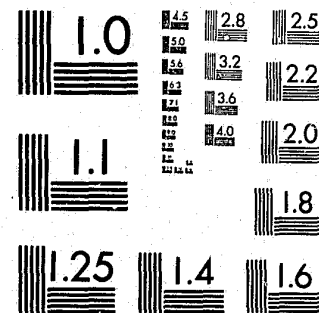


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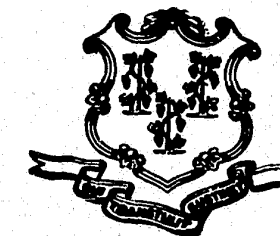
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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE  
CHIEF COURT ADMINISTRATOR

COURT UNIFICATION:  
THE FIRST 365 DAYS  
(JULY 1, 1978 TO JUNE 30, 1979)



JUSTICE JOHN A. SPEZIALE  
CHIEF COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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NCJRS  
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I.  
PREFACE

A. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Since the court unification legislation was enacted in 1976, the process has received considerable attention throughout the State. The legislature, the bar, the press, and the general public have expressed a great deal of interest concerning the implications of court unification. Having completed the first full year of operation under this new court structure, it appeared appropriate and necessary to assess both the impact of unification upon the judicial system and the various results achieved during this initial year. To that end, at the direction of Justice John A. Speziale, the Chief Court Administrator, a survey of all divisions and departments was undertaken. The results of that survey as they pertain to the court unification process are discussed herein.

B. SCOPE OF THE REPORT

While to a greater or lesser extent, court unification has had an impact on all aspects of court operations, there, nevertheless, are a number of areas where the impact is more administrative than operational. The omission of certain functional areas, or the relative length of discussion should not be construed as indicating lack of progress, but, rather, that unification was not as critical to those functions as it was to other areas. In fact, the survey indicated that progress was achieved in all areas.

Since this report was prepared in response to numerous requests for information concerning unification, much of the descriptive material concerning various court operations and functions was not included. Should additional information concerning the operation of the Judicial Department, or further amplification of the contents of this report be required, a more comprehensive description of the functions operations, and scope of the Judicial Department can be found in the Biennial Report of the Connecticut Judicial Department, July 1, 1976 - June 30, 1978.

## II. BACKGROUND

### A. UNIFICATION LEGISLATION

During the past two decades, the Connecticut judicial system has undergone enormous structural and administrative consolidation. In 1959 the system of municipal, county, and state courts was abolished in favor of a completely State maintained judicial system. During the 1974 session, the Connecticut General Assembly enacted the first of two major pieces of legislation designed to unify the State's trial courts, the merger of the Circuit Court with the Court of Common Pleas. The legislature completed the process in 1976 by mandating the unification of the Court of Common Pleas and the Superior Court on July 1, 1978. The result of this process was to place Connecticut in the vanguard of state court organization. Connecticut became the first state in the nation to possess a single unified trial court, centrally administered, and entirely state financed.

### B. PLANNING FOR UNIFICATION

With virtually no prior experience or precedent upon which to translate the unification legislation into action, the judges and employees of the Judicial Department have been working around the clock. Public Act 76-436 established an advisory council to assist the Judicial Department and the General Assembly in implementing court unification. The advisory council's membership consisted of judges, the Executive Secretary of the Judicial Department, legislators, members of the Connecticut

Bar Association, citizens with experience in the field of business and industrial management, and members of the Connecticut Citizens for Judicial Modernization. Chief Justice John P. Cotter was chairman. For the eighteen month period prior to July 1, 1978, the members of the advisory council and their subcommittees devoted many hours of their time in a sincere effort to make court unification a reality.

The overall goal of this effort was to translate the opportunities presented by the new unified court system into positive action. It became almost immediately apparent that providing the necessary substance to the new organizational structure would require massive changes in virtually all areas. The complex interdependent relationships that exist between such areas as case management, rules of procedure, judicial assignments, support services, available physical facilities, and staff resources all had to be studied and carefully considered before changes could be implemented.

Further, it became apparent that the goal of court unification could not be fully attained in the first year. Each and every change had to be carefully monitored and modified as appropriate. These modifications often, in turn, resulted in new policies and procedures. All changes had to be implemented within the context of a judicial system which had to operate justly, efficiently and effectively. Modifications in methods and institution of new techniques had to be tested under real world conditions, rather than a laboratory environment. The fact that positive results have been achieved

during this first year is indeed gratifying in light of the massive work involved and the numerous potential pitfalls which had to be avoided throughout the planning and initial implementation of unification.



### III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNIFIED COURT SYSTEM

While the court unification legislation provides an opportunity for the resolution of many problems facing the judiciary, various approaches or techniques had to be developed to take advantage of the new favorable structure. Six key areas were identified as being essential to the successful implementation of the unified court system: improved administration; enhanced rules of procedure; more effective judicial assignments, including an expanded trial week; innovative case management techniques; the design and installation of a modern computer system; and the implementation of legislation creating two new judicial districts (Ansonia-Milford and Danbury). Intense effort was devoted to each of these major subject areas.

It was clear that new techniques and improved procedures would have to be accomplished without the expectation of substantial additional resources. Existing staff resources were stretched to the limit with many individuals, judges and support personnel alike, performing additional functions. Also, a degree of restraint had to be exercised in order to effect changes while simultaneously operating the system. Future improvements are planned and will be implemented as soon as the system has adjusted to the measures which have already occurred.

#### A. COURT ADMINISTRATION

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is the head of the Judicial Department and the Chief Court Administrator is the administrative director of the department. A Deputy Chief Court Administrator has also been appointed by the Chief Court Administrator to assist him. On July 1, 1978 the authority for the administrative supervision of the courts was consolidated in the Office of the Chief Court Administrator. Prior to this date the authority had been shared by the Chief Court Administrator, the former chief judges of the trial courts and the former office of the executive secretary.

##### 1. Office of The Chief Court Administrator

The centralized administrative office is designed to enhance the Judicial Department's ability to perform its basic task of determining cases justly, promptly and economically. For each of the three principal divisions of the trial court (civil, criminal and family), the Chief Court Administrator has appointed a chief administrative judge and a caseflow manager. Under the direction of the Chief Court Administrator it is their responsibility to oversee the operations of their divisions on a statewide basis and to recommend appropriate steps to assure the prompt and proper administration of judicial business.

Among the many other functions performed by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator are: coordination of court clerks, facilities management, personnel administration, purchasing, fiscal functions (audit, payroll, budget) jury administration,

legal research and legislative analysis, continuing education, data processing, forms and records management, research and planning, grant's administration, coordination of court reporters and interpreters and statistical analysis.

## 2. Administrative Judges

The Chief Court Administrator has designated an administrative judge for each of the eleven judicial districts of the state and one or two assistant administrative judges in the larger judicial districts. These judges meet frequently with the Chief Court Administrator to report on the progress made in reaching the goals of the department and to offer and discuss solutions to a variety of administrative issues. Under the direction of the Chief Court Administrator, these judges work closely with the chief administrative judges and the appropriate caseload managers in implementing techniques designed to enhance the movement of cases throughout the system.

## 3. Support Services

The activities of various court support personnel are supervised by division and office directors who are responsible to the Chief Court Administrator. Domestic relations officers, who assist in dissolution of marriage cases, family relations officers, who assist in criminal cases involving domestic disputes, juvenile probation officers, support investigators and collectors and juvenile detention workers are under the supervision of the Director of the Family Division. Bail commissioners are supervised by the Chief Bail Commissioner. The adult probation officers are under the supervision of the Director of the Office of Adult Probation. This office became part of the

Judicial Department on January 1, 1979 pursuant to Public Act 77-614, the Act Reorganizing the Executive Branch of State Government.

## 4. Prosecution Administration

July 1, 1978 also marked the beginning of significant changes in the administration of the Division of Criminal Justice. Former prosecuting attorneys and assistant prosecuting attorneys who had been appointed to the geographical area locations of the Court of Common Pleas were appointed to the Superior Court judicial districts. This gives the state's attorney for each judicial district a greater supervisory role and more flexibility in the assignment of attorneys within the judicial district.

## B. RULES OF COURT PROCEDURE

Without effective rules of practice and procedure neither court unification or caseflow management would have been possible. During the pre-unification planning phase the Superior Court elicited and received comments from the bench, the bar, and the public. Committees were formed and hearings were held. The end product of this process was the most comprehensive revision to the Connecticut Practice Book since 1908.

The impact of the changes in the rules of practice and procedure were profound. First, the rules translated court unification from a legislative enactment into a viable system and process which can be used. Second, the very comprehensive nature of the revisions increased the utility of the rules for those who must understand and comply with them. Third, since the revised rules discourage dilatory pleadings and encourage the prompt filing of pleadings and motions, the use of caseflow management techniques became more viable. In addition, the rules provide for more effective use of referees in family matters further enhancing the management of caseflow through the system.

## C. JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS

In order to accelerate the disposition of litigation, immediate steps were taken on July 1, 1978 to require all judges to conduct trials five days per week rather than four as had been the practice in the Superior Court prior to court unification. In addition, judicial assignment periods were extended to six months to permit judges to plan better for longer trials and to attack accumulated backlogs in their assigned locations.

A greater degree of flexibility in judicial assignments is possible because of court unification. The entire pool of 113 trial judges are assigned and subject to reassignment by the Chief Court Administrator. The centralization of the assignment authority has enabled the Judicial Department to direct judicial resources to the areas of greatest need. Administrative judges will reassign judges who conclude their primary assignment prior to the closing of court at 5 p.m. / Administrative appeals are apportioned among all judges assigned to the judicial district. In judicial districts, other than Hartford-New Britain, Fairfield, and New Haven (the busiest and most populated), it has been feasible to assign judges without any designation as to court location or specific duty. The administrative judges in these districts have been permitted by the Chief Court Administrator to designate the specific location and duty, thus giving them the ability and the flexibility to devote appropriate judicial resources to the areas most in need.



The five day trial week has taxed both the bench and the bar. Responsibilities, which in the past could be performed during the normal work week, now must be accomplished in the evening and on weekends. Because duties such as legal research, review of briefs, attorney conferences are not activities which can be considered in any way optional, the burden has been enormous. The wholehearted cooperation and intensive efforts of both judges and attorneys in making the five day trial week a success is a major reason for the positive results.

#### D. CASEFLOW MANAGEMENT

The unification of the state trial courts has permitted the development of programs to reduce delay through centralized caseflow management techniques. Caseflow management involves the efficient and systematic movement of cases from filing to final disposition. The goals of caseflow management include:

1. expediting the disposition of all litigation fairly, promptly, and economically;
2. minimizing the uncertainty associated with the processing of court cases;
3. assuring equal access to the adjudicative process for all litigants;
4. enhancing the quality of justice.

The Chief Court Administrator's major priority in the administration of the unified Superior Court was the development of a workable and efficient caseflow management system. Caseflow management techniques are being used in all three divisions of the court (civil, criminal and family). Three caseflow manager positions, one for each division, were created in the Office of the Chief Court Administrator. Each caseflow manager works closely with the appropriate chief administrative judge in each respective division. Their responsibilities include timely monitoring of caseloads throughout the process, pinpointing stages of delay, recommending improvements to curtail delay, and implementing delay reduction techniques. The use of chief adminis-

trative judges and management specialists working as a team has provided a multifaceted approach.

Specific techniques have been either initiated or augmented in each division. Among the techniques currently being implemented are: the establishment of time standards against which caseflow can be assessed; the use of case monitoring by the stage of case processing, assisting in identifying more closely the areas of delay; the enhanced use of a dormant case program, discouraging lack of case movement in the civil area; and the use of three separate trial lists in dissolution of marriage cases, permitting the narrowing of issues so that cases ready for disposition will be heard at a faster rate. Each of these techniques has demonstrably assisted in the very encouraging results attained. Further refinements and increased monitoring in the future are contemplated. There is a strong commitment to achieve the maximum possible results through the use of caseflow management.

#### E. COURTHOUSE FACILITIES

In order that the judicial system may continue to remain responsive to the needs of the public, it is necessary to provide facilities that meet the needs of all citizens throughout the State. For the past year the Judicial Department has been actively involved in bringing its capital, renovation, minor improvement, and leasing projects nearer to fruition. New and improved courthouse facilities are imperative to alleviate the overcrowding and shortage of administrative space and courtrooms which continues to hamper the orderly processing of court business. The capital projects involve new facilities as well as the renovation and modernization of courthouse which are still in current use. In addition to these large scale projects many minor improvement projects are required to improve courtroom areas, courthouse security and public areas. The leasing program involves initiating new leases as well as the renewal of current leases that are due to expire.

To increase the accessibility of the court system, provision for two additional judicial districts (Ansonia-Milford and Danbury) was included in the unification legislation. A great deal of time and effort is being expended in planning and securing adequate facilities for these two new judicial districts.

## F. JUDICIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Court unification had a major impact on the data processing function of the Judicial Department. The Information Systems unit is responsible for operating and maintaining existing computerized systems and developing new systems to improve the efficiency of the courts and assist in the management of caseloads and resources. During the past year, not only the changes required by merger and new rules were implemented, but a long range plan to expand computerization to all areas of the court was initiated. In addition, a major project to computerize the digesting and indexing of abstracts of court decisions was undertaken. Another significant action taken by the department was the acquisition of dedicated computer hardware to support the expanded services which will be developing over the next several years.

### 1. Modification of Civil System

Since a data processing system must accommodate the structure and procedures of the operation it supports, the court unification and attendant rule changes requires considerable modification of the Judicial Department's civil system to ensure continuation of the essential services the computer provides for the daily operation of the civil/family court function. The statewide merged civil data base now contains approximately 160,000 case records, with transactions in these cases averaging about 6,000 per day. New program modules were installed for trial lists,

assignment lists, short calendar, annual dormancy and statistical reports.

### 2. Statewide Judicial Information System (CJIS)

The changes in the civil system were accomplished against a background of overall redesign of the computerized data base to provide a structure which would accommodate an expanded caseload management system for all court business. Under a development plan which is being assisted by a \$400,000 SJIS grant over a 2-year period, Civil/Family, Criminal, Juvenile and Appellate modules which will serve the various divisions and parts of the merged court will be integrated into a total system supporting the management function at all levels.

The new SJIS will be a user oriented on-line system with local terminals at each court location supported by a distributed processing network. During the year a transition from punched cards to cathode ray tube (similar to television screens) data entry has been made in the civil system. Inquiry into current case status via visual display on the terminals is now in prototype testing. Additional inquiry into a Party Name Index and an on-line Trial List will complete the modernization of the Civil/Family module of our SJIS.

The JURIS II project to develop a criminal system for the Judicial Department has been incorporated into the comprehensive SJIS plan. This module, which will serve all part A and part B criminal courts, will monitor the status of some 500,000 total criminal/MV active cases per year and tract individual cases

from transmittal to the court to final disposition. Disposition data on the approximately 1800 cases disposed each day will be routinely entered into the computer. System design will mirror the revamped Civil System, with interactive terminals for data input and inquiry.

Continuing our support of the Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) goal to construct a total criminal justice information system, the Judicial Department will maintain electronic interfaces which will be used to share selective data between our criminal system and the computerized components of the other criminal justice agencies.

An on-line Juvenile module will provide current information on the status of cases for both caseload management in the courts and allocation of probation services. The system will be compatible with the redesigned civil system so that juvenile and other family matters can be combined for statistical purposes, but the juvenile data base will remain physically separate, with strict control over access in accordance with privacy and security standards relating to juvenile matters. The system model approved by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges will be the basis for our design, with modifications to meet Connecticut's special needs.

When the Office of Adult Probation was transferred into the Judicial Department on January 1, 1979, their information system development project, Adult Probation On-line Information System

(APOLIS), was integrated into the SJIS development plan. Since Adult Probation has been a participating CJIS agency, structuring APOLIS to be compatible with the court's SJIS will not only assist judicial management but will facilitate the establishment of interfaces and strengthen the CJIS development.

### 3. Hardware Acquisition

Essential to implementation of an information system is appropriate hardware, including computers, terminals and peripherals. During its ten years of data processing experience, the Judicial Department has become aware of the problems inherent in operating in a shared computer environment. With the need to expand computerization to all areas of the court for an SJIS, the commitment to CJIS and the development of computer-aided text processing, the decision was made to acquire dedicated hardware for the department to be installed in an independent, Judicial-controlled facility to operate in conjunction with the State Data Center.

Pursuant to the evaluation of bids in response to a request for proposals (RFP), hardware has been acquired from Digital Equipment Corporation. Three PDP11/70 mini-computers and their necessary peripherals will be installed in a Judicial Data Center at 340 Capitol Avenue. It was expected that this would take place early in 1978, but due to numerous delays in site preparation, the hardware will not be installed and operational until the fall of 1979. At that time, the prototype systems and the continuing system development will be transferred to the new hardware.

## IV COURT ACTIVITY

### A. CRIMINAL DIVISION

#### 1. Part A (Class A, B and C Felonies and Unclassified Felonies Punishable by 10 years or more)

Despite a 32% increase in the number of cases added over the previous year (from 3811 to 5043), (Fig. I), the following outstanding results were achieved:

1. Cases in excess of 12 months were reduced from 877 to 696, a decrease of 21% (Fig. II).
2. The total number of cases in excess of six months was reduced from 1,506 to 1,382.
3. The pending caseload decreased from 3,042 on July 1, 1978 to 2,892 on July 1, 1979.\*
4. Potential disposition time for a criminal case was reduced from 9.7 months on July 1, 1978 to 6.8 months on July 1, 1979, a decrease of approximately 30%.

These exceptional results were achieved despite record numbers of new cases, 5,043, and despite a record number of trials, 207 which surpassed the previous mark achieved during the 1977-1978 court year by 31. The above statistics reflect excellent case monitoring in the Judicial Districts.

\*On July 1, 1979, as compared to July 1, 1978, more cases had reached the "awaiting sentence" stage in the adjudicatory process. In this final stage, the only remaining action requiring attention by the court is the imposition of sentence. If such cases are not included in pending case count, then the number of pending cases dropped by 7.5% (as opposed to 5%), from 2,855 on July 1, 1978 to 2,640 on July 1, 1979.

Of further significance was the establishment during the current year of a time guideline of six months from date of presentment to date of disposition in the following Judicial Districts: Ansonia-Milford, Danbury, Litchfield, Middlesex, Tolland and Windham. As of June 30, 1979, there were only 32 cases in excess of six months in the above districts, which is 11% of their pending caseload, a very acceptable figure.

In the large Judicial Districts, Fairfield, New London and Waterbury had a combined reduction of 243 cases in the 12 month age category. Hartford, with a 24% increase in cases entered, had an increase of only 17 cases, (146 - 163); however, it is disappointing to note that New Haven, with a slight reduction in cases entered, had an increase of 55 cases over twelve months, (208 - 263).

#### 2. Part B (Class D Felonies, Misdemeanors, Motor Vehicle Violations and Infractions)

Because of close case monitoring by the judges, the 10.2% increase in cases entered over the previous year (96,231 - 87,311) had no appreciable affect on the ability of the court to reduce the active pending caseload from 8,729 cases on July 1, 1978 to 7,585 on July 1, 1979, and to reduce cases over time standards from 2,168 to 1,661 cases over the same time period.

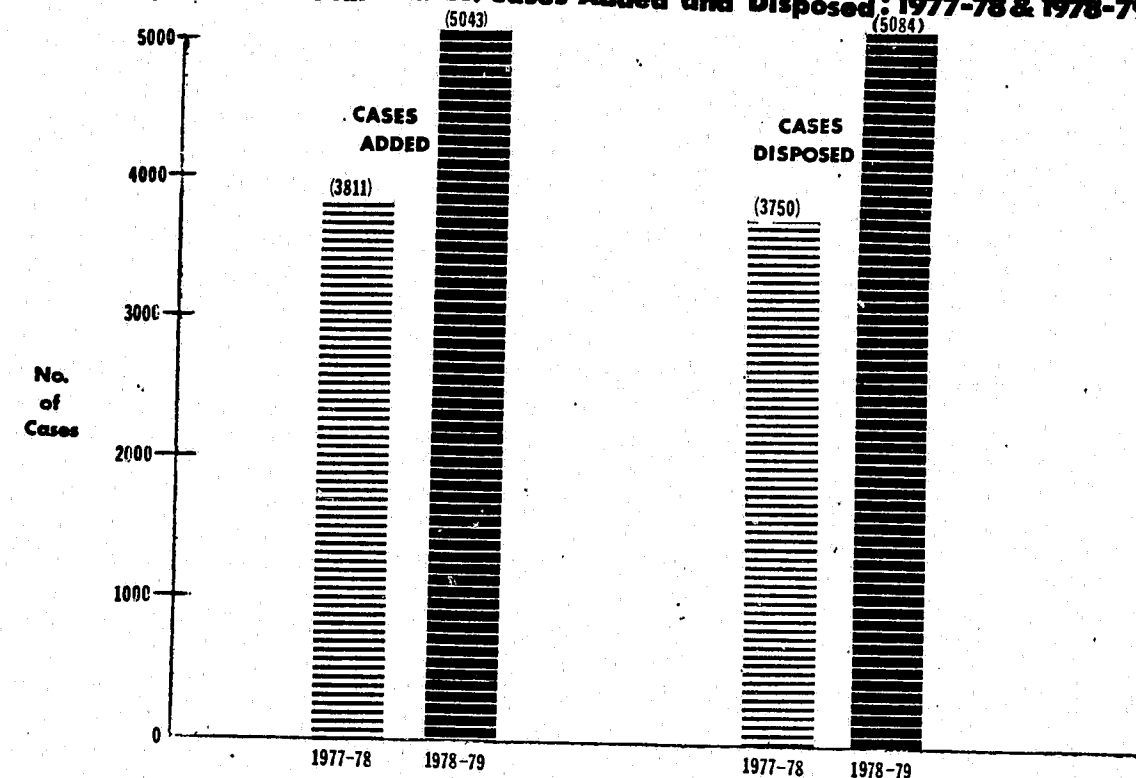
Cases are considered over time standards if they exceed the allowable number of days in various stages, such as first appearance, plea and pre-trial, with 60 days being the maximum



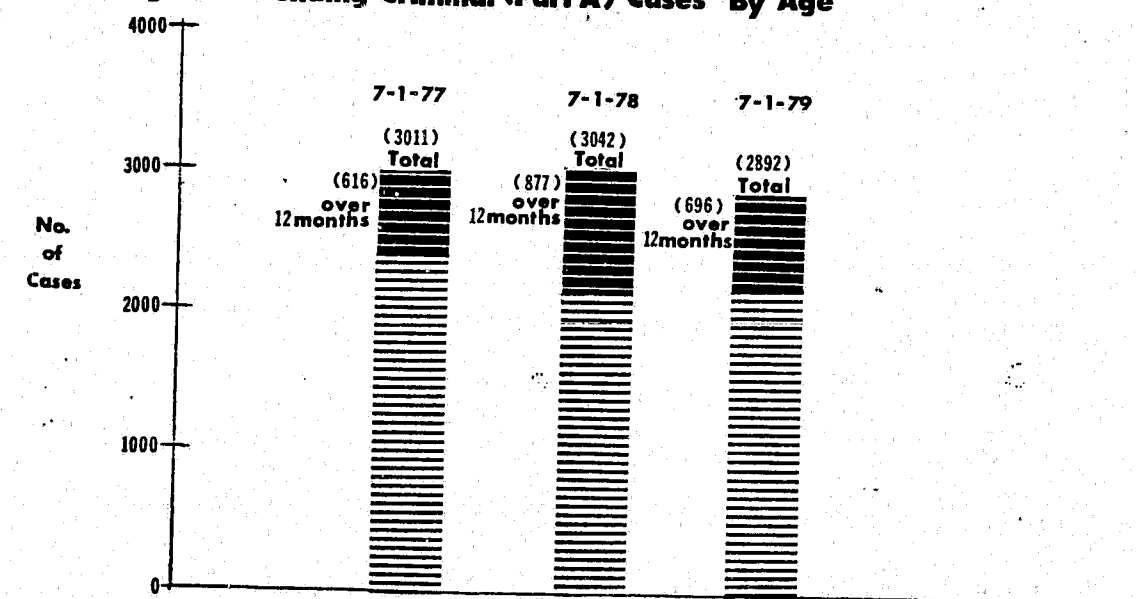
allowable time for any criminal case from arrest to disposition. The actual number of cases over 60 days for which no guilty finding has been entered is 910 and a continual reduction in this figure is also indicative of good case control.

The reduction in pending motor vehicle caseload is even more dramatic with 5,483 cases pending on July 1, 1979, compared with 11,075 cases pending on July 1, 1978. Although the number of new filings, nearly 323,000, has remained virtually unchanged from the prior year, dispositions, as compared to 1977-1978, increased by more than 10,000 to 328,459. With a newly enacted maximum speed law of 55 mph, the impact on pending caseload will be monitored very closely during the 1979-1980 court year.

**Figure I. Criminal (Part A) Cases Added and Disposed: 1977-78 & 1978-79**



**Figure II. Pending Criminal (Part A) Cases By Age**



## B. CIVIL DIVISION

Absolute unification of the previously bifurcated trial courts has been affected in the civil division. The pending civil files of the Superior Court clerks' offices and the Court of Common Pleas judicial district clerks' offices were merged both physically and within the statewide computer system.

### 1. JUDICIAL DISTRICT CIVIL MATTERS

Total reorganization of the civil process has been accomplished within the past year. The Connecticut Practice Book on civil procedure has been revised so that the filing practices have been accelerated and dilatory pleadings discouraged. A faster and more flexible computer system which will greatly improve vital caseflow information has recently been installed at all judicial district locations. Increased judicial assignment flexibility now permits certain types of litigation to be channeled to judges in geographical area locations.

### Docket

The pending docket for the fiscal year rose slightly from 57,394 cases to 58,109 cases (+715), a mere 1% change compared to an increase of 3,303 cases, over 6%, during the year prior to court unification. The number of new filings entered, 40,922, was a decrease of approximately 1% from last year. The total dispositions of 40,207 cases for the year exceeded the 38,194 cases disposed in the prior year by approximately 5%.

## Dormant Program

The case management program to dispose of slow-moving civil litigation was expanded this year by lowering from eighteen months to just twelve months the time standard for claiming a case to a trial list. Of the 16,685 non trial list cases reviewed, 69% were disposed, 7,784 cases were dismissed and 3,758 cases were disposed by other means.

### Trial Lists

Lowering the time period when a case must be claimed for trial caused, as expected, a rapid increase in the number of cases claimed for trial. For example, 8,430 (a monthly average of 703 cases) were added to the court trial list as opposed to 7,948 the prior year, and 5,827 (a monthly average of 486 cases) were added to the jury trial list as opposed to 5,341 the prior year. This faster movement of cases from the non trial list stage to the trial list stage was planned in order to develop earlier judicial control of civil litigation.

Despite the 9% increase in the number of cases claimed to the jury trial list and, as a consequence thereof, an increase in this list from 13,369 cases on July 1, 1978 to 13,804 on July 1, 1979, some outstanding results were realized. Dispositions increased by 15%, from 4,695 in 1977-78 to 5,392 in 1978-79 and average waiting time was reduced by more than 3 months. This result is particularly noteworthy when one considers that 438 of such cases had to be tried, as contrasted with only 359 during the prior year.

Although dispositions from the court trial list (6,527) were slightly less than the number of dispositions recorded the prior year (6,620), the burgeoning number of cases claimed to the non jury trial list as indicated before, was the primary factor in causing this list to increase from 12,067 cases on July 1, 1978 to 13,970 cases on July 1, 1979. We recognize this as a problem area and intend to deal with it during the 1979-80 court year.

Steps have been instituted to dispose of the oldest trial list cases. On February 1, 1979, nine hundred and thirteen (913) court and jury trial list cases over five years of age were pending. On July 1, 1979 only three hundred and seventeen (317) of those cases remained pending, a reduction of 65% or 596 cases in just five months.

## 2. GEOGRAPHICAL AREA CIVIL MATTERS

By statute, summary process and small claims transfers are returnable to geographical area courts except in the Hartford-New Britain judicial district wherein summary process cases are returnable to the housing session.

Overall, 14,974\* civil cases were added to geographical area dockets. At the end of the year only 4,234\* cases remain pending before the court, a slight increase from the 4,083 cases pending on July 1, 1978.

### Small Claims

The small claims part of the civil division has been integrated into the unified trial court reorganization; it has, however, remained separate from the other parts of the civil division in order to maintain the basic services it renders.

86,356 small claims cases were filed in geographical areas and the housing session during the last fiscal year, up 1.6% from the prior year.

The commissioners program comprised of volunteer attorneys who hear contested matters has been expanded by eighteen commissioners for a total of one hundred and four commissioners available statewide. Two regional conferences were held by the office of the Chief Court Administrator to assist in the training of commissioners in this vital function. Commissioners in twenty

\* Includes a number of family division cases returnable to geographical areas, i.e., paternity and non-support.

of the twenty-one geographical areas are now assisting the judges who also preside over a variety of other court business. To these commissioners, who give freely of their time, the Judicial Department is very grateful.

As a result of the small claims public hearings held throughout the state, additional service oriented procedures have been implemented. These improvements will include the availability of a spanish translation of the various forms and instructions and standardization of procedures from location to location. Meetings are now underway with the sheriffs from various counties in an attempt to improve the collection of judgments.

### 3. HOUSING SESSION

Responding to growing public concern about the difficulties involved in resolving disputes between tenants and landlords and the need for stronger enforcement of building, housing, health and safety codes, the 1978 session of the General Assembly enacted legislation creating the Housing Session, a pilot program within the Superior Court. The Housing Session was authorized for a period of eighteen months in the Hartford-New Britain Judicial District commencing January 1, 1979 to hear housing matters in both Hartford and New Britain.

Although it is as yet too early to evaluate the Housing Session operations, the experience of the first six months has been very encouraging. As of June 30, 1979, 3,348 cases have been filed

with the Housing Session and 2,130 have been disposed. The judge and the housing session staff have been able to give individualized attention to cases requiring it. In certain instances resolutions have been formulated requiring the resumption of rent payment or the repair of dwelling units, thus avoiding evictions or severe financial loss to the landlords.

A more detailed interpretation of the housing laws is emerging through the issuance of an increasing number of written opinions by the judge, clarifying many of the legal issues in the housing area and promoting a greater understanding of the housing laws. This will help to prevent future disputes and litigation, and will foster more efficient enforcement of the law.

## C. FAMILY DIVISION

### 1. PART D - DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE

#### Docket

It is significant to note that more cases were disposed of than filed in the Family Division during the first year of court unification. Family Division Part D cases for the current fiscal year have shown a dramatic increase in case flow and productivity when measured against the prior fiscal year. New cases filed during the current fiscal year as compared to the prior fiscal year increased 3% from 16,561 to 17,068. Faced with a larger caseload than in the previous fiscal year, dispositions increased by 24.7% from 15,048 to 18,772 cases, thereby reducing pending cases from the beginning of the year to the end of the year by 12.2% from 13,979 to 12,275 cases.

#### Trial List

By revision of the Rules of Practice, effective July 1, 1978, contested cases were divided into the limited contested trial list, which contains those cases where the matters in dispute are limited to money, property, or visitation rights, and the contested trial list, which primarily involves disputes over child custody.

The year commenced with 802 cases pending on the contested trial list and 744 cases were added and 1,095 were disposed. As a consequence this list, consisting of cases involving the most difficult issues to resolve, was reduced by 351 cases (44%) from 802 to 451 pending at the end of the year.

The limited contested trial list commenced on July 1, 1978. During the year 3,164 cases were placed on the list and 1,872 were disposed, leaving 1,292 cases pending at the year's end.

Within the flexibility afforded by the merged trial courts it is anticipated that the judges and staff assigned to Family Division Part D cases will continue to meet the challenge of an increasing caseload by continuing to expose all trial list cases in a manner consistent with the demands and needs of the litigants.

#### Dormant Program

In addition to trial list dispositions, the court conducted a successful non-trial dormancy program whereby 2,577 (77%) of the 3,346 cases declared dormant went to final judgment. Of the remaining cases 113 were exempted from the program, and the balance of 656 were claimed to the various trial lists producing a total compliance rate of 96.6%.

### 2. PART A - JUVENILE MATTERS

As compared to the prior fiscal year, Family Division Part A delinquency referrals increased 14.7% from 13,945 to 15,993 referrals, but dispositions increased 21.3% from 13,601 to 16,505, thereby reducing the pending cases from the start of the year to the end of the year by 12% from 4,390 to 3,878 cases.

Non-delinquency petitions (neglect, termination and revocation) increased from 1,082 to 1,157 cases, and dispositions declined from 1,112 to 1,037, thereby increasing the pending cases from 409 to 525. It is anticipated that during the next fiscal year



further efforts will be made to regulate case docketing and scheduling to provide stable blocks of time needed for the trials of non-delinquency petitions.

## V. COURT SERVICES

### A. FAMILY DIVISION

On the effective date of the merger of the trial courts in this state, the Judicial Department's four court-connected family service units (Judicial District Family Relations, Geographical Area Family Relations, the Bureau of Support, and Juvenile Matters) were merged into a single agency, the Family Division, for the purpose of efficiency and quality of service delivery. During the year since unification these four component units of the Family Division, as well as the Coordinated Support Enforcement Program, have continued to expand services, and to increase production and efficiency. The consolidated administrative structure has assisted in providing increased coordination and uniformity throughout this function.

#### Division of Juvenile Probation Services

The merger of the former Juvenile Court into the state-wide trial court system has necessitated extensive administrative restructuring and the consolidation effort will continue into the current fiscal year. However, despite the requirement for significant changes during the initial phase of merger, there has been no disruption to past levels and quality of services. In fact, the number of dispositions increased by 21.3% over the prior year resulting in a significant reduction in the number of cases pending at the close of the period. This accomplishment indicates that the increased flexibility in judge assignment made possible in the unified court system has had a beneficial effect on the movement of cases in the court and,

further, that innovative programming in the Division of Juvenile Probation Services has resulted in increased levels of service delivery.

Considerable progress has been made in the implementation of uniform policies and procedures, revision of staffing patterns, reporting and investigation of incidents, improvement of facilities and the monitoring of children in custody. Continued progress in all aspects of detention, particularly in programming for counseling and other crisis intervention techniques, is dependent on the assignment of additional personnel. Realization of the department's goals for the detention program will insure appropriate levels of care, security and protection for children at this critical stage of judicial intervention.

#### B. ADULT PROBATION

There is no question that the court merger is impacting in a positive way on the criminal docket and consequently, upon the adult probation function. Statistics demonstrate that the Office, while experiencing increased caseload in all areas, has achieved greater productivity during the past court year. The consolidation of similar type services and the streamlining of operations, which has resulted from the merger, will continue to contribute to this progress in future years.

#### Presentence Investigation Project

As a result of the court unification and the merger of the Department of Adult Probation into the Judicial Department effective January 1, 1979, various steps have been taken to consolidate and coordinate the production of services. A committee of judges was appointed by the Chief Court Administrator to meet with the Office of Adult Probation to revise the format for the presentence report. The document continues to provide all the elements necessary to the sentencing process but now appears in a briefer, more concise format.

### C. JURY ADMINISTRATION

As anticipated, the creation of exclusive Judicial Districts in July of 1978 resulted in juror shortages in some districts. These shortages are especially evident in the Fairfield, New Haven and Waterbury districts due to the loss of towns formerly within their jurisdictions.

As the year progressed, the additional trial day increased jury activity and at the same time trials of extended length were being held. Without any additional juror resources to compensate for the initial shortages or the increase in activity, it was highly probable that some prospective juror lists would be depleted early in the court year.

During 1978-1979, the Jury Administrator introduced the following measures into the courts in an effort to maintain adequate juror coverage:

#### Automated Juror Postponements

The court normally excuses over 50% of the persons summoned for service. It was determined that many of these requests for excuse could be changed to a postponement of service at a later date. The large numbers summoned for major criminal trials would be postponed if they could not serve on an extended trial at that time. In this manner, juror supplies could be more easily maintained. To promote the use of postponements rather than outright excuses, clerks were instructed

to use a computer terminal procedure which automatically postponed the juror and then re-allocated that person to the pool on a given date.

To illustrate the effectiveness of this procedure, statistics reveal that the New Haven Judicial District would have been depleted of jurors in the third week of March, 1979, without the postponement capability. The Fairfield Judicial District would be void in June of 1979 based on their usage. The use of postponements has provided these districts with enough jurors for the remainder of the court year.

#### Legislation

This past year has indicated that present juror quotas submitted annually by each town are outdated. This prompted the Judicial Department to introduce legislation to enable the Jury Administrator to increase those quotas when deemed necessary. The passage of Public Act 79-242 by the General Assembly will help stabilize future juror availability.

#### Juror Utilization and Management

As jury activity continues to increase in the courts, it is critical that the courts employ those jurors as efficiently as possible. This not only results in considerable cost savings to the state but also has

a positive affect on the juror and further promotes participation.

During the first year of court unification, the jury service phase has been continually monitored, enabling the introduction of new and innovative techniques in jury management.

#### Juror Call-in

Introduced in the Litchfield Judicial District in 1978, a simple telephone answering device allows the juror to call-in every night to determine if his service is required the next day. If the court does not require the juror's presence, he or she can pursue normal activities for that day. This procedure not only saves juror fees (\$1,500 the first month in Litchfield), but allows greater flexibility to the jurors in the scheduling of their time. The success of the pilot project has led to 14 additional court installations which are currently underway throughout the state.

#### Juror Usage

The numbers of jurors being used by the court has been constantly studied by jury administration personnel. Over a period of weeks in the court, these studies have indicated, in a preliminary analysis, that juror usage can be further improved,

although trimming of the jury pool is complicated by statutory requirements (i.e., Connecticut's exclusive use of individual voir dire). An application for federal assistance has been submitted and, if awarded, will concentrate on training present court personnel in the latest management techniques for jury systems.

#### Public Awareness

It is notable that over 90% of our jurors are serving for the first time. This reflects the average citizen's knowledge of Connecticut's jury system and the need for more public information. During the past year, jury administration personnel have visited 150 educational institutions and have lectured and provided visual presentations to students and civic organizations. These efforts continue in order to inform the citizenry and encourage participation.

#### D. RESEARCH AND PLANNING

During the 1978-1979 fiscal year the Research and Planning Unit undertook a variety of initiatives which relate to the opportunities presented by the consolidation of Connecticut's judicial system. From a planning perspective the merger of the State's trial courts coupled with the attendant administrative changes required to successfully implement the new court structure, has presented an array of significant issues for examination, discussion, and the development of policy options.

Four major areas were the subject of extensive attention by the Research and Planning Unit during the past fiscal year. The most compelling of these from a total court system perspective was the development of the Improved Judicial Department Personnel System project.

##### 1. Personnel System

At the direction of the Chief Court Administrator, this project was designed to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the administration of the Department's non-judge personnel through a comprehensive process of assessment and recommendation covering all aspects of the personnel system. Recognizing that the court merger, in order to be effective, must be thoroughly implanted in every aspect of the Department's operations, it is imperative that all personnel understand the importance of their particular positions within the system. As

a result of this effort the management of the personnel system will be enhanced, the organizational and operational lines of authority and communication will be improved and clarified, and the duties and responsibilities of all positions will be delineated. The primary thrust of this program is the implementation of a new system which will provide simultaneously for the current needs of the Department as a whole, and for the necessary flexibility to meet future requirements.

##### 2. Court Delay

The second major activity of the past year was the development of a research program designed to assist in the identification of the causes of delay in the trial court. Emphasis has been initially placed on the examination of criminal case processing. Understanding the complex and varied internal and external influences which affect the movement of cases is the necessary first step in a process which will ultimately result in the design and implementation of strategies to further reduce congestion and delay in the trial courts. Within the context of court merger, it is efforts such as this which can act as a catalyst in coalescing the new court structure with improved procedures which this merged court system permits.

##### 3. Juvenile Court Advocates

The third principal area of concern relates to the manner in which the interests of the State are represented in juvenile delinquency proceedings. The previous system of employing part-



time attorneys as court advocates to perform this important function lacked the necessary attributes to guarantee the efficient and effective processing of delinquency cases. These deficiencies coupled with increased concern about the serious juvenile offender caused a reconsideration of all aspects of the court advocate program. New procedures were developed by the Family Division-Juvenile Matters while the Research and Planning Unit developed a program to secure and evaluate new full-time personnel. Not only will this project permit increased professionalism and accountability, but also it will permit certain functions which have heretofore been performed sporadically to become part of normal operation of the court advocates program. Case screening for legal sufficiency, liaison with local police agencies, and uniform criteria for the handling of certain types of cases are all benefits that will be derived from this program. In addition, juvenile probation officers will be relieved of the legal aspects of case screening, thereby enabling the intake staff to devote more effort to the social and dispositional components of this function.

#### 4. Grants Administration

The fourth area of major activity revolved around the consolidation of federal grants administration and the development of a coordinated approach to the use of federal funds. Since the acquisition and management of federal funds, approximately one and one-half million dollars annually has and will continue

to be a major responsibility of the Research and Planning Unit, and new management procedures were developed to enhance the overall coordination of grant funded programs. By centrally administering federal programs, increased effectiveness of the various programs being conducted can be achieved. Further, with central coordination projects can more readily be designed to fall within the policy directions set forth for the Judicial Department as a whole. All grant programs in the 1979-1980 fiscal year will receive a much higher degree of attention and coordination than ever before.

## E. SUPERIOR COURT LAW CLERKS AND JURY INSTRUCTION PROJECT

### 1. Legal Research

The advent of the five day trial week and the flexibility in judicial assignments which unification provides, required the development of a cost-effective method of providing trial judges with assistance in legal research. The accelerated pace of litigation and the quality would be extremely difficult to maintain without additional resources in this important area.

The Superior Court Law Clerks program began on September 8, 1978. The federally funded program employs a total of fifteen attorneys as law clerks, and a staff director. It is designed to provide these services. The program operates on a pool basis, located in the New Haven Geographical Area courthouse.

Law clerks are assigned to short calendar sessions in each judicial district, as needed. In addition, research assistance is available to any judge who requires it for a pending matter, upon request. Law clerks are also assigned to assist with habeas corpus matters and, in appropriate cases, may be assigned to a judge for the duration of a trial.

Between September 8, 1978 and June 29, 1979, 1251 research requests were received, resulting in the preparation of approximately 850 memoranda of law. These requests were received from 94 judges, which represents 83% of the judiciary.

Efforts are being made to develop the research facility

into a resource unit. The ultimate goal is to provide research assistance, as needed, to all trial court judges, in all geographic locations, and in all types of matters (civil, criminal, juvenile and family).

### 2. Jury Instructions

In response to requests from many judges, the nucleus of a central jury charge bank is being developed at the research facility. Judges throughout the state have been requested to submit representative jury charges, and copies of these are available to other judges on request. The jury charge project is just beginning. With the acquisition of data processing equipment, which is expected by September, 1979, it is anticipated that the project will be able to provide increased services. The data processing equipment will permit the project to collect, index, update and disseminate the jury charges.

#### F. CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Continuing Education program is responsible for the education and training of all Judicial Department employees. In the first year following unification of the trial courts, there has been a substantial increase in the number of programs conducted and in the training materials developed and distributed. Efforts were made to schedule judicial education seminars on a monthly basis for all judges. Subjects included administrative appeals, recent trends in Supreme Court cases, caseflow management, mental health law, and new rules of practice. A special emphasis was placed on orientation programs for all judges assigned to hear juvenile matters, with more than five days of seminars being devoted to juvenile law since unification.

Extensive training materials have been produced to supplement programs by providing additional educational resources in various areas of law and procedure. Written materials have been distributed and audio and video tape recordings have been made available on a loan basis.

Education programs have been held for state's attorneys, clerks of court, juvenile and adult probation officers and family relations officers. In addition, an intensive seminar on caseflow management was conducted. State's attorneys have conducted programs on search and seizure, and victim-witness concerns. Family division personnel held seminars on first-

aid training for juvenile detention staff, juvenile delinquency and employee relations. In May, 1979, the family relations staff participated in a five-day national conference hosted in Hartford for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court judges.

Perhaps the best illustration of the effect of unification on continuing education programming was the development of training sessions on cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Once the need was identified, representatives from every court facility were selected to attend training programs that would qualify them to provide emergency services for heart attack victims. Due to the improved administrative capacity of the unified court to coordinate staffing patterns and scheduling, the selection, notification and presentation of the first session was completed less than four weeks after initiation. It is anticipated that all future education and training programs will benefit from the improved administrative capabilities to plan, coordinate and implement necessary programs and projects.

VI.  
APPENDIX:  
CASELOAD STATISTICS

SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL (PART A) STATISTICS

STATUS OF ACTIVE PENDING CASES

JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 7/1/78				ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 1/1/79				ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 7/1/79				CHANGE IN ACTIVE CASES (6-12 MOS.) SINCE 7/1/78		CHANGE IN ACTIVE CASES (+12 MOS.) SINCE 7/1/78		MEDIAN AGE OF(In mos.) ACTIVE CASES
	0-6 MOS.	6-12 MOS.	+ 12 MOS.	TOTAL	0-6 MOS.	6-12 MOS.	+ 12 MOS.	TOTAL	0-6 MOS.	6-12 MOS.	+ 12 MOS.	TOTAL	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT	
ANS.-MIL.	0	0	0	0	79	0	0	79	44	15	0	59	+ 15	-	0	-	4.4
BRIDGEPORT	235	158	396	789	265	147	378	790	229	130	243	602	- 28	- 17.7	-153	- 38.6	9.3
DANBURY	0	0	0	0	34	1	0	35	28	1	0	29	+ 1	-	0	-	2.1
HARTFORD	518	254	146	918	583	330	185	1098	477	281	163	921	+ 27	+ 10.6	+ 17	+ 11.6	5.7
LITCHFIELD	47	21	16	84	34	9	4	47	45	6	6	57	- 15	- 71.4	- 10	- 62.5	3.8
MIDDLESEX	39	3	3	45	102	4	3	109	49	0	1	50	- 3	-100.0	- 2	- 66.7	1.0
NEW HAVEN	353	144	208	705	372	244	181	797	254	218	263	735	+ 74	+ 51.3	+ 55	+ 26.4	9.1
NEW LONDON	148	20	9	177	200	22	13	235	126	10	1	137	- 10	- 50.0	- 8	- 88.9	2.1
TOLLAND	46	5	0	51	19	10	0	29	78	1	2	81	- 4	- 80.0	+ 2	-	2.0
WATERBURY	131	21	99	251	137	37	46	220	167	24	17	208	+ 3	+ 14.2	- 82	- 82.8	2.3
WINDHAM	19	3	0	22	17	0	0	17	13	0	0	13	- 3	-100.0	0	-	2.1
STATE	1536	629	877	3042	1842	804	810	3456	1510	686	696	2892	+ 57	+ 9.1	-181	- 20.6	5.7



SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL (PART A) STATISTICS

MOVEMENT OF CRIMINAL DOCKET

JULY 1, 1978 - JUNE 30, 1979

LOCATION	NO. CASES PENDING BEGIN- NING OF PERIOD	CASES ADDED DURING PERIOD	CASES DISPOSED OF DURING PERIOD			NO. CASES PENDING AT END	NET CHANGE DURING PERIOD
			WITHOUT TRIAL	WITH TRIAL	TOTAL DISP.		
ANSONIA - MILFORD	0	208	139	7	146	62	+ 62
DANBURY	0	147	110	6	116	31	+ 31
FAIRFIELD	897	767	852	36	888	776	-121
HARTFORD	1328	1482	1376	42	1418	1392	+ 64
NEW HAVEN	837	739	677	47	724	852	+ 15
LITCHFIELD	119	134	173	5	178	75	- 44
MIDDLESEX	78	366	347	23	370	74	- 4
NEW LONDON	206	605	614	23	637	174	- 32
TOLLAND	64	159	119	4	123	100	+ 36
WINDHAM	21	76	75	0	75	22	+ 1
WATERBURY	348	360	395	14	409	299	- 49
TOTAL	3898	5043	4877	207	5084	3857	- 41

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL (PART A) STATISTICS  
STATUS OF CRIMINAL DOCKET AS OF JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	TOTAL CASES PENDING	INACTIVE CASES*	ACTIVE CASES PENDING	PROCEDURAL STAGE OF ACTIVE CASES			AGE OF ACTIVE CASES IN MONTHS			
				WAITING PLEA	WAITING TRIAL**	WAITING SENTENCE	0-3	3-6	6-12	OVER 12
ANSONIA-MILFORD	62	3	59	0	34	25	17	27	15	0
DANBURY	31	2	29	5	14	10	20	8	1	0
FAIRFIELD	776	174	602	63	492	47	127	102	130	243
HARTFORD	1392	471	921	47	781	93	300	177	281	163
NEW HAVEN	852	117	735	19	701	15	110	144	218	263
LITCHFIELD	75	18	57	7	42	8	6	39	6	6
MIDDLESEX	74	24	50	0	41	9	46	3	0	1
NEW LONDON	174	37	137	43	71	23	99	27	10	1
TOLLAND	100	19	81	36	45	0	60	18	1	2
WINDHAM	22	9	13	8	4	1	9	4	0	0
WATERBURY	299	91	208	46	141	21	138	29	24	17
TOTAL	3857	965	2892	274	2366	252	932	578	686	696

SUPERIOR COURT - CRIMINAL (PART A) STATISTICS  
STATUS OF ACTIVE CASES PENDING ON DOCKET AS OF JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	TOTAL CASES PENDING	INACTIVE CASES	ACTIVE CASES PENDING	AGE OF ACTIVE CASES						
				0-3 MOS.	3 - 6 MOS.		6 - 12 MOS.		OVER 12 MOS.	
					CONFINED	NOT CONFINED	CONFINED	NOT CONFINED	CONFINED	NOT CONFINED
ANS. - MILFORD	62	3	59	17	12	15	3	12	0	0
DANBURY	31	2	29	20	1	7	1	0	0	0
FAIRFIELD	776	174	602	127	23	79	19	111	7	236
HARTFORD	1392	471	921	300	51	126	37	244	9	154
NEW HAVEN	852	117	735	110	30	114	24	194	12	251
LITCHFIELD	75	18	57	6	17	22	3	3	4	2
MIDDLESEX	74	24	50	46	0	3	0	0	0	1
NEW LONDON	174	37	137	99	2	25	2	8	0	1
TOLLAND	100	19	81	60	6	12	1	0	2	0
WINDHAM	22	9	13	9	0	4	0	0	0	0
WATERBURY	299	91	208	138	1	28	0	24	1	16
TOTAL	3857	965	2892	932	143	435	90	596	35	661

SUPERIOR COURT  
CRIMINAL (PART A) CASES  
POTENTIAL DISPOSITION TIME\*  
IN MOS.

LOCATION	1977-78	1978-79
ANSONIA-MILFORD	---	4.8
DANBURY	---	3.0
FAIRFIELD	12.5	8.1
HARTFORD	9.0	7.8
NEW HAVEN	12.9	12.2
LITCHFIELD	7.8	3.8
MIDDLESEX	4.4	1.6
NEW LONDON	6.0	2.6
TOLLAND	4.5	7.9
WINDHAM	3.1	2.1
WATERBURY	13.2	6.1
STATE	9.7	6.8

\* Potential Disposition Time is an estimate of time required to process a case through the court based on current disposition rates.

SUPERIOR COURT -- CRIMINAL (PART B), STATISTICS  
ANNUAL SUMMARY  
JULY 1, 1978 - JUNE 30, 1979

LOCATION	CASES PENDING ON 7/1/78				CASES ADDED DURING PERIOD	TRANSFERS TO PART A	DISPOSED DURING PERIOD	CASES PENDING ON 6/30/79				NO. OF TRIALS	
	ACTIVE	DIVER- SIONARY STAGE	RE- ARRESTS PENDING	TOTAL				ACTIVE	DIVER- SIONARY STAGE	RE- ARRESTS PENDING	TOTAL	JURY	COURT
STAMFORD	287	161	1238	1686	3427	134	4034	222	251	472	945	11	16
BRIDGEPORT	1150	469	380	1999	8868	405	8254	786	598	824	2208	48	81
DANBURY	200	11	57	268	2688	116	2363	233	114	130	477	27	28
WATERBURY	650	806	917	2373	6417	334	6631	411	194	1220	1825	13	21
ANS.-MILFORD	250	213	68	531	4641	219	3815	476	407	255	1138	10	34
NEW HAVEN	945	226	846	2017	1017	413	9531	881	318	976	2175	32	52
MERIDEN	581	192	172	945	5008	182	4845	436	196	294	926	25	21
W. HAVEN	327	82	75	484	4288	137	4101	296	126	112	534	9	35
MIDDLETOWN	391	129	222	742	3614	440	3071	289	196	360	845	0	20
NEW LONDON	276	114	215	605	5688	402	5362	164	236	129	529	13	42
DANIELSON	205	41	32	278	2343	71	2273	164	58	55	277	6	14
E. HARTFORD	589	202	187	978	4353	256	4281	508	135	151	794	11	48
WINDSOR	395	163	140	698	3042	162	2968	223	265	122	610	11	44
HARTFORD	681	252	893	1826	9185	509	7548	826	395	1733	2954	20	37
NEW BRITAIN	311	236	212	759	4109	216	3845	217	384	206	807	33	169
W. HARTFORD	194	171	126	491	2984	145	2731	250	166	183	599	10	87
BRISTOL	228	95	247	570	2539	86	2244	193	262	324	779	11	51
WINSTED	201	110	97	408	2607	134	2405	216	138	122	476	10	30
ROCKVILLE	180	95	128	403	2432	128	2274	244	109	80	433	4	29
NORWALK	442	203	172	817	4399	114	3812	381	302	607	1290	17	66
NORWICH	246	84	63	393	3497	217	3201	169	185	118	472	10	32
TOTAL	8729	4055	6487	19,271	96,231	4820	89,589	7585	5035	8473	21,093	331	957



SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL (PART B) STATISTICS (INCL. MOTOR VEHICLE)

STATUS OF ACTIVE PENDING CASES  
JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATIONS	CRIMINAL (PART B) CASES											MOTOR VEHICLE CASES		
	ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 7/1/78			ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 1/1/79			ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 7/1/79			CHANGE IN CASES OVER TIME STANDARD SINCE 7/1/78		PENDING CASES ON 7/1/78	PENDING CASES ON 1/1/79	PENDING CASES ON 7/1/79
	OVER TIME STAND.	TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	% OVER TIME STAND.	OVER TIME STAND.	TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	% OVER TIME STAND.	OVER TIME STAND.	TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	% OVER TIME STAND.	NUMBER	PERCENT	TOTAL PENDING	TOTAL PENDING	TOTAL PENDING
STAMFORD	60	287	20.9	99	359	27.6	11	222	5.0	- 49	- 81.7	429	273	226
BRIDGEPORT	353	1150	30.7	279	941	29.6	182	786	23.2	-171	- 48.4	611	643	549
DANBURY	38	200	19.0	81	225	36.0	47	233	20.3	+ 9	+ 23.6	214	190	163
WATERBURY	158	650	24.0	136	544	25.0	81	411	19.7	- 77	- 48.7	399	205	226
ANS.-MIL.	*	250	*	225	514	43.8	145	476	31.8	*	*	499	135	361
NEW HAVEN	210	945	22.0	175	868	20.2	196	881	22.2	- 14	- 7.1	112	217	189
MERIDEN	159	581	27.0	143	496	28.8	107	436	24.5	- 52	- 32.7	522	350	241
WEST HAVEN	94	327	28.7	66	342	19.3	34	296	11.5	- 60	- 63.8	170	154	136
MIDDLETOWN	127	391	32.5	64	311	20.6	61	289	21.1	- 66	- 52.0	1212	296	282
NEW LONDON	66	276	23.9	34	248	13.7	9	164	5.5	- 57	- 86.4	737	582	864
DANIELSON	40	205	19.5	50	185	27.0	22	164	13.4	- 18	- 45.0	144	171	118

SUPERIOR COURT CRIMINAL (PART B) STATISTICS (INCL. MOTOR VEHICLE)

STATUS OF ACTIVE PENDING CASES

JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATIONS	CRIMINAL (PART B) CASES										MOTOR VEHICLE CASES			
	ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 7/1/78			ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 1/1/79			ACTIVE PENDING CASES ON 7/1/79			CHANGE IN CASES OVER TIME STANDARD SINCE 7/1/78		PENDING CASES ON 7/1/78	PENDING CASES ON 1/1/79	PENDING CASES ON 7/1/79
	OVER TIME STAND.	TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	% OVER TIME STAND.	OVER TIME STAND.	TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	% OVER TIME STAND.	OVER TIME STAND.	TOTAL ACTIVE CASES	% OVER TIME STAND.	NUMBER	PERCENT	TOTAL PENDING	TOTAL PENDING	TOTAL PENDING
E. HARTFORD	193	589	32.8	216	545	39.6	162	508	31.9	- 31	- 16.1	819	452	274
WINDSOR	205	395	51.8	289	521	55.5	49	223	21.9	-156	- 76.1	670	360	189
HARTFORD	83	681	12.0	420	1274	33.0	180	826	21.8	+ 97	+116.8	490	305	165
NEW BRITAIN	45	311	14.4	11	215	5.1	23	217	10.6	- 22	- 48.9	717	157	303
WEST HARTFORD	49	194	25.2	99	262	37.8	49	250	19.6	0	-	169	114	96
BRISTOL	55	228	24.1	107	270	39.6	40	193	20.8	- 15	- 27.3	332	182	163
WINSTED	43	201	21.4	33	175	18.9	49	216	22.7	+ 6	+ 14.0	192	175	184
ROCKVILLE	18	180	10.0	27	216	12.5	76	244	31.1	+ 58	+322.0	1689	198	307
NORWALK	97	442	21.9	54	400	13.5	118	381	31.0	+ 21	+ 21.6	157	174	211
NORWICH	75	246	30.5	32	203	15.8	20	169	11.8	- 55	- 73.3	811	235	236
TOTAL	2168	8729	25.6	2640	9114	28.9	1661	7585	21.9	-652**	- 30.1**	11,075	5568	5483
* Not Available														
** Ansonia-Milford not included in the totals														

\* Not Available

\*\* Ansonia-Milford not included in the totals

SUPERIOR COURT - MOTOR VEHICLE CASES

G.A. LOCATIONS

JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	TOTAL PENDING 7/1/78	CASES ADDED	CASES DISPOSED	PENDING ON 7/1/79		
				INFRACTIONS AWAITING PAYMENT	MOTOR VEHICLE CASES	TOTAL PENDING
STAMFORD	1,534	21,456	22,143	621	226	847
BRIDGEPORT	1,910	29,647	29,498	1,510	549	2,059
DANBURY	1,078	11,628	11,963	580	163	743
WATERBURY	3,291	18,005	19,079	1,991	226	2,217
ANS.-MILFORD	1,020	17,932	17,732	859	361	1,220
NEW HAVEN	591	14,562	14,507	457	189	646
MERIDEN	1,385	19,059	19,667	536	241	777
W. HAVEN	729	11,300	11,407	486	136	622
MIDDLETOWN	1,320	18,530	19,074	494	282	776
NEW LONDON	2,028	34,520	34,402	1,282	864	2,146
DANIELSON	402	8,274	8,371	187	118	305
E. HARTFORD	829	14,493	14,514	534	274	808
WINDSOR	699	11,633	11,782	361	189	550
HARTFORD	877	8,519	8,932	299	165	464
NEW BRITAIN	1,045	12,411	12,745	408	303	711
W. HARTFORD	783	13,931	14,150	468	96	564
BRISTOL	367	8,069	8,031	242	163	405
WINSTED	205	5,483	5,188	316	184	500
ROCKVILLE	1,689	17,137	18,011	508	307	815
NORWALK	844	16,497	16,616	514	211	725
NORWICH	1,658	9,619	10,647	394	236	630
STATE	24,284	322,705	328,459	13,047	5,483	18,530

SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL CASES - ON DOCKET - JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	730	1,411	166	748	914	1,227
DANBURY	1,257	1,377	56	890	946	1,688
FAIRFIELD	9,066	5,551	328	5,767	6,095	8,522
HARTFORD	14,812	9,631	317	9,728	10,045	14,398
NEW BRITAIN	1,708	1,610	110	1,297	1,407	1,911
NEW HAVEN	13,191	8,089	581	7,119	7,700	13,580
LITCHFIELD	1,593	1,102	97	1,293	1,390	1,305
MIDDLESEX	1,684	1,417	73	1,249	1,322	1,779
NEW LONDON	3,386	2,539	256	2,774	3,030	2,895
TOLLAND	1,221	1,003	75	928	1,003	1,221
WINDHAM	641	702	52	679	731	612
WATERBURY	2,874	2,663	122	2,359	2,481	3,056
STAMFORD	5,231	3,827	83	3,060	3,143	5,915
TOTALS	57,394	40,922	2,316	37,891	40,207	58,109

SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL CASES - JURY TRIAL LISTS - JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	55	104	8	47	55	104
DANBURY	127	142	13	75	88	181
FAIRFIELD	2,414	980	76	904	980	2,414
HARTFORD	3,173	1,100	45	1,009	1,054	3,219
NEW BRITAIN	454	225	20	171	191	488
NEW HAVEN	3,770	1,506	76	1,063	1,139	4,137
LITCHFIELD	309	165	38	208	246	228
MIDDLESEX	338	205	18	186	204	339
NEW LONDON	621	320	36	385	421	520
TOLLAND	240	149	19	114	133	256
WINDHAM	58	89	19	70	89	58
WATERBURY	735	318	39	380	419	634
STAMFORD	1,075	524	31	342	373	1,226
TOTALS	13,369	5,827	438	4,954	5,392	13,804



SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL CASES - COURT TRIAL LIST - JULY 1, 1978 - July 1, 1979

LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	158	223	70	101	171	210
DANBURY	146	220	38	87	125	241
FAIRFIELD	1,889	1,310	209	886	1,095	2,104
HARTFORD	3,239	2,014	223	1,263	1,486	3,767
NEW BRITAIN	278	266	77	149	226	318
NEW HAVEN	2,731	1,794	382	708	1,090	3,435
LITCHFIELD	328	232	51	250	301	259
MIDDLESEX	350	259	45	179	224	385
NEW LONDON	885	566	205	659	864	587
TOLLAND	170	189	30	106	136	223
WINDHAM	64	125	25	105	130	59
WATERBURY	549	454	63	252	315	688
STAMFORD	1,280	778	39	325	364	1,694
TOTALS	12,067	8,430	1,457	5,070	6,527	13,970

SUPERIOR COURT

CIVIL CASES - G.A. LOCATIONS - JULY 1, 1978 - JUNE 30, 1979

G.A. NO.	LOCATION	CASES PENDING 7/1/78	ADDED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR	CASES PENDING 6/30/79
1	STAMFORD	193	839	684	348
2	BRIDGEPORT	640	2,439	2,425	654
3	DANBURY	54	328	312	70
4	WATERBURY	218	823	771	270
5	ANSONIA	128	437	434	131
6	NEW HAVEN	329	2,163	2,132	360
7	MERIDEN	219	514	512	221
8	WEST HAVEN	146	643	674	115
9	MIDDLETOWN	64	520	474	110
10	NEW LONDON	300	662	567	395
11	DANIELSON	89	388	347	130
12	EAST HARTFORD	155	432	449	138
13	WINDSOR	54	163	188	29
14	HARTFORD	811	2,062	2,492	381
15	NEW BRITAIN	111	508	484	135
16	WEST HARTFORD	201	123	104	220
17	BRISTOL	92	291	308	75
18	WINSTED	54	271	237	88
19	ROCKVILLE	54	291	278	67
20	NORWALK	137	567	560	144
21	NORWICH	34	510	391	153
	STATE	4,083	14,974	14,823	4,234

SUPERIOR COURT  
CIVIL DIVISION  
SMALL CLAIMS FILINGS

LOCATION	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
STAMFORD (1)	6100	7424	7408	6901	7193	4073
BRIDGEPORT	7682	10378	10699	9890	9014	8192
DANBURY	2022	2299	2402	2487	2506	2606
WATERBURY	5886	6335	6292	6088	4953	6305
ANSONIA	2547	2599	3344	3764	3273	3012
NEW HAVEN	4813	6386	6426	6974	6544	6737
MERIDEN	4458	5116	5494	5843	5539	5764
WEST HAVEN	2134	3586	2967	2828	2434	2805
MIDDLETOWN	2162	2261	2218	2380	2234	2461
NEW LONDON (2)	5281	6845	8299	8615	6669	4211
DANIELSON	1626	2023	2136	2238	1805	2308
MANCHESTER	5011	4932	4027	3676	3314	3072
WINDSOR	1987	2104	2074	2211	2141	2116
HARTFORD	10847	13254	13750	14319	12550	11520
NEW BRITAIN	3749	4416	4399	4356	3744	3245
WEST HARTFORD	3305	4002	4367	4017	3721	3365
BRISTOL	2391	2721	2731	2722	2722	2631
WINSTED	2077	2389	3570	3655	2549	2592
ROCKVILLE (3)	-	953	1992	2038	2033	2343
NORWALK (1)	-	-	-	-	-	3380
NORWICH (2)	-	-	-	-	-	2877
SUBTOTAL	74078	90023	94595	95002	84968	85615
HOUSING COURT(4)	-	-	-	-	-	741
TOTAL	74078	90023	94595	95002	84968	86356

1. G.A. 20 (Norwalk) created 7/1/78, covers an area formerly served by Stamford.
2. G.A. 21 (Norwich) created 7/1/78 cases an area formerly served by New London.
3. G.A. created in Tolland Judicial District pursuant to P.A. 74-183, effective 12/31/74
4. Housing Court created in Hartford-New Britain J.D. Pursuant to P.A. 78-365, effective 1/1/79..

SUPERIOR COURT

FAMILY CASES - ON DOCKETS - JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	26	525	3	227	230	321
DANBURY	463	677	57	531	588	552
FAIRFIELD	1,300	1,608	299	1,717	2,016	892
HARTFORD	3,034	3,713	11	4,104	4,115	2,632
NEW BRITAIN	748	824	21	836	857	715
NEW HAVEN	2,318	2,654	372	2,476	2,848	2,124
LITCHFIELD	533	664	3	756	759	438
MIDDLESEX	712	760	33	898	931	541
NEW LONDON	1,365	1,560	48	1,806	1,854	1,071
TOLLAND	585	819	51	744	795	609
WINDHAM	456	567	14	672	686	337
WATERBURY	862	1,018	120	995	1,115	765
STAMFORD	1,577	1,679	46	1,932	1,978	1,278
TOTALS	13,972	17,068	1,078	17,694	18,772	12,275

SUPERIOR COURT

FAMILY CASES - CONTESTED TRIAL LIST - JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

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LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	2	13	0	7	7	8
DANBURY	50	47	21	45	66	31
FAIRFIELD	125	129	130	98	228	26
HARTFORD	80	89	0	79	79	90
NEW BRITAIN	32	30	4	37	41	21
NEW HAVEN	85	97	50	56	106	76
LITCHFIELD	28	26	1	32	33	21
MIDDLESEX	33	28	11	31	42	19
NEW LONDON	69	62	14	85	99	32
TOLLAND	17	19	11	11	22	14
WINDHAM	15	24	6	31	37	2
WATERBURY	45	39	25	28	53	31
STAMFORD	221	141	28	254	282	80
TOTALS	802	744	301	794	1095	451



SUPERIOR COURT

FAMILY CASES - LIMITED CONTESTED TRIAL LIST - JULY 1, 1978 - July 1, 1979

LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	0	67	1	38	39	28
DANBURY	0	134	30	45	75	59
FAIRFIELD	0	350	132	140	272	78
HARTFORD	0	708	1	448	449	259
NEW BRITAIN	0	138	10	67	77	61
NEW HAVEN	0	503	98	173	271	232
LITCHFIELD	0	108	1	70	71	37
MIDDLESEX	0	146	3	51	54	92
NEW LONDON	0	390	6	267	273	117
TOLLAND	0	139	19	48	67	72
WINDHAM	0	0	0	0	0	0
WATERBURY	0	140	27	52	79	61
STAMFORD	0	341	3	142	145	196
TOTALS	0	3,164	331	1,541	1,872	1,292

SUPERIOR COURT

FAMILY CASES - UNCONTESTED TRIAL LIST - JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

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LOCATION	PENDING JULY 1, 1978	ENTERED DURING YEAR	DISPOSED DURING YEAR			PENDING JULY 1, 1979
			BY TRIAL	OTHER DISPOSITIONS	TOTAL	
ANSONIA-MILFORD	2	184	0	148	148	38
DANBURY	75	337	4	320	324	88
FAIRFIELD	200	988	15	1,069	1,084	104
HARTFORD	583	2,537	2	2,699	2,701	419
NEW BRITAIN	241	508	0	536	536	213
NEW HAVEN	288	1,691	20	1,521	1,541	438
LITCHFIELD	67	439	0	454	454	51
MIDDLESEX	215	535	4	658	662	88
NEW LONDON	47	886	0	821	821	112
TOLLAND	143	550	15	524	539	154
WINDHAM	84	504	5	501	506	82
WATERBURY	126	731	10	646	656	201
STAMFORD	217	693	7	782	789	121
TOTALS	2,288	10,583	82	10,680	10,762	2,109

SUPERIOR COURT - JUVENILE MATTERS  
MOVEMENT OF DELINQUENCY REFERRALS  
JULY 1, 1978 - JULY 1, 1979

COURT LOCATION	CASES PENDING - JULY 1, 1978				CASES ADDED	CASES DISPOSED			CASES PENDING - JULY 1, 1979			
	DAYS	DAYS	DAYS	TOTAL		JUDICIAL	NON-JUDICIAL	TOTAL	DAYS	DAYS	DAYS	TOTAL
	0-90	91-180	180+						0-90	91-180	180+	
BRIDGEPORT	322	144	177	643	1444	892	962	1854	130	75	28	233
NORWALK	142	43	52	237	688	427	355	782	116	14	13	143
STAMFORD	179	76	114	369	807	412	414	826	190	108	52	350
DANBURY	144	34	27	205	729	443	251	694	136	67	37	240
TORRINGTON	91	20	45	156	473	319	204	523	82	19	5	106
NEW HAVEN	442	139	140	721	2701	1591	949	2540	523	208	151	882
WATERBURY	177	44	31	252	1012	466	404	870	182	140	72	394
MERIDEN	93	42	22	157	531	380	211	591	56	31	10	97
MIDDLETOWN	102	28	10	140	604	338	322	660	77	7	0	84
MONTVILLE	207	39	56	302	1582	1132	593	1725	147	9	3	159
HARTFORD	499	78	39	616	2850	1132	1723	2855	465	119	27	611
NEW BRITAIN	85	10	4	99	643	251	295	546	152	39	5	196
BRISTOL	71	9	8	88	400	211	173	384	66	24	14	104
TALCOTTVILLE	139	30	36	205	922	340	630	970	116	32	9	157
WILLIMANTIC	137	41	22	200	607	300	385	685	106	12	4	122
TOTALS	2,830	777	783	4,390	15,993	8634	7871	16,505	2544	904	430	3878

SUPERIOR COURT - HOUSING SESSION

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT

JANUARY 1, 1979 - JUNE 30, 1979

	<u>HARTFORD</u>	<u>NEW BRITAIN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>SUMMARY PROCESS</u>			
PENDING, START OF PERIOD	0	0	0
CASES ADDED	1960	474	2434
CASES DISPOSED	1381	304	1685
PENDING, END OF PERIOD	579	170	749
<u>SMALL CLAIMS</u>			
PENDING, START OF PERIOD	0	0	0
CASES ADDED	508	233	741
CASES DISPOSED	261	149	410
PENDING, END OF PERIOD	247	84	331
<u>CIVIL DOCKET</u>			
PENDING, START OF PERIOD	0	0	0
CASES ADDED	58	35	93
CASES DISPOSED	14	7	21
PENDING, END OF PERIOD	44	28	72
<u>CRIMINAL DOCKET</u>			
PENDING, START OF PERIOD	0	0	0
CASES ADDED	74	6	80
CASES DISPOSED	12	2	14
PENDING, END OF PERIOD	62	4	66
<u>TOTAL DOCKET</u>			
PENDING, START OF PERIOD	0	0	0
CASES ADDED	2600	748	3348
CASES DISPOSED	1668	462	2130
PENDING, END OF PERIOD	932	286	1218

**END**