105	2	4	6	50.0%	200.0%
Others <sup>b</sup>	39,543	47,031	58,357	24.1%	47.6%
Subtotal	53,606	61,598	74,344	20.7%	38.7%
Total Dispositions	63,582	72,041	91,271	26.7%	43.5%
Pending December 31	1,658	3,078	5,413	75.9%	226.5%

<sup>a</sup>Includes those cases in which there is a jury trial by right, covering driving while under the influence, reckless driving, leaving the scene after colliding involving personal injury, driving with a revoked or suspended permit.

<sup>b</sup>Includes defendants whose cases are in the traffic summons stage in accordance with procedures outlined in the Traffic Violations Notice System.

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASES

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS			% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1974-1976
	1974	1975	1976		
<b>MAJOR TRIABLE D.C. CASES<sup>a</sup></b>					
Pending January 1	10	20	12	40.0%	20.0%
New Filings	117	37	112	202.7%	4.3%
Reinstated	14	2	5	150.0%	64.3%
Total to be Disposed	141	59	129	118.6%	8.5%
Dispositions by Court					
Jury Trial	2	0	0	—	—
Trial by Court	3	1	1	—	66.7%
Plea	36	10	44	340.0%	22.2%
Dismissed	10	7	11	57.1%	10.0%
Subtotal	51	18	56		
Dispositions prior to Adjudication					
Nolle	68	27	32	18.5%	52.9%
Absconded	2	2	7	250.0%	250.0%
Subtotal	70	29	39	34.5%	44.3%
Total Dispositions	121	47	95	102.1%	21.5%
Pending December 31	20	12	34	183.3%	70.0%
<b>OTHER D.C. CASES<sup>b</sup></b>					
Pending January 1	100	174	225	29.3%	125.0%
New Filings	3,266	2,973	2,892	2.7%	11.4%
Reinstated	120	142	168	18.3%	40.0%
Total to be Disposed	3,486	3,289	3,285	.1%	5.8%
Dispositions by Court					
Trial by Court	86	47	39	17.0%	54.6%
Plea	156	207	263	27.0%	68.6%
Dismissed	88	130	128	1.5%	45.4%
Security Forfeit	480	599	571	4.7%	19.0%
Subtotal	810	983	1,001	1.8%	23.6%
Dispositions prior to Adjudication					
No Paper	1,651	1,447	1,474	1.9%	10.7%
Nolle	624	449	503	12.0%	19.4%
Absconded	220	182	49	73.1%	77.7%
Mental Observation	2	1	6	500.0%	200.0%
Transfer Rule 105	4	2	4	100.0%	—
Others	1	0	0	—	—
Subtotal	2,502	2,081	2,036	2.2%	18.6%
Total Dispositions	3,312	3,064	3,073	.3%	7.2%
Pending December 31	174	225	248	10.2%	42.5%

<sup>a</sup>Includes District of Columbia cases in which there is a jury trial by right for ABC liquor violations and indecent exposure.

<sup>b</sup>Other than major triable offenses under the D.C. Code and Traffic laws.

## PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS				% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Pending January 1	249	199	161	243	50.9%	-2.4%
Reinstated	0	35	239	156	-34.7%	100.0%+
Filed	8,192	9,083	9,088	7,917	-12.9%	-3.4%
Total to be Disposed	8,441	9,317	9,488	8,316	-12.3%	-1.5%
Dispositions by Court						
Held for Grand Jury	2,979	3,596	4,174	3,627	-13.1%	21.7%
Waved to Grand Jury	576	614	651	903	38.7%	56.8%
No Probable Cause	104	150	155	145	-6.4%	39.4%
Subtotal	3,659	4,360	4,980	4,675	-6.1%	27.8%
Dispositions Prior to Hearing						
Certified U.S. Magistrate	160	157	136	111	-18.4%	-30.6%
Nolle Prosequi	823	1,242	1,055	743	-29.6%	-9.7%
No Papers	2,727	2,862	2,467	2,226	-9.8%	-18.4%
Dismissed (DWP)	539	207	202	119	-41.1%	-77.9%
Mental Observation	119	118	123	51	-58.5%	-57.1%
Absconded	215	197	229	150	-34.5%	-30.2%
Indictment Filed	0	9	40	54	35.0%	100.0%+
Others	0	4	13	10	-23.1%	100.0%+
Subtotal	4,583	4,796	4,265	3,464	-18.8%	-24.4%
Total Dispositions	8,242	9,156	9,245	8,139	-12.0%	-1.2%
Pending December 31	199	161	243	177	-27.2%	-11.1%

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS				% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Pending January 1	1	17	57	45	-21.0%	4400.0%
Filed <sup>a</sup>	1,017	1,504	1,923	2,039	6.0%	100.5%
Reinstated	11	3	14	11	-21.4%	—
Total to be Disposed	1,029	1,524	1,994	2,095	5.1%	103.6%
Disposition by Court						
Extradition Granted	56	48	66	70	6.1%	25.0%
Extradition Denied	8	2	4	8	100.0%	—
Dismissed	104	177	105	15	-85.7%	-85.6%
Special Proceedings <sup>b</sup>						
Granted	321	683	979	969	-1.0%	201.9%
Denied	39	108	112	159	42.0%	307.7%
Subtotal	528	1,018	1,266	1,221	-3.5%	131.2%
Dispositions prior to Adjudication						
Nolle Prosequi	81	72	234	283	20.9%	249.4%
Extradition Waived	373	356	401	521	29.9%	39.7%
Absconded	26	20	38	19	-50.0%	-26.9%
Others	4	1	10	3	-70.0%	-25.0%
Subtotal	484	449	683	826	20.9%	70.7%
Total Dispositions	1,012	1,467	1,949	2,047	5.0%	102.3%
Pending December 31	17	57	45	48	6.7%	182.3%

<sup>a</sup>Included in the new filings are 653 fugitive complaints in 1973, 709 in 1974, 814 in 1975, and 901 in 1976.

<sup>b</sup>Includes extradition of witnesses for out-of-state proceedings, adversary hearings regarding matters such as pornography, writs of habeas corpus, and show cause or contempt proceedings.

### CRIMINAL WARRANTS

TYPE	DEFENDANTS					% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Felony Warrants	2,333	2,079	2,283	2,139	1,948	-8.9%	-16.5%
Serious Misdemeanor Warrants	599	496	582	738	708	-4.1%	18.2%
District of Columbia Warrants	326	153	167	82	341	315.8%	4.6%
Traffic Warrants	50,000	59,950	212*	0	0	—	—
Search Warrants	799	638	598	718	740	3.1%	-7.4%
Bench Warrants	3,958	5,712	7,121	10,268	12,982	26.4%	228.0%
Felony Complaints	4,517	4,440	5,388	5,127	5,018	-2.1%	11.1%
Judicial Summons	409	577	455	620	642	3.5%	57.0%
Total Criminal Warrants	62,941	74,045	16,806	19,692	22,379	13.6%	—

\*Starting in January 1974, traffic warrants were incorporated into the Traffic Violations Notice System which is controlled by the Central Violations Bureau and the Data Processing Division.

### CRIMINAL APPEALS

ACTIVITY	DEFENDANTS					% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976		
Appeals Filed							
By Defendant	181	466	388	625	700	12.0%	286.7%
By U.S. Attorney	53	71	280	93	34	-63.4%	-35.8%
By Corporation Counsel	12	2	3	1	5	400.0%	-58.3%
Total	246	539	671	719	739	2.8%	200.4%
Appeals Returned							
Dismissed	53	134	174	248	212	-14.5%	300.0%
Affirmed	49	167	229	211	296	40.3%	504.1%
Reversed	26	41	160	143	35	-75.5%	34.6%
Remanded	0	11	15	51	39	-23.5%	100.0%+
Withdrawn	0	1	0	0	0	—	—
Total	128	354	578	653	582	-10.9%	354.7%
Pending December 31	118	185	93	66	157	137.9%	33.0%





**CIVIL DIVISION**

## CIVIL DIVISION SUMMARY OF NEW FILINGS

Type	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1971-1976
Civil Actions	10,857	9,734	10,981	11,361	11,716	12,674	8.1%	16.7%
Landlord & Tenant	122,357	120,653	115,703	116,782	120,608	114,408	-5.2%	-6.5%
Small Claims	30,244	33,967	35,832	30,512	27,839	28,347	1.8%	6.3%
Total	163,458	164,351	162,516	158,655	160,163	155,429	-2.9%	-4.9%

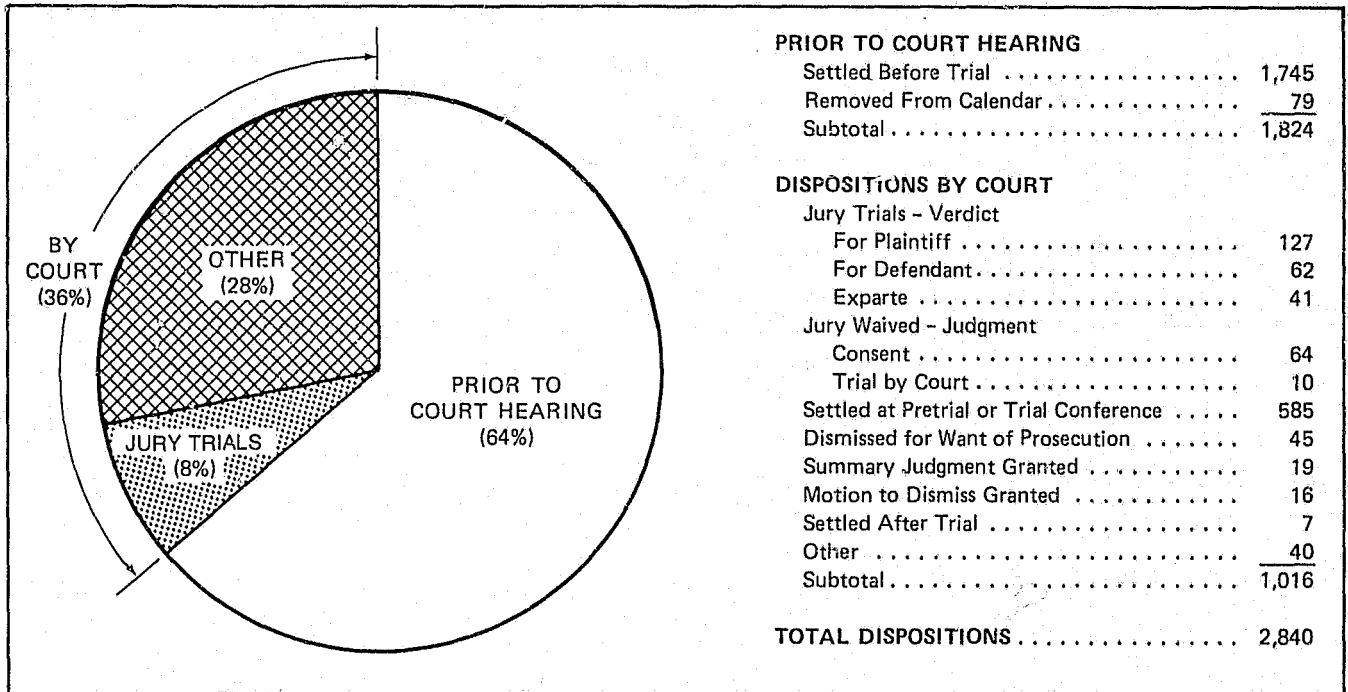
## SUMMARY OF CIVIL ACTION FILINGS

ACTIVITY	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1971-1976
Jury & Nonjury Cases on Trial Calendar Pending January 1	6,603	3,734	2,925	3,330	3,421	3,687	7.8%	-44.2%
New Cases Placed on Trial Calendar Dispositions	5,663	4,601	4,711	4,425	5,101	5,437	6.6%	-4.0%
Cases on Trial Calendar Pending December 31	8,532	5,410	4,306	4,334	4,835	4,065	-15.9%	-52.3%
	3,734	2,925	3,330	3,421	3,687	5,059	37.2%	35.5%

## CIVIL JURY CALENDAR

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Cases on Trial Calendar Pending January 1	2,419	2,682	2,663	3,113	16.9%	28.7%
New Cases Placed on Trial Calendar	2,982	3,002	3,786	3,657	-3.4%	22.6%
Total Cases on Trial Calendar	5,401	5,684	6,449	6,770	5.0%	25.3%
Dispositions	2,719	3,021	3,336	2,840	-14.9%	4.4%
Cases on Trial Calendar Pending December 31	2,682	2,663	3,113	3,930	26.2%	46.5%
Average Time Trial Could Be Had After Case Was Placed on Trial Calendar	7 mos	8 mos	8 mos	12 mos	50.0%	71.4%

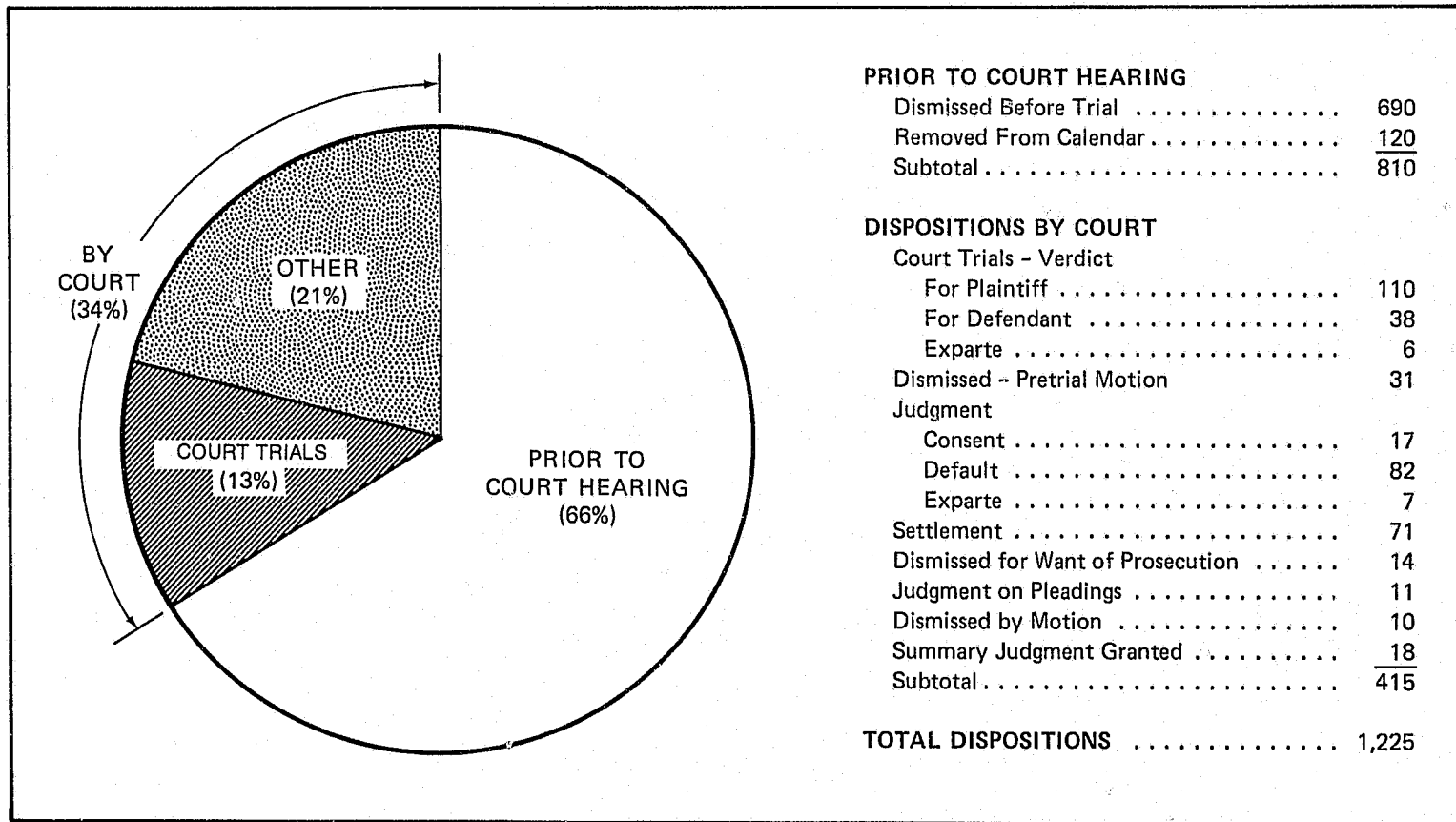
## CIVIL JURY DISPOSITIONS FOR 1976

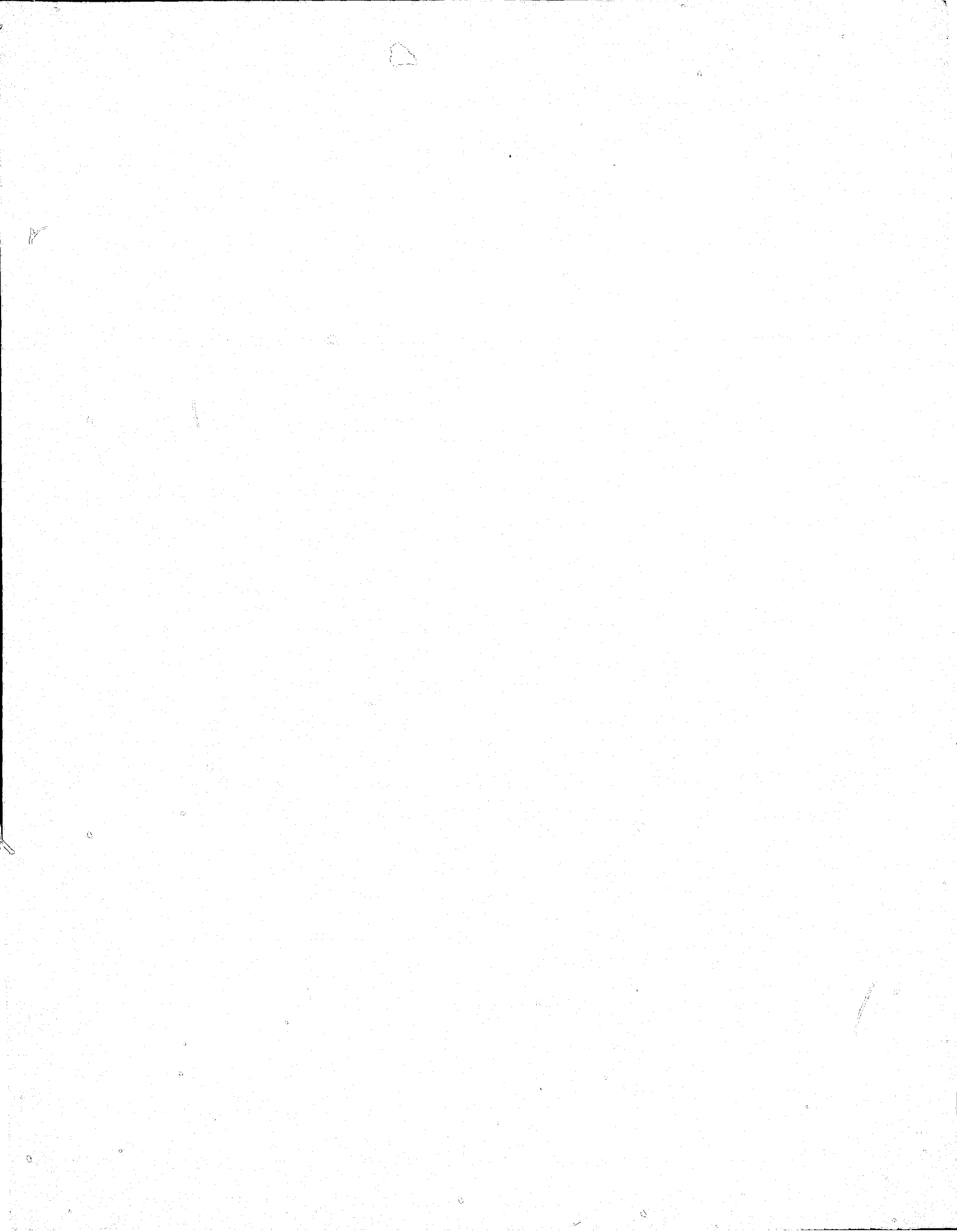


## CIVIL NONJURY CALENDAR

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Cases on Trial Calendar Pending January 1	506	648	758	574	-24.3%	13.4%
New Cases Placed on Trial Calendar	<u>1,729</u>	<u>1,423</u>	<u>1,315</u>	<u>1,780</u>	35.4%	2.9%
Total Cases on Trial Calendar	2,235	2,071	2,073	2,354	13.5%	5.3%
Dispositions	1,587	1,313	1,499	1,225	-18.3%	22.8%
Cases on Trial Calendar Pending December 31	648	758	574	1,129	96.7%	74.2%
Average Time Trial Could Be Had After Case Was Placed on Trial Calendar	2.5 mos	2.5 mos	2 mos	6 mos	200.0%	140.0%

### CIVIL NONJURY DISPOSITIONS FOR 1976





### 1976 CIVIL JURY DEMANDS

TYPE	Grand Total	Six Person Jury			Twelve Person Jury		
		Total	Plaintiff	Defendant	Total	Plaintiff	Defendant
<b>Personal Torts</b>							
Assault & Battery	89	58	56	2	31	28	3
Auto—Personal Injury	943	677	672	5	266	224	42
False Arrest	84	55	55	0	29	27	2
Malpractice	74	49	48	1	25	22	3
Negligence	1,315	923	891	32	392	339	53
Wrongful Death	24	15	15	0	9	8	1
Other	<u>151</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>6</u>
Subtotal	2,680	1,877	1,826	51	803	693	110
<b>Property Torts</b>							
Auto—Property Damage	610	430	398	32	180	148	32
Other	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
Subtotal	630	447	411	36	183	150	33
<b>Contracts</b>							
Breach of Contract	302	213	158	55	89	67	22
Money Owed	26	19	13	6	7	1	6
Rent	743	441	0	441	302	0	302
Real Property	10	3	2	1	7	3	4
Other	<u>106</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>
Subtotal	1,187	751	208	543	436	91	345
Small Claims	89	67	11	56	22	2	20
Other	<u>47</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>20</u>
<b>Total Jury Demands</b>	4,633*	3,165	2,459	706	1,468	940	528
Percentage	100%	68%	53%	15%	32%	20%	12%

\*There were an additional 24 jury demand cases which were filed too late in 1976 to be specified statistically.

### CIVIL MOTIONS BRANCH

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Motions & Oppositions Filed	5,866	7,011	10,635	12,359	16.2%	110.7%
Papers Rejected	680	700	904	1,010	11.7%	48.5%
Orders Reviewed For and Signed by Judge	2,497	2,291	2,577	3,096	20.1%	24.0%
Telephone Assistance	NA	NA	8,088	10,978	35.7%	—
Window Assistance	NA	NA	NA	5,828	—	—
Conferences with Motions Commissioner	NA	NA	NA	354	—	—
Contested Motions Heard	2,084	2,263	2,059	1,137	-44.8%	-45.4%

### INTERVIEW AND JUDGMENT SECTION

ACTIVITY	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1974-1976
Default Judgments	2,575	2,828	3,266	15.5%	26.8%
Confession & Consent Judgments	191	228	279	22.4%	46.1%
Default Judgments Under Rule 55-II	184	157	237	50.9%	28.8%
Judgment of Condemnation	155	210	298	41.9%	92.2%
Rule 62-II Judgments	153	244	274	12.3%	79.1%
Total	3,258	3,667	4,314	17.6%	32.4%



### SMALL CLAIMS & CONCILIATION BRANCH

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Pending January 1	2,062	2,388	2,127	1,955	-8.1%	-5.2%
New Filings	35,832	30,512	27,839	28,347	1.8%	-20.9%
Cases Removed from Filed for Settlement	5,413	5,063	6,591	9,697	47.1%	79.1%
<b>Total Case Load</b>	<b>43,037</b>	<b>37,963</b>	<b>36,557</b>	<b>39,999</b>	<b>9.4%</b>	<b>-7.0%</b>
<b>Dispositions</b>						
Default Judgment	15,270	12,431	11,484	12,918	12.5%	-15.4%
Consent or Confession Judgment	1,746	1,618	1,453	1,722	18.5%	-1.4%
Continuances	4,886	4,851	4,714	4,711	-.06%	-3.6%
Trials	914	724	557	982	76.3%	7.4%
Conciliations	23	15	2	0	-100.0%	-100.0%
Case to Files Pending Settlement Dismissed by Plaintiff or Plaintiff's Counsel Before Trial	8,269	8,582	8,911	9,393	5.4%	13.6%
Certified to Another Judge	1,500	1,271	1,293	1,316	1.8%	-12.3%
Judgment Paid and Satisfied	25	0	0	0	—	-100.0%
Dismissed for Want of Prosecution	7,608	6,027	5,918	6,517	10.1%	-14.3%
Non-Suits	288	233	206	266	29.1%	-7.6%
Jury Demands (Certified to Jury)	18	8	11	19	72.7%	5.5%
Total	102	76	53	89	67.9%	-12.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,649</b>	<b>35,836</b>	<b>34,602</b>	<b>37,936</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>-6.7%</b>
Pending December 31	2,388	2,127	1,955	2,063	5.5%	-13.6%
Cases Filed by Individual Without Attorney	2,617	3,720	4,045	5,088	25.8%	94.4%

## SUMMARY OF LANDLORD AND TENANT CASES

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Pending January 1	2	122	198	444	124.2%	100%+
New Cases Filed	115,703	116,782	120,608	114,408	-5.1%	-1.1%
Total to be Disposed	115,705	116,904	120,806	114,852	-4.9%	-.7%
Dispositions	115,583	116,706	120,362	114,564	-4.8%	-.9%
Pending December 31	122	198	444	288	-35.1%	136.1%
<b>SUMMARY OF JURY DEMANDS:</b>						
Jury Demands	11	485	876	710	-18.9%	100%+
Percentage of Jury Demands Over Total L&T Cases	.009%	.4%	.7%	.6%	-14.3%	100%+
Dispositions						
Trial	0	1	2	4	100.0%	100%+
Judgment	2	77	142	119	-16.2%	100%+
Settled	5	185	183	213	16.4%	100%+
Dismissed	1	75	151	123	18.5%	100%+
Jury Demand Withdrawn or Stricken	1	1	4	1	-75.0%	—
Total	9	339	482	460	-4.6%	100%+
Pending December 31	2	146	394	288	-26.9%	100%+

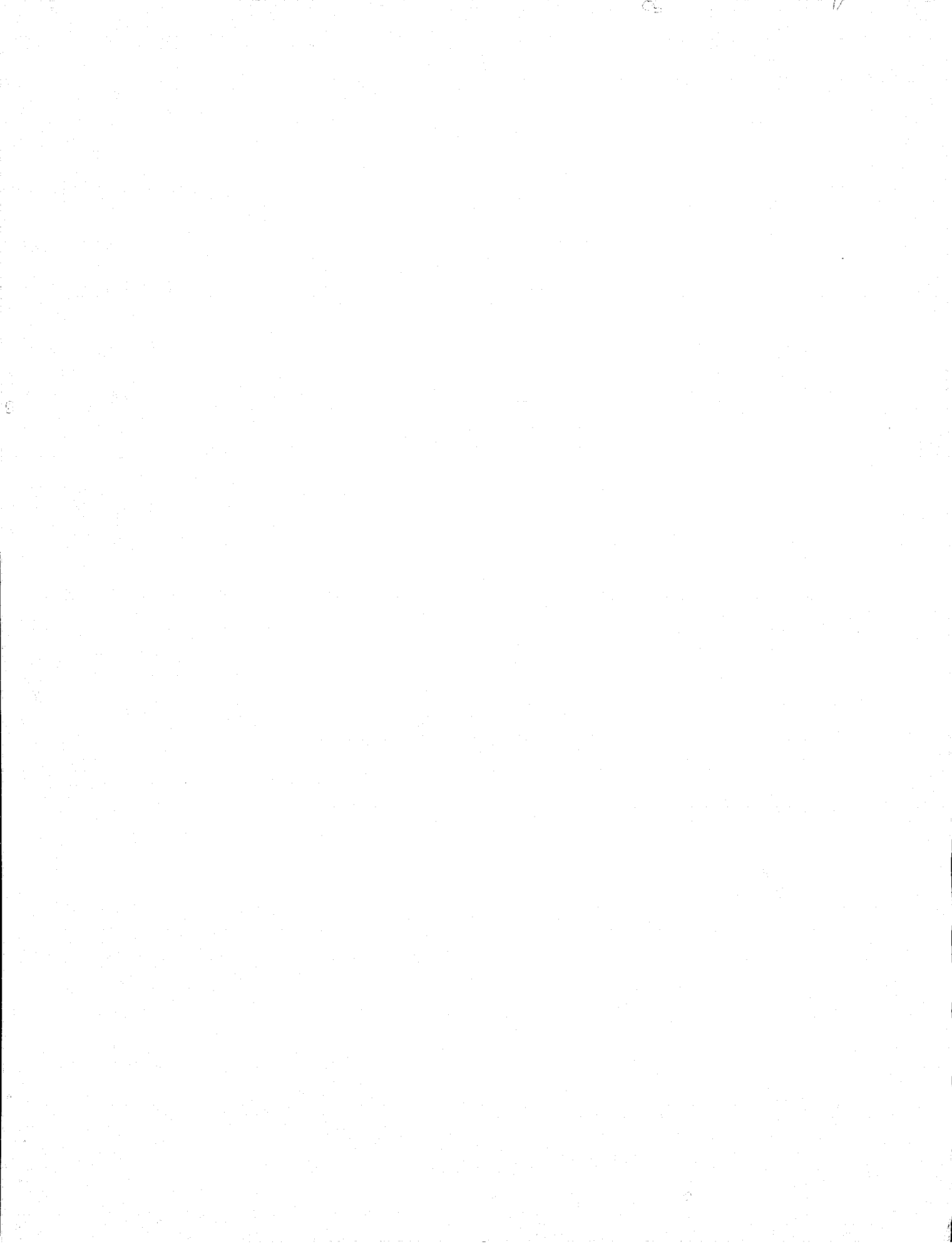
## LANDLORD AND TENANT DETAILS

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Defaults	NA	60,402	59,821	55,319	-7.5%	—
Confessions	NA	6,053	7,425	9,506	28.0%	—
Stays	NA	5,837	7,342	9,478	29.0%	—
Dismissals	NA	45,168	50,296	46,311	-7.9%	—
Dismissed without Prejudice—Rule 11	NA	803	857	530	-38.1%	—
Continuances	NA	5,241	5,196	5,222	.5%	—
Motions	NA	2,014	2,639	3,322	25.9%	—
Files	NA	1,211	959	860	-10.3%	—
Certified to Another Judge	NA	6	88	78	-11.4%	—
Plea of Title	NA	4	3	6	100.0%	—
Nonjury Trials	NA	116	36	44	22.2%	—
Nonjury Trials Pending December 31	NA	52	50	38	24.0%	—

## FIDUCIARY SECTION

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Petitions for Appointment of Conservators Pending January 1	13	16	17	14	-17.6%	7.7%
New Petitions for Appointment of Conservators Filed during Year	164	134	153	147	-3.9%	-10.4%
Committeeships Terminated and New Conservators Appointed during Year	18	12	16	7	-56.2%	-61.1%
Miscellaneous Fiduciary Cases as of January 1	0	0	15	12	-20.0%	—
Miscellaneous Fiduciary Cases Filed During Year	<u>40</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>41</u>	28.1%	2.5%
Total Fiduciary Cases	235	214	258	221	-14.3%	-5.9%
Dispositions (combined)*	219	182	232	188	-19.0%	-14.1%
Petitions for Appointment of Conservators Pending December 31	16	17	14	17	21.4%	6.2%
Miscellaneous Fiduciary Cases Pending December 31	<u>0</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16</u>	33.3%	—
Total Fiduciary Cases Pending	16	32	26	33	26.9%	106.2%
Total Active Conservatorships and Committeeships as of January 1	1,270	1,178	1,110	1,090	-1.8%	-14.2%
Total Conservatorships and Committeeships from Previous Years Terminated during Year	<u>243</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>165</u>	1.2%	-32.1%
Total Active Conservatorships and Committeeships from Previous Years Active as of December 31	1,027	989	947	925	-2.3%	-9.9%
<b>SUMMARY OF FIDUCIARY MATTERS:</b>						
Committeeships Terminated and New Conservators Appointed During Year	18	12	16	7	-56.2%	-61.1%
Conservators Appointed during Year	137	120	141	133	-5.7%	-2.9%
Conservators Terminated after Appointment during Same Year	4	11	14	10	-28.6%	150.0%
Total Active New Conservatorships	151	121	143	130	-9.1%	13.9%
Total Active Conservatorships and Committeeships from Previous Years Active as of December 31	1,027	989	947	925	-2.3%	-9.9%
Total Active Conservatorships and Committeeships as of December 31	1,178	1,110	1,090	1,055	-3.2%	-10.4%
Total Petitions for Appointment of Conservators Pending December 31	16	17	14	17	21.4%	6.2%
Total Miscellaneous Fiduciary Cases Pending December 31	0	15	12	16	33.3%	—
Total Active Miscellaneous Cases	12	29	42	57	35.7%	375.0%
Total Active Fiduciary Cases	1,206	1,171	1,158	1,145	-1.1%	-5.0%

\*This term, when used in connection with fiduciary cases, means that some type of action has been taken on the original petition or complaint. This action could be a withdrawal, dismissal, termination, appointment of a conservator and creation of a conservatorship, appointment of a trustee, or some type of final adjudication.



**FAMILY DIVISION**

## JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASES

ACTIVITY	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976
Pending January 1	1,267	1,618	27.7%
New Referrals	<u>6,608</u>	<u>6,236</u>	5.6%
Total to be Disposed	7,875	7,854	-.26%
Dispositions	6,257	7,036	12.4%
Pending December 31	1,618	818	-49.4%
Average Time Between Arrest and Disposition (Months)	3.5	2.5	-28.6%

## DELINQUENCY AND PINS CASES—DISPOSITIONS BY NUMBER AND TYPE

TYPE OF DISPOSITIONS	Combined Totals			Boys						Girls					
				Delinquency			PINS			Delinquency			PINS		
	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976	1974	1975	1976
Dispositions by Judicial Action															
Closed Without a Finding	1,833	2,046	2,596	1,596	1,761	2,249	38	34	53	158	173	219	41	78	77
Commitment to S.R.A.	256	269	390	218	241	337	13	9	15	7	8	11	18	11	27
Consent Decree	1,210	1,448	1,369	1,031	1,223	1,108	32	23	32	94	159	165	53	43	64
Dismissed	822	1,198	616	706	1,028	453	24	43	30	66	86	83	26	41	50
Disposed on Another Case	38	24	143	35	23	133	1	0	0	2	1	9	0	0	1
Transferred to Adult Court	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Probation	710	534	584	650	472	519	14	10	13	32	44	42	14	8	10
Suspended Commitment	90	181	274	86	171	264	2	1	1	2	7	8	0	2	1
Other	7	4	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	4,968	5,705	5,973	4,330	4,922	5,064	124	120	144	362	480	535	152	183	230
Not Petitioned	1,341	684	1,044	837	374	706	209	130	106	113	57	103	182	123	129
Total Dispositions	6,309	6,389	7,017	5,167	5,296	5,770	333	250	250	475	537	638	334	306	359

## DELINQUENCY AND PINS CASES—REASON FOR REFERRAL

REASON	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1974-1976
Acts against Persons (assault, homicide, robbery, rape)	1,860	2,313	2,039	-11.8%	9.6%
Acts against Property (burglary, larceny, unauthorized use of auto)	3,410	3,302	3,216	-2.6%	-5.7%
Acts against Public Order (disorderly conduct, narcotics)	1,107	993	981	-1.2%	-11.4%
Persons in Need of Supervision (truancy, beyond control)	<u>702</u>	<u>604</u>	<u>590</u>	-2.3%	-15.9%
Total	7,079	7,212	6,826	-5.3%	-3.6%

### DOMESTIC RELATIONS CASES

TYPE OF CASE	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
<b>Divorce</b>							
Pending January 1	4,189	3,348	3,506	3,597	3,963	10.2%	-5.4%
Filed	4,062	4,309	4,251	4,155	3,990	-4.0%	-1.8%
Disposed	4,903	4,151	4,160	3,789	3,122	-17.6%	-36.3%
Pending December 31	3,348	3,506	3,597	3,963	4,831	21.9%	44.3%
<b>Adoption</b>							
Pending January 1	327	302	214	220	168	-23.6%	-48.6%
Filed	539	473	440	387	388	.3%	-28.0%
Disposed	564	561	434	439	346	-21.2%	-38.6%
Pending December 31	302	214	220	168	210	25.0%	-30.5%
<b>Paternity</b>							
Pending January 1	234	169	259	278	359	29.1%	53.4%
Filed	302	266	224	293	406	38.6%	34.4%
Disposed	367	176	205	212	370	74.5%	.8%
Pending December 31	169	259	278	359	395	10.0%	133.7%
<b>Support</b>							
Pending January 1	560	463	307	621	584	-6.0%	4.3%
Filed	555	365	465	378	242	-36.0%	-56.4%
Disposed	652	521	377	415	150	-66.7%	-77.0%
Pending December 31	463	307	621 <sup>a</sup>	584	676	15.7%	46.0%
<b>Habeas Corpus</b>							
Pending January 1	11	8	11	10	25	150.0%	127.3%
Filed	9	17	6	24	6	-75.0%	-33.3%
Disposed	12	14	7	25	5	-80.0%	-58.3%
Pending December 31	8	11	10	25 <sup>b</sup>	26	4.0%	225.0%
<b>Reciprocal Support</b>							
Pending January 1	1,289	766	594	768	975	26.9%	-24.3%
Filed	836	800	864	929	887	-4.5%	6.1%
Disposed	1,359	972	690	722	983	36.1%	-27.7%
Pending December 31	766	594	768	975	879	-9.8%	14.7%

<sup>a</sup>Includes an adjustment of 226 cases.

<sup>b</sup>Includes an adjustment of 16 cases.

### SUMMARY OF INTRAFAMILY AND NEGLECT CASES

TYPE OF CASE	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
<b>INTRAFAMILY</b>							
Pending January 1	209	415	339	489	482	-1.4%	130.6%
Referrals during Year	<u>968</u>	<u>875</u>	<u>734</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>818</u>	2.9%	-15.5%
Total	1,177	1,290	1,073	1,284	1,300	1.2%	10.4%
Dispositions	762	951	584	792	795	.4%	4.3%
Pending December 31	415	339	489	492	505	2.6%	21.7%
<b>NEGLECT</b>							
Pending January 1	84	156	323	218	225	3.2%	167.9%
Referrals during Year	<u>577</u>	<u>643</u>	<u>693</u>	<u>544</u>	<u>565</u>	3.9%	-2.1%
Total	661	799	1,016	762	790	3.7%	19.5%
Dispositions	505	476	798	541	609	12.6%	20.6%
Pending December 31	156	323	218	221	181	-18.1%	16.0%

### COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH TRIALS

ACTIVITY	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
Trial by Jury	4	4	7	11	9	-18.2%	125.0%
Trial by Court	7	0	1	3	3	—	-57.1%
Miscellaneous Mental Health Cases Filed	NA	2,009	1,993	1,584	1,576	- .5%	—
Judicial Petitions Filed	NA	729	686	593	760	28.2%	—
Judicial Petitions Closed	NA	751	665	601	726	20.8%	—
Judicial Petitions Pending	NA	57	78	70	104	48.6%	—
Orders Signed	NA	NA	3,619	3,161	3,665	15.9%	—



**SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION**

### ADULT PROBATION BRANCH

CASE LOAD	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
Probationers under Supervision January 1	3,217	4,062	3,579	3,305	4,089	23.7%	27.1%
New Cases Received for Supervision during Year	3,817	2,393	2,523	3,302	3,323	.6%	-12.9%
Cases Removed during Year							
Expiration of Probation	2,222	1,872	1,713	1,378	1,659	20.4%	-25.3%
Probation Revocation	250	195	205	186	296	59.1%	18.4%
Early Termination	500	809	651	658	709	7.7%	41.8%
Placed in Fugitive Status	0	0	0	0	485	—	—
Transferred to SCORP	0	0	0	296	0	—	—
Total	2,972	2,876	2,569	2,518	3,149	25.1%	6.0%
Probationers under Supervision December 31							
Felony Cases	545	903	1,253	1,526	1,690	10.7%	210.1%
Misdemeanor	3,317	2,676	2,280	2,563	2,573	.4%	-26.8%
Total	4,062	3,579	3,533	4,089	4,263	4.3%	4.9%
Presentence Investigations							
Felony Cases	1,027	1,478	1,658	2,077	2,059	-.9%	100.5%
Misdemeanor Cases	3,387	2,098	2,343	2,483	2,677	7.8%	-21.0%
Total	4,414	3,576	4,001	4,560	4,736	3.9%	7.3%
Average Monthly Probation Case Load	3,639	3,810	3,502	3,667	4,001	11.4%	12.2%
Total Authorized Probation Officer Positions	69	81	81	69	64	-7.2%	-7.2%

## JUVENILE PROBATION BRANCH

CASE LOAD	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
Cases under Supervision January 1							
Consent Decree	448	868	743	504	600	19.0%	
Probation				574	606	5.6%	
Suspended Commitment	<u>1,914*</u>	<u>1,261*</u>	<u>963*</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>233</u>	37.1%	
Total	<u>2,362</u>	<u>2,129</u>	<u>1,706</u>	<u>1,248</u>	<u>1,439</u>	15.3%	-39.1%
New Cases Received for Supervision							
Consent Decree	1,456	1,389	1,089	1,467	1,221	-16.8%	
Probation				779	736	-5.5%	
Suspended Commitment	<u>1,146*</u>	<u>928*</u>	<u>817*</u>	<u>219</u>	<u>244</u>	11.4%	
Total	<u>2,602</u>	<u>2,317</u>	<u>1,906</u>	<u>2,465</u>	<u>2,201</u>	-10.7%	-15.4%
Cases Removed during Year							
Expiration	NA	2,317	1,841	1,744	1,817	4.2%	
Revocation	NA	254	209	188	103	-45.2%	
Early Termination	NA	349	314	219	233	6.4%	
Transferred to SCORP	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>0</u>	—	
Total	<u>2,835</u>	<u>2,740</u>	<u>2,364</u>	<u>2,274</u>	<u>2,153</u>	-5.3%	-24.1%
Cases under Supervision December 31							
Consent Decree	868	743	504	600	581	-3.2%	
Probation			574	606	614	1.3%	
Suspended Commitment	<u>1,261*</u>	<u>963*</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>292</u>	25.3%	
Total	<u>2,129</u>	<u>1,706</u>	<u>1,248</u>	<u>1,439</u>	<u>1,487</u>	3.3%	-30.2%
Social Reports Completed	2,267	1,830	1,887	2,051	2,867	39.8%	26.5%
Average Monthly Supervision Case Load	2,245	1,918	1,406	1,344	1,471	9.4%	-34.5%
Total Intake Cases	4,422	4,471	4,464	4,501	4,368	-2.9%	-1.2%
Total Authorized Probation Officer Positions	56	57	55	50	47	-6.0%	-16.1%

\*Includes both Probation and Suspended Commitment cases; separate case load data is not available.

## INTRAFAMILY, NEGLECT, AND CONCILIATION BRANCH

CASE LOAD	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976
Cases under Supervision January 1					
Intrafamily			345	545	585
Neglect	188 <sup>a</sup>	318 <sup>a</sup>	105	128 <sup>b</sup>	153
Child Support	<u>4,747</u>	<u>4,279</u>	<u>3,917</u>	<u>3,624</u>	<u>1,572<sup>c</sup></u>
Total	4,935	4,597	4,367	4,297	2,310
Cases Received during Year					
Intrafamily		3,408	3,024	2,995	2,778
Neglect	4,176 <sup>a</sup>	670	851 <sup>b</sup>	163	150
Child Support	<u>185</u>	<u>522</u>	<u>184</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>93</u>
Total	4,361	4,600	4,059	3,303	3,021
Cases Removed during year					
Intrafamily		3,336	2,824	2,951	2,819
Neglect	4,046 <sup>a</sup>	610	610 <sup>b</sup>	132	187
Child Support	653	884	477	320	190 <sup>c</sup>
Transferred to SCORP	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>269<sup>d</sup></u>	<u>0</u>
Total	4,699	4,830	3,911	3,672	4,196
Cases under Supervision December 31					
Intrafamily		345	545	585	544
Neglect	318 <sup>a</sup>	105	346 <sup>b</sup>	153	116
Child Support	<u>4,279</u>	<u>3,917</u>	<u>3,624</u>	<u>3,190</u>	<u>1,475<sup>c</sup></u>
Total	4,597	4,367	4,515	3,928	2,135
Average Monthly Case Load					
Intrafamily		299	445	581	565
Neglect	253 <sup>a</sup>	75	225 <sup>b</sup>	154	135
Child Support	<u>4,513</u>	<u>4,108</u>	<u>3,771</u>	<u>3,277</u>	<u>1,524<sup>c</sup></u>
Total	4,766	4,482	4,441	4,012	2,225
Social Investigations Completed	NA	NA	546	515	529
Total Authorized Probation Officer Positions	25	28	31	32	29

<sup>a</sup>Includes both Intrafamily and Neglect cases; separate case load data is not available.

<sup>b</sup>Includes protective supervision cases and cases being supervised during intake phase. For 1975 and thereafter to show Neglect case load more accurately, intake cases are deleted and only protective supervision cases are shown.

<sup>c</sup>Includes only those cases being actively supervised. Pending January 1, 1976, the Locator's case load was an additional 1,618 cases, of which 105 were removed during the year, with 1,513 pending December 31; active monthly case load at 1,666 cases.

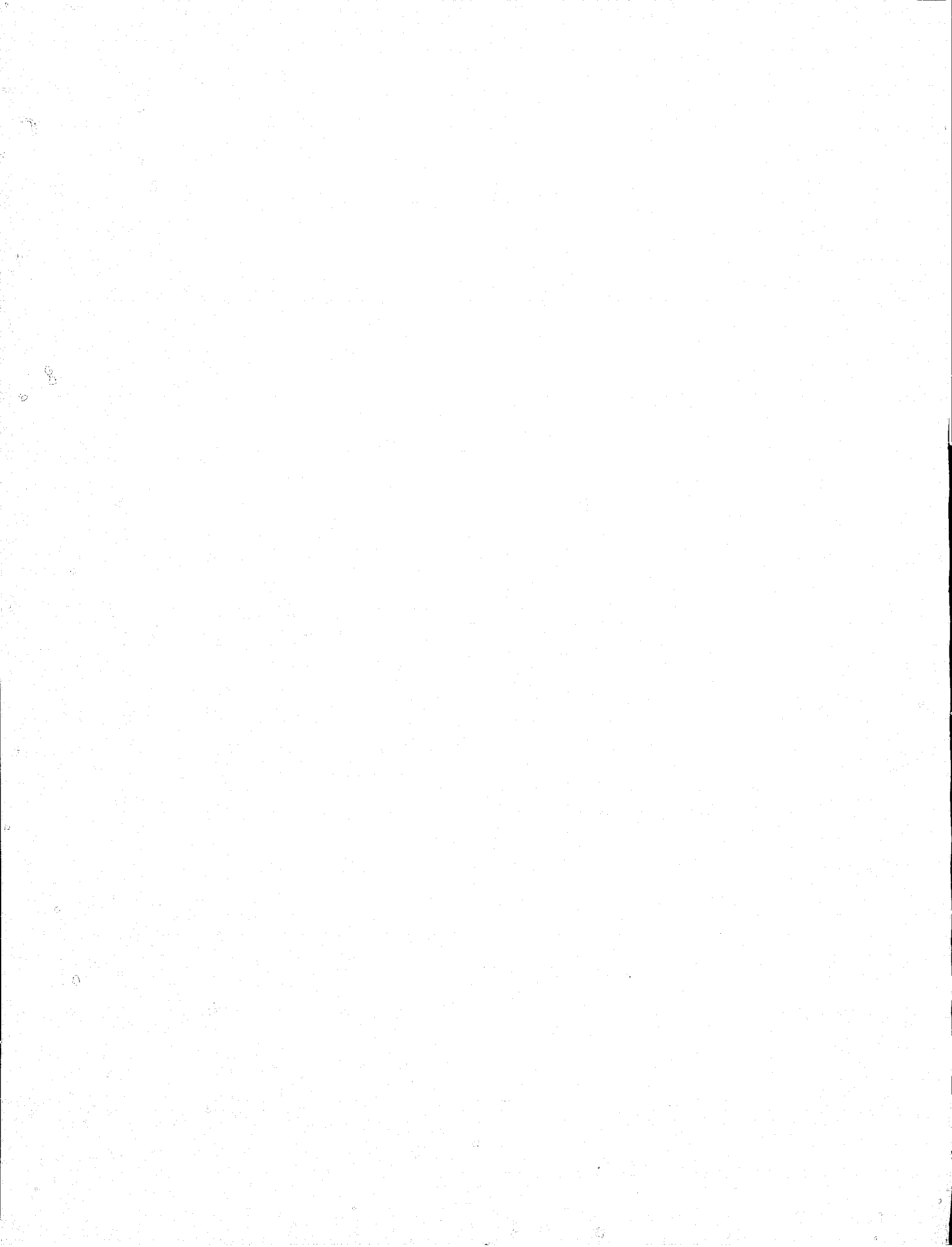
<sup>d</sup>Among the 269 cases transferred to SCORP, there were four Intrafamily, six Neglect, and 259 Child Support cases.

## SUPERIOR COURT OUTREACH PROJECT

CASE LOAD	1975	1976
Supervision Cases at Beginning of Year <sup>a</sup>		
Adult	296	344
Juvenile	123	151
Intrafamily	4	15
Neglect	6	29
Child Support	<u>259</u>	<u>247</u>
Total	688	786
New Cases Received for Supervision		
Adult	294	414
Juvenile	294	300
Intrafamily	24	207 <sup>b</sup>
Neglect	44	24
Child Support	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	656	947
Cases Removed during Year		
Adult	246	348
Juvenile	263	237
Intrafamily	13	195
Neglect	21	27
Child Support	<u>12</u>	<u>2</u>
Total	558	809
Cases under Supervision December 31		
Adult	344	417
Juvenile	151	214
Intrafamily	15	27
Neglect	29	26
Child Support	<u>247</u>	<u>247</u>
Total	786	931
Social Investigations Completed		
Adult	464	513
Juvenile	269	294
Intrafamily & Neglect	<u>80</u>	<u>49</u>
Total	763	856
Total Authorized Positions	16	16

<sup>a</sup>SCORP commenced in July 1975.

<sup>b</sup>Intrafamily cases were not fully integrated into SCORP's case load until early 1976.



**TAX DIVISION**

## SUMMARY OF TAX DIVISION CASES

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976 <sup>a</sup>	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
<b>CRIMINAL TAX CASES</b>						
Pending January 1	79	53	0	28	—	-64.6%
Cases Filed	91	7	64	562 <sup>a</sup>	—	—
Reinstated	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	—	—
Total to be Disposed	170	60	64	590	—	—
Dispositions						
Nolle Prosequi	75	34	17	47	176.5%	-37.3%
Dismissed	1	19	0	9	—	800.0%
Trial by Court	41	0	19	12	-36.8%	-70.7%
Jury Trial	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	—	—
Total	117	60	36	68	88.9%	-41.9%
Pending December 31	53	0	28	522	—	—
Fines Imposed	\$9,700.00	\$5,548.00	\$16,200.00	\$4,800.00	-70.4%	-50.5%
Fines Collected	\$3,805.00	\$3,775.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$4,050.00	189.3%	6.4%
Fines Suspended	\$2,450.00	\$1,275.00	\$15,000.00	\$1,000.00	-93.3%	-59.2%
<b>CIVIL TAX CASES</b>						
Pending January 1	70	73	79	103	30.4%	47.1%
Petitions Filed	26	53	78	63	-19.2%	142.3%
Certified from Another Division	0	1	0	3	—	—
Reinstated	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	-60.0%	100.0%
Total to be Disposed	97	131	162	171	5.6%	76.3%
Dispositions						
Dismissed	1	35	22	16	-27.3%	1500.0%
Trial by Court	12	6	16 <sup>b</sup>	9	—	-25.0%
Judgments	<u>23</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>28</u>	-24.3%	21.7%
Total	36	58	59	53	-10.2%	47.2%
Pending December 31	73 <sup>c</sup>	79 <sup>d</sup>	103 <sup>e</sup>	118 <sup>f</sup>	14.6%	61.1%
Tax Invoked	\$63,915,907.49	\$9,323,584.90	\$17,942,586.23	\$2,175,732.52	-87.9%	-96.6%
Tax Refunded	\$ 197,862.08	\$ 106,609.86 <sup>g</sup>	\$ 575,755.11	\$ 391,457.55	-32.0%	97.8%
<b>TAX APPEALS</b>						
Appeals Filed	10	7	6	11	83.3%	10.0%
Appeals Returned						
Affirmed	3	2	4	0	—	—
Remanded	1	0	3	1	-75.0%	—
Dismissed	0	2	2	3	50.0%	—
Affirmed in Part						
Reversed in Part	0	0	1	1	—	—
Pending December 31	6	9	5	11	120.0%	83.3%

<sup>a</sup>Indicates number of charges brought against 51 individuals and organizations.

<sup>b</sup>Indicates cases in which trial was held, but final order has not been received.

<sup>c</sup>Of the 73 petitions pending, 37 are held on Reserve Calendar awaiting decisions of other courts; seven are now in trial or awaiting judgment; seven are set for hearing; and 22 are awaiting trial.

<sup>d</sup>Of the 79 petitions pending, four are held on Reserve Calendar awaiting decisions of other court; 15 are awaiting judgment; 55 are set for hearing; and five are not ready for trial.

<sup>e</sup>Of the 103 petitions pending, 11 are held on Reserve Calendar by order of this Court; 24 are awaiting judgment; 62 are held under advisement in preparation for trial; and six have not been brought to issue.

<sup>f</sup>Of the 118 petitions pending, 18 are held on Reserve Calendar by order of this Court; 65 are awaiting judgment; 21 are held under advisement; and 14 have not been brought to issue.

<sup>g</sup>Tax refunds issued in accordance with the Court's order in *Keyes v. D.C.* not included.



**JUROR OFFICE**

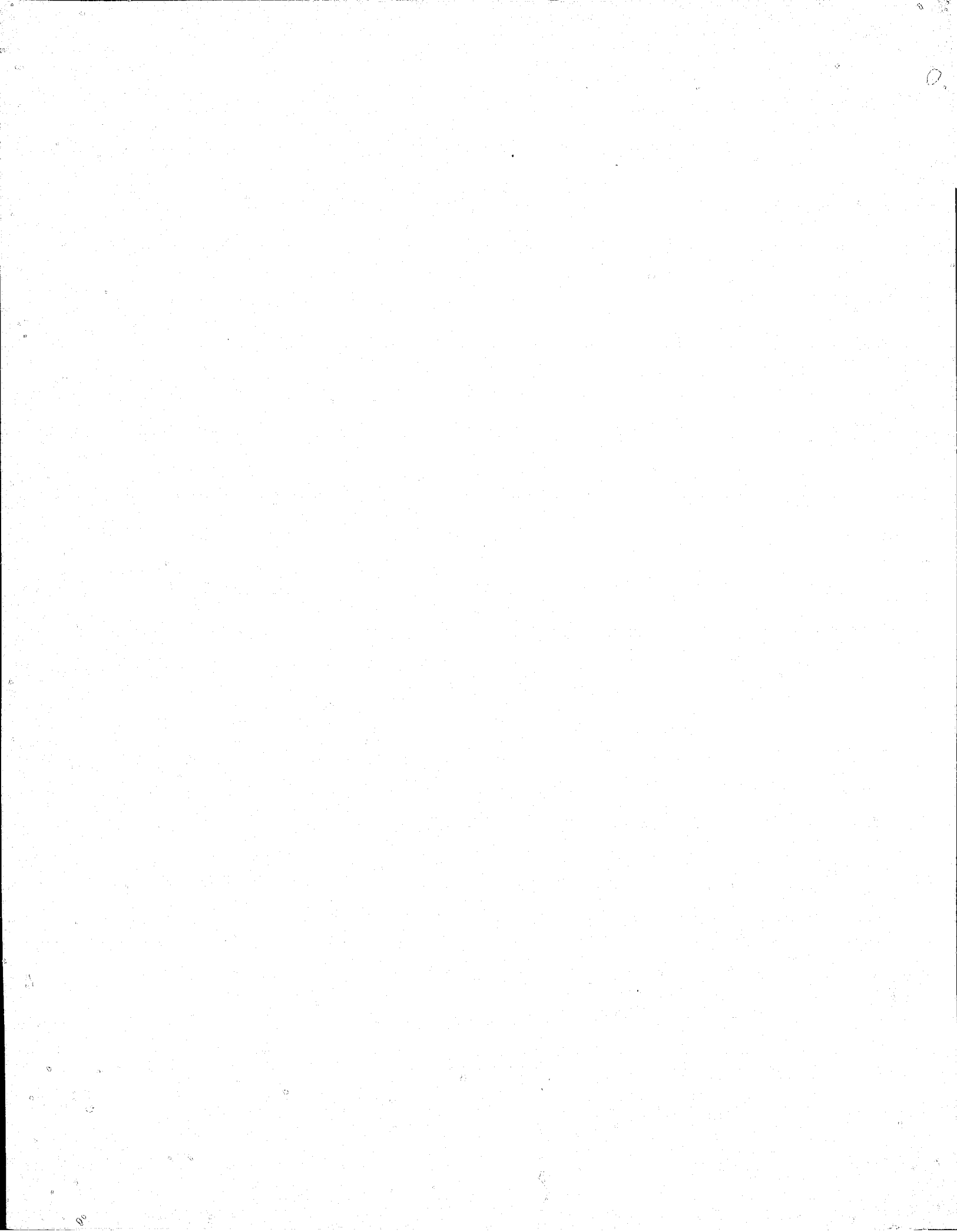
## 1976 PETIT JUROR UTILIZATION

1976	Number Drawn from Master Wheel	Number of Jurors Enrolled	Average Number Serving Daily	Number of Panel Requests	A			B	C&D	C		D		E		Times Judges Waited for Panels
					Jury Trial Days			Total Number of Jurors Available	Percent Selected, Serving or Challenged	Jurors Selected or Serving on Trials		Jurors Challenged in Court		Jurors Not Selected, Not Serving or Not Challenged		
					Civil	Criminal	Total			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Jan	900	442	441	179	46	408	454	8,823	92.5%	5,841	66.2%	2,319	26.3%	663	7.5%	17
Feb	900	458	451	139	69	313	382	8,566	84.9%	4,744	55.4%	2,528	29.5%	1,294	15.1%	7
Mar	900	461	448	212	76	441	517	10,309	98.0%	6,694	65.0%	3,371	33.0%	244	2.0%	3
Apr	900	453	436	154	85	352	437	9,582	91.6%	5,848	61.0%	2,924	31.0%	810	8.0%	1
May	900	403	400	153	83	288	371	8,010	95.0%	4,834	60.0%	2,778	35.0%	398	5.0%	1
June	900	508	417	149	62	323	385	8,767	90.5%	5,289	60.3%	2,645	30.2%	833	9.5%	4
July	900	428	407	114	33	298	331	8,554	80.2%	4,414	51.6%	2,451	28.6%	1,689	19.8%	0
Aug	650	320	314	89	12	208	220	6,914	78.7%	3,276	47.4%	2,167	31.3%	1,471	21.3%	2
Sept <sup>a</sup>	1,400	768	393	129	58	272	330	8,253	87.1%	4,602	55.8%	2,583	31.3%	1,068	12.9%	0
Oct	900	477	430	104	54	237	291	8,181	77.0%	4,024	49.2%	2,278	27.8%	1,879	23.0%	0
Nov <sup>b</sup>	1,300	654	398	104	68	207	275	8,349	89.1%	3,711	44.5%	2,174	26.0%	2,464	29.5%	0
Dec	900	425	321	99	55	219	274	6,751	89.1%	3,350	49.6%	1,991	29.5%	1,410	20.9%	3
TOTAL	11,450	5,797	—	1,625	701	3,566	4,267	101,059	—	56,627	—	30,229	—	14,223	—	38
Monthly Average	954	483	405	135	58	297	356	8,422	85.9%	4,719	56.0%	2,519	29.9%	1,185	14.1%	3

- A. Jury Trial Days—shows the number of separate jury trials in progress, including both the carried-over panels and new panels which have been selected and sworn for jury trials.
- B. Total Number of Jurors Available—shows the total number of jurors reporting to the court as available to serve, whether or not the juror is placed on a panel or sworn for a jury trial; excludes any excused jurors who are not paid an attendance fee.
- C. Jurors Selected or Serving on Trials—shows the number of jurors serving any part of the day as sworn jurors for any specific jury trial, even if the case was settled before evidence was introduced.
- D. Jurors Challenged in Court—shows the number of jurors challenged but not sworn for any trial service that day; persons challenged in one trial but sworn in another are counted in Column C.
- E. Jurors Not Selected, Not Serving or Not Challenged—shows the number of jurors available for service who are neither selected, serving nor challenged in court; these are the jurors who never left the lounge.

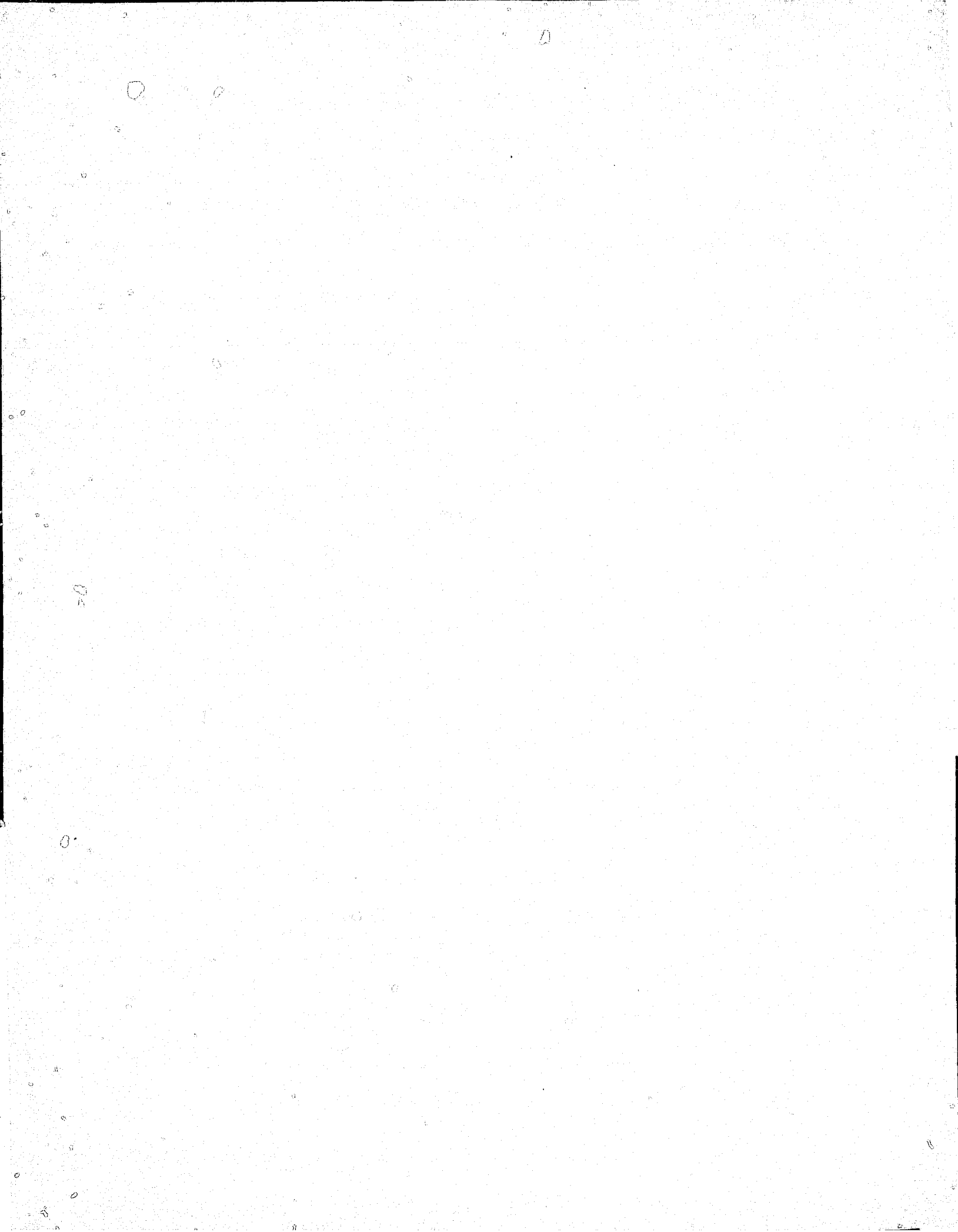
<sup>a</sup>Trial of notoriety required large panel of jurors. Regular draw of 900; 446 enrolled. Special draw of 500; 322 enrolled.

<sup>b</sup>Trial of notoriety required large panel of jurors. Regular draw of 900; 463 enrolled. Special draw of 400; 191 enrolled.



**CONTINUED**

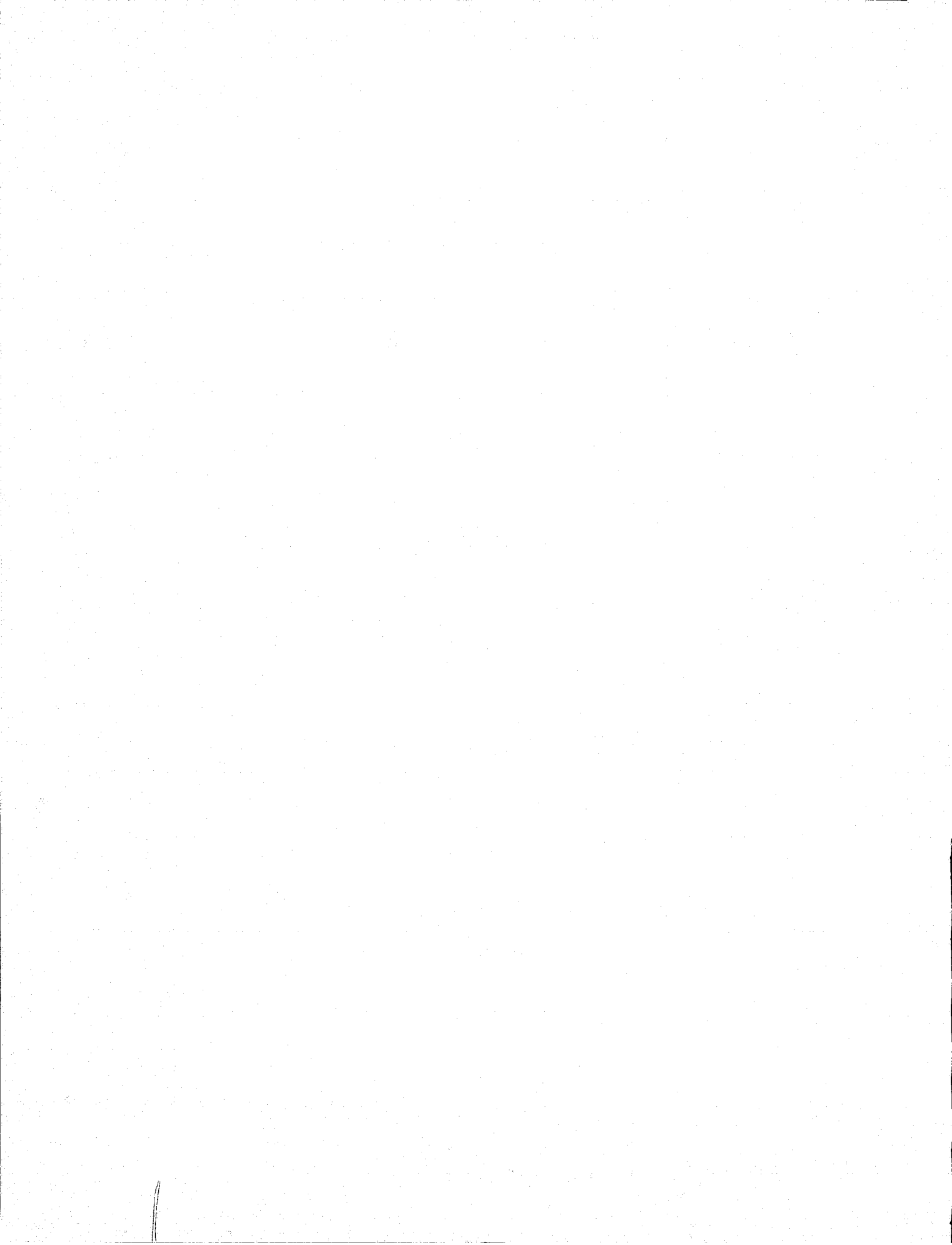
**1 OF 2**



## SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PETIT JUROR UTILIZATION

Years		Number Drawn from Master Wheel	Number of Jurors Enrolled	Average Number of Jurors Serving Daily	Number of Panels Re-quested	(A)			(B)	(C&D)	(C)		(D)		(E)		Times Judges Waited for Panels
						Juries in Trial			Total Number of Jurors Available	Percentage Selected, Serving or Challenged	Jurors Selected or Serving on Trials		Jurors Challenged in Court		Jurors Not Selected, Not Serving or Challenged		
						Civil	Criminal	Total			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
1973	Total (8 mos.)	5,800	2,853	—	1,239	422	1,741	2,163	55,866	—	27,422	—	19,466	—	8,978	—	73
	Monthly Average	662	357	326	134	53	217	270	6,983	83.9	3,428	49.0	2,433	34.9	1,122	16.1	9
1974	Total	9,325	5,066	—	1,623	854	2,901	3,755	81,567	—	47,029	—	27,094	—	7,444	—	112
	Monthly Average	777	422	327	135	71	242	313	6,797	90.9	3,919	57.7	2,258	33.2	620	9.1	9
1975	Total	9,425	4,796	—	1,592	724	3,152	3,876	89,417	—	50,785	—	26,354	—	12,288	—	115
	Monthly Average	785	400	360	133	60	263	323	7,451	86.3	4,232	56.8	2,196	29.5	1,024	13.7	10
1976	Total	11,450	5,797	—	1,625	701	3,566	4,267	101,059	—	56,627	—	30,229	—	14,223	—	38
	Monthly Average	954	483	405	135	58	297	356	8,422	85.9	4,719	56.0	2,519	29.9	1,185	14.1	3

- A. Jury Trial Days—shows the number of separate jury trials in progress, including both the carried-over panels and new panels which have been selected and sworn for jury trials.
- B. Total Number of Jurors Available—shows the total number of jurors reporting to the court as available to serve, whether or not the juror is placed on a panel or sworn for a jury trial; excludes any excused jurors who are not paid an attendance fee.
- C. Jurors Selected or Serving on Trials—shows the number of jurors serving any part of the day as sworn jurors for any specific jury trial, even if the case was settled before evidence was introduced.
- D. Jurors Challenged in Court—shows the number of jurors challenged but not sworn for any trial service that day; persons challenged in one trial but sworn in another are counted in Column C.
- E. Jurors Not Selected, Not Serving or Not Challenged—shows the number of jurors available for service who were neither selected, serving, nor challenged in court; these are the jurors who never left the lounge.



**CENTRAL VIOLATIONS BUREAU**



### TRAFFIC VIOLATION ACTIONS

ACTIVITY	1974	1975	1976 <sup>®</sup>	% Change 1975-1976
Total Number of TVN's Received from Police Department	1,309,365	1,652,204	1,532,874	-7.2%
Number of TVN's Processed and Closed at CBV	1,020,379	1,054,007	1,514,750	43.7%
Number of Trials Requested	59,015	78,570	106,052	34.9%
Number of Notices of Intent to Issue Warrant	444,997	522,586	472,756	-9.5%
Number of Warrants Issued	246,936	353,862	339,854	-3.9%

**PROBATE DIVISION**

**SUMMARY OF PROBATE DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1973-1976
Fees Collected	\$255,145.46	\$399,512.37	\$348,869.45	\$326,803.58	-6.3%	28.1%
New Wills Filed	2,283	2,240	2,048	2,134	4.2%	-6.5%
New Cases Filed						
Decedents' Estates	2,456	2,452	2,430	2,416	-.6%	-1.6%
Minors' Estates	165	158	177	152	-14.1%	-7.9%
Orders Signed by Court:						
Appointing Fiduciaries and Granting Fiduciary Intermediate Relief	3,740	4,094	3,796	3,681	-3.0%	-1.6%
Approving and Closing Estates	2,768	2,705	2,758	2,701	-2.1%	-2.4%
Miscellaneous Orders*	1,333	999	1,231	1,388	12.7%	4.1%

\*Includes summary hearings, payment of funeral expenses, small estates (under \$2,500), and orders nisi.

**AUDITOR-MASTER DIVISION**

**SUMMARY OF AUDITOR-MASTER DIVISION ACTIVITIES**

ACTIVITY*	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
Pending January 1							
Superior Court	0	328	296	373	296	-20.6%	—
U.S. District Court	<u>547</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>55</u>	-38.2%	—
Total	547	494	391	462	351	-24.0%	-35.8%
New Filings							
Superior Court	863	1,461	1,547	1,512	1,475	-2.4%	—
U.S. District Court	<u>1,308</u>	<u>383</u>	<u>296</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>242</u>	-1.6%	—
Total	2,171	1,844	1,843	1,758	1,717	-2.3%	-20.9%
Dispositions							
Superior Court	535	1,493	1,470	1,589	1,438	-9.5%	—
U.S. District Court	<u>1,689</u>	<u>454</u>	<u>302</u>	<u>280</u>	<u>238</u>	-15.0%	—
Total	2,224	1,947	1,772	1,869	1,676	-10.3%	-24.6%
Pending December 31							
Superior Court	328	296	373	296	333	12.5%	—
U.S. District Court	<u>166</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>59</u>	7.3%	—
Total	494	391	462	351	392	11.7%	-20.6%

\*Business includes fiduciary accounts, orders of reference, and inventories.

**MARRIAGE BUREAU**

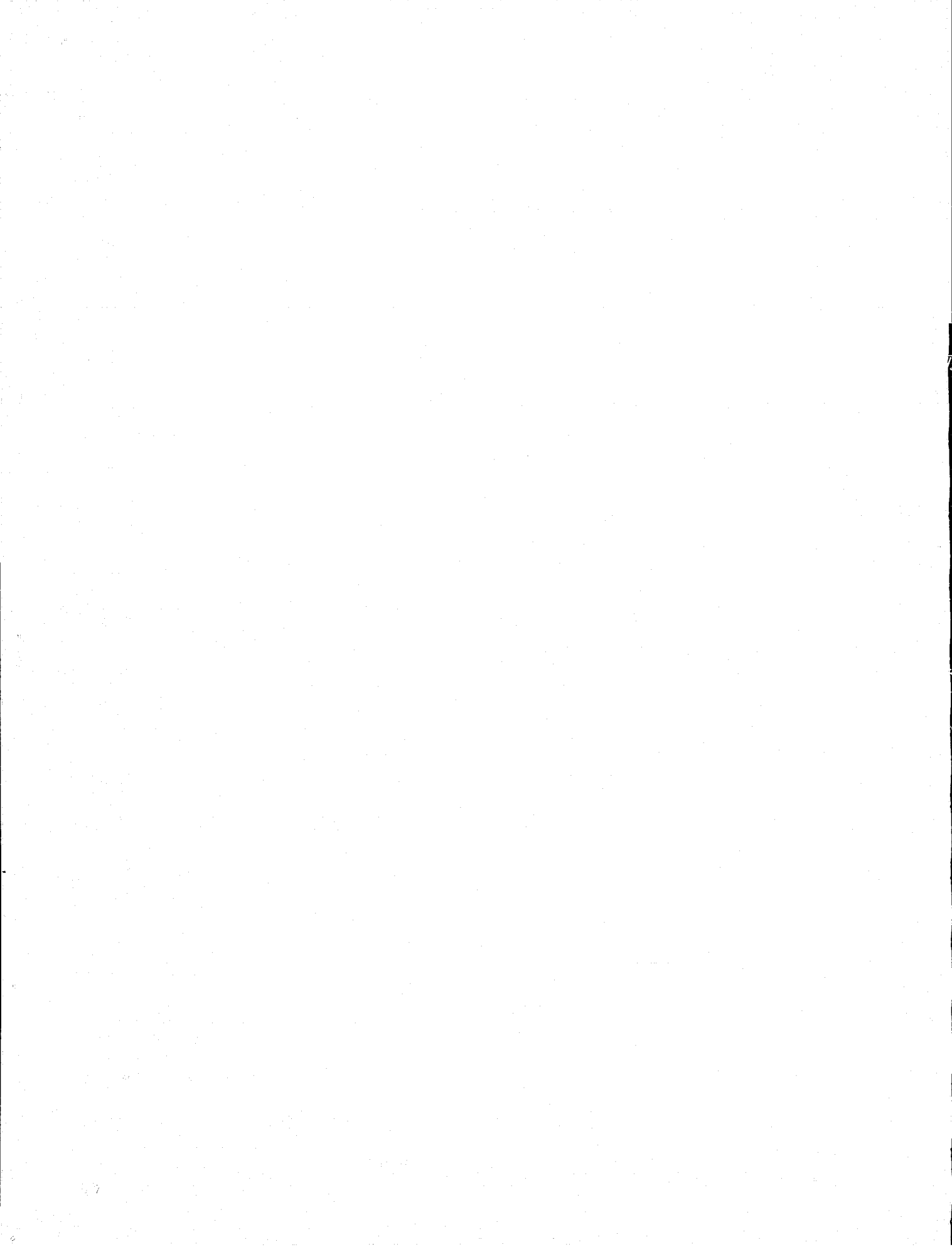
### SUMMARY OF MARRIAGE BUREAU ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1971-1976
Fees Collected	\$26,404	\$26,012	\$24,882	\$25,119	\$24,880	\$24,948	.3%	-5.5%
Ministers' Licenses Issued	457	439	419	400	399	385	-3.5%	-15.7%
Marriage Applications Received	7,031	6,606	5,978	5,456	5,079	4,900	-3.5%	-30.3%
Marriage Licenses Issued	6,847	6,415	5,812	5,305	4,902	4,676	-4.6%	-31.7%
Religious Ceremonies Performed	5,676	5,265	4,775	4,496	4,102	4,103	.02%	-27.7%
Civil Ceremonies Performed	1,110	1,019	886	775	682	508	-25.5%	-54.2%

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT SYSTEM**  
**DETAILED STATISTICAL TABLES**

**APPENDIX II**





**FINANCIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION**

**TOTAL RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS**

	1975		1976	
	Receipts	Disbursements	Receipts	Disbursements
COURT OF APPEALS	\$ 293,620.65	\$ 293,620.65	\$ 372,659.25	\$ 372,659.25
SUPERIOR COURT				
Criminal Division:				
Fines & Forfeitures	10,004,957.96	9,125,456.20	14,904,586.44	13,972,190.13
Refunds	—	375,563.27	—	603,711.90
Total	\$10,004,957.96	\$ 9,501,019.47	\$14,904,586.44	\$14,575,902.03
Tax Division—Fees	\$ 380.00	\$ 380.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 265.00
Civil Division:				
Fees	\$ 400,772.25	\$ 400,772.25	\$ 392,830.27	\$ 392,830.27
Escrow	1,533,129.78	1,223,188.24	2,046,650.53	1,555,612.33
Total	\$ 1,933,902.03	\$ 1,623,960.49	\$ 2,439,480.80	\$ 1,948,442.60
Marriage Bureau—Fees	\$ 25,592.21	\$ 25,592.21	\$ 22,985.15	\$ 22,985.15
Family Division:				
Fees	\$ 34,208.70	\$ 34,208.70	\$ 33,185.09	\$ 33,185.09
Escrow	7,091,484.87	7,095,654.77	7,784,875.90	7,776,317.87
Total	\$ 7,125,693.57	\$ 7,129,863.47	\$ 7,818,060.99	\$ 7,809,502.96
Auditor-Master—Fees	\$ 128,941.53	\$ 128,941.53	\$ 132,450.85	\$ 132,450.85
Register of Wills:				
Fees	\$ 344,289.25	\$ 344,289.25	\$ 320,997.97	\$ 320,997.97
Escrow	85,923.25	85,923.25	76,017.26	76,017.26
Total	\$ 430,212.50	\$ 430,212.50	\$ 397,015.23	\$ 397,015.23
Other Income:				
Court Reporter Transcripts	\$ 5,348.25	\$ 5,348.25	\$ 3,064.20	\$ 3,064.20
Interest Income	14,907.57	14,907.57	17,702.35	17,702.35
Total	\$ 20,255.82	\$ 20,255.82	\$ 20,766.55	\$ 20,766.55
Unclaimed Deposits (over two years old)	—	\$ 151,285.52	—	\$ 142,556.44
Superior Court—Total Received and Disbursed	\$19,669,935.62	\$19,011,511.01	\$25,735,611.01	\$25,049,886.81
<b>TOTAL—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS</b>	<b>\$19,963,556.27</b>	<b>\$19,305,131.66</b>	<b>\$26,108,270.26</b>	<b>\$25,422,546.06</b>

CASH INCOME OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS

	1975	1976
COURT OF APPEALS		
Fees:	\$ 293,620.65	\$ 372,659.25
SUPERIOR COURT		
Criminal Division		
Fines and Forfeitures		
District of Columbia	\$ 109,508.50	\$ 136,798.00
United States	57,579.43	128,638.99
Traffic	8,958,368.27	13,706,753.14
Total	\$ 9,125,456.20	\$13,972,190.13
Tax Division—Fees	\$ 380.00	\$ 265.00
Civil Division—Fees		
Civil Action	\$ 111,827.65	\$ 114,987.56
Small Claims	35,707.85	37,370.47
Landlord and Tenant	253,236.75	240,472.24
Marriage Bureau	25,592.21	22,985.15
Total	\$ 426,364.46	\$ 415,815.42
Family Division—Fees	\$ 34,208.70	\$ 33,185.09
Auditor-Master—Fees	\$ 128,941.53	\$ 132,450.85
Register of Wills—Fees	\$ 344,289.25	\$ 320,997.97
Other Income		
Court Reporter Transcripts	\$ 5,348.25	\$ 3,064.20
Interest Income	14,907.57	17,702.35
Unclaimed Deposits (over two years old)	151,285.52	142,556.44
Total	\$ 171,541.34	\$ 163,322.99
<b>TOTAL CASH INCOME</b>	<b>\$10,524,802.13</b>	<b>\$15,410,886.70</b>

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS  
STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS**

	FY 1976 <sup>a</sup>	FY 1977 <sup>b</sup>
D.C. Court of Appeals	\$ 1,495,600	\$ 1,659,100
Superior Court	19,958,800	20,247,300
D.C. Court System	<u>4,353,000</u>	<u>3,831,900</u>
Total	<u>\$25,807,400</u>	<u>\$25,738,300</u>

<sup>a</sup>Actual fiscal year obligations.

<sup>b</sup>Fiscal year appropriations.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS  
LEAA GRANTS AWARDED**

	1975*	1976*
D.C. Court of Appeals	\$104,500	\$110,400
Superior Court	460,400	615,200
D.C. Court System	—	—
Total	<u>\$564,900</u>	<u>\$725,600</u>

\*Actual fiscal year obligations.

**SCHEDULE OF C.J.A. STATISTICS  
APPROPRIATIONS VS. PAYMENTS  
FISCAL YEARS 1975, 1976, 1977**

Fiscal Year	Funding Appropriated	Payments Thru 3/31/77			
		Legal Services		Expert and Other Services	TOTAL
		D.C. Court of Appeals	Superior Court		
1975	\$2,056,109	\$125,466	\$2,361,874	\$144,005	\$2,631,345
1976	2,895,000	77,765	2,446,747	217,802	2,742,314
Transition Quarter 1976 (July, August, September)	675,000	3,154	364,188	50,057	417,399
1977	<u>2,495,000</u>	<u>499</u>	<u>94,029</u>	<u>49,686</u>	<u>144,214</u>
TOTALS	<u>\$8,121,109</u>	<u>\$206,884</u>	<u>\$5,266,838</u>	<u>\$461,550</u>	<u>\$5,935,272</u>

NOTE: The D.C. Courts are requesting a total increase of \$1,200,000:

\$700,000 for prior fiscal years  
500,000 for increase in fiscal year 1978 funding or  
a total available of \$2,995,000

**COURT REPORTER DIVISION**

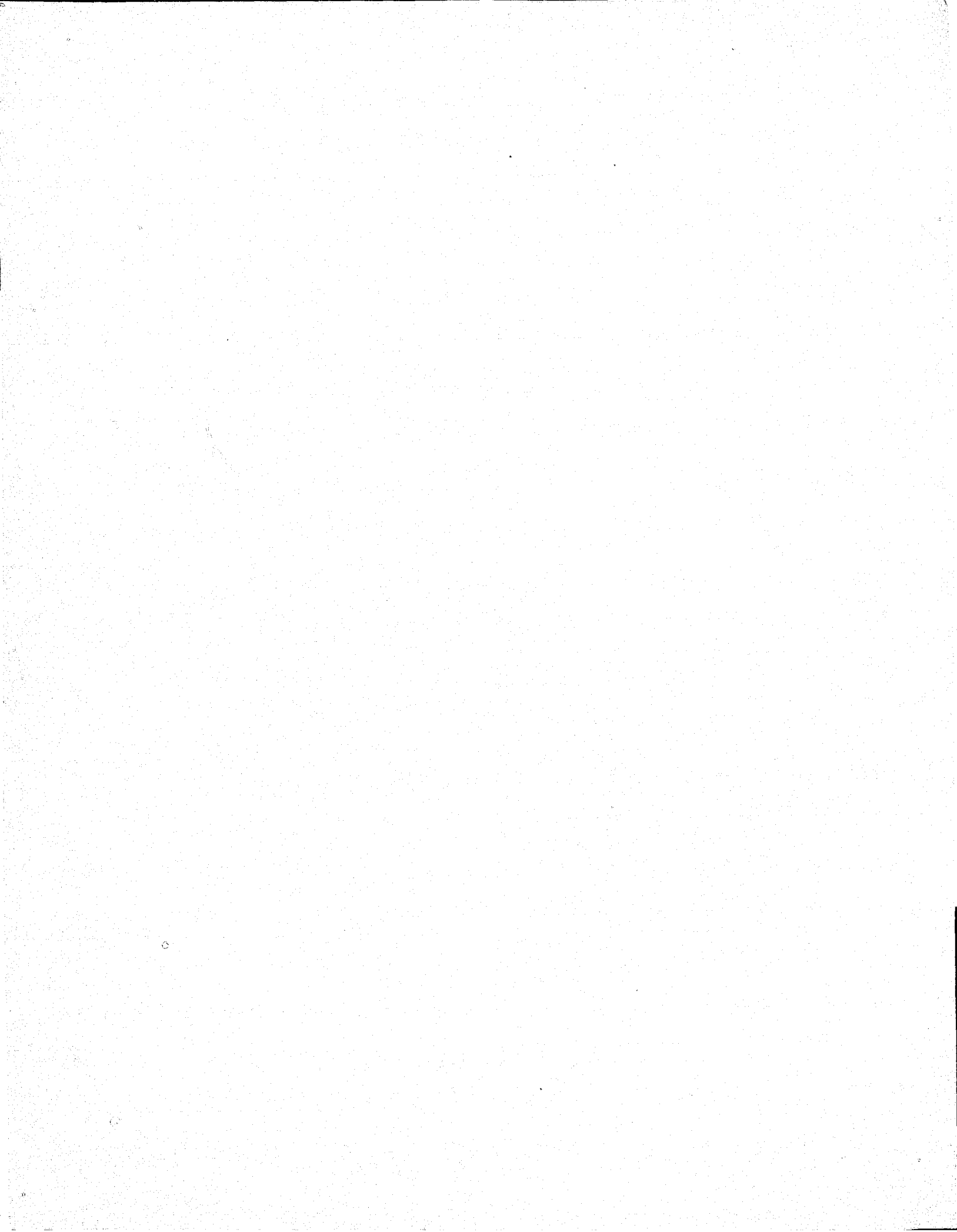
**TRANSCRIPT PRODUCTION BY COURT REPORTERS**

PRODUCTION/STAFFING	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
Total Pages Produced	82,354	150,778	180,772	204,640	219,667	7.3%	166.7%
Number of Pages Produced for Appeals	43,327	67,567	117,802	106,749	127,873	19.8%	195.1%
Number of Pages Produced for Judges	NA	2,993	8,237	14,298	3,350	-76.6%	NA
Percentage of Appeal Pages/Total Pages Produced	52.6%	44.8%	65.2%	52.2%	58.2%	11.5%	10.6%
Number of Appeal Orders Processed	660	592	1,196	860	1,006	16.9%	52.4%
Number of Reporter Positions Filled as of December 31	40	41	41	39	40	2.6%	—

## TRANSCRIPT PRODUCTION FROM AUDIO TAPES BY TRANSCRIBER-TYPISTS

PRODUCTION/STAFFING	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	% Change 1975-1976	% Change 1972-1976
Pages Produced by Transcriber-Typists:							
Appeal Cases	297	700	880	751	763	1.6%	156.9%
Non-Appeal Cases	2,614	3,607	2,202	2,446	1,202	-50.8%	-54.0%
Judges' Transcripts	NA	63	277	315	506	60.6%	NA
Total	NA	4,370	3,359	3,512	2,471	-29.7%	NA
Pages Produced by Reporter Volunteers:							
Appeal Cases	1,105	1,804	334	523	1,486	184.1%	34.5%
Non-Appeal Cases	2,358	2,200	844	494	1,010	104.4%	-57.2%
Total	3,463	4,004	1,178	1,017	2,496	145.4%	-27.9%
Total Pages Produced from Court Memory System	NA	8,374	4,537	4,529	4,967	9.7%	NA
Number of Cases Pending Transcription as of December 31	NA	NA	NA	NA	40	NA	NA
Number of Transcriber- Typist Positions Authorized as of December 31	3	4	4	5	3	-40.0%	NA
Number of Courtrooms Equipped with Court Memory System	9	9	9	9	9	—	—





**END**