Annual Report Georgia Courts

July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

FY 2013



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JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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State of the *Judiciary*



Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein

Smart reforms in the adult and juvenile justice systems were the highlights of Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein's final State of the Judiciary address, which she delivered to a joint session of the Georgia General Assembly on February 7, 2013.

Criminal Justice Reform: The Chief Justice praised the work of the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform, which two years earlier united the three branches of government in an effort to make Georgia safer while saving taxpayer dollars. The council's key achievement was a comprehensive set of new laws that diverted non-violent and low-level offenders into drug and mental health courts and treatment programs rather than prison. Under the initiative, 12 new drug and mental health courts, and substance abuse and mental health treatment centers were created to address the roots of crime and repeat offenses. A new program that helps long-term inmates transition back into mainstream society also addresses recidivism. The reforms have stopped Georgia's prison population growth and reduced the number of inmates in local incarceration centers, and they will save taxpayers $264 million over five years, she noted.

Juvenile Justice Reform: Just as it has reformed the adult criminal justice system, Georgia is poised to enter a new era in how it deals with troubled youth, the Chief Justice said. Imprisoning youthful offenders only exposes them to violence, abuse and more criminality. Non-violent offenders, minor juvenile offenders and low risk children deserve second chances, she said, and should be offered effective options such as mental health and substance abuse treatment, anger management, family counseling, education and employment guidance, and supervised probation.

The Chief Justice pointed to innovative pilot programs in Ohio and Illinois that divert money spent on incarcerating children into community-based programs that offer rehabilitation, and she urged Georgia's political leaders to consider similar initiatives. Because children cost the state five times more than adults to imprison, Georgia taxpayers stand to realize significant benefits by investing in youth reform rather than incarceration, she said.

The Chief Justice also noted several significant judicial branch projects:

- Judges in two counties leveraged federal funds to create four drug and mental health courts;

- The Administrative Office of the Courts, supported by the Commission on Interpreters, continued a pilot project to provide constitutionally mandated interpreting services to courts in outlying areas;

- The Georgia Commission on Family Violence – led by Judge Stephen Kelley, Superior Courts, Brunswick Judicial Circuit, and Judge Peggy Walker, Juvenile Court, Douglas Judicial Circuit – developed a comprehensive plan to significantly reduce family violence in Georgia;

- Progress continued on a statewide electronic filing system that is compatible with all courts.

New Legislation



The House of Representatives Chambers

The 2013 Georgia General Assembly celebrated the long-awaited passage of a new Juvenile Justice Code that went into effect January 1, 2014. **HB 242**, the Juvenile Justice Reform Bill, was the culmination of years of reform efforts by the state bar's Young Lawyers Division, the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform, and JUSTGeorgia, a statewide juvenile justice coalition led by the Barton Child Law and Policy Center, Voices for Georgia's Children and Georgia Appleseed.

The new code will bring sweeping changes to the state's juvenile justice system. For cases involving status offenders, the new laws are aimed at keeping children out of detention centers and providing them with social services that will reduce juvenile recidivism. In delinquency cases, judges will be able to consider the severity of the offenses and the risk of re-offending when sentencing juveniles.

For the Judicial Council, the 2013 legislative session was marked not by big initiatives, but by technical and incremental changes to existing laws. Individual bills of significance included **SB 66**, which increased the maximum contempt of court penalties in superior and state courts from $500 to $1,000. **SB 120** gave probate courts in counties having no state court the statutory authority to request prosecuting attorneys for cases subject to the court's jurisdiction. The magistrate courts saw passage of **HB 146**, which provides for the issuance of electronic warrants and adds procedural safeguards in the issuance of good behavior bonds.

AOC staff continued to work with judges on projects like misdemeanor traffic reform, contributing to the 2013 House Title 40 Study Committee report. Traffic reform legislation was eventually introduced in the waning days of the session for continued work the next year.

Both the House and the Senate passed resolutions honoring the Judicial Council and the Administrative Office of the Courts for forty years of service to the State. The resolutions praised the Judicial Council and the AOC for their forty year commitment to the efficient and fair administration of justice in Georgia's courts. The House of Representatives' resolution was offered by House Speaker David Ralston and Judiciary Chairman Wendell Willard. Senator John Crosby, a popular former judge, as well as Senators Stone, McKoon and Cowsert sponsored the Senate resolution. Formal copies of the resolutions were delivered to Chief Justice Hunstein and AOC Director Marla Moore. The resolutions now hang in the reception area of the AOC offices.

For a full look at legislation affecting Georgia's courts, please visit: http://legislation.georgiacourts.gov/pages/home.jsf

Judicial Council of Georgia

The 26-member Judicial Council develops policies for improving and administering Georgia courts. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court serves as chair of the council; membership consists of the presidents and presidents-elect of the judges' councils for each level of court: appellate, superior, state, juvenile, probate, magistrate, and municipal. On July 3, 2012, the Supreme Court amended the membership of the council to include the president-elect of the Council of Municipal Court Judges.

The council oversees the work of the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) through established oversight committees: Standing Committee on Policy and Legislation, Committee on Court Reporting Matters, Accountability Court Committee, Judicial Workload Assessment Committee, Domestic Violence Committee, and Records Retention Committee.

In early 2013, members of the Judicial Council, AOC staff, and future Judicial Council members began to develop a strategic plan for FY 2014 through FY 2016. This plan will set long-term goals for the improvement of Georgia's courts, and focus resources to make tangible progress towards those goals. The strategic plan will also facilitate effective communication by the judiciary with the legislature, executive branch, and the public. Working sessions were held in January, April, and June.

The council met four times in FY 2013:

• September 21, 2012 – Forsyth. The council approved recommendations for additional judges for the Chattahoochee and Oconee judicial circuits. Standards for accountability courts were approved for: adult drug courts, drug treatment courts, and mental health courts.



The Judicial Council meets in April 2013.

• January 10, 2013 –Atlanta. The council voted to support legislative initiatives for the 2013 General Assembly session, revised two rules of the Board of Court Reporting, and heard reports on civil services for domestic violence victims, the immigration and the state courts initiative, and statewide judiciary civil e-filing.

• April 12, 2013 – Atlanta. Representative Mary Margaret Oliver (D-Decatur), and Senator Josh McKoon (R-Columbus) were guests of the council and spoke to the budget and revenue issues that continued to be at the forefront of legislative concerns. The council adopted the recommendations of the Special Committee on Court Reporting Fees and Processes regarding the application of an official fee schedule, format and page rate; the taking down and transcribing court proceedings, documentation of evidence, and electronic/digital reporting.

• June 10, 2013 – Atlanta. The council approved standards for adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts, mental health courts, and family dependency treatment courts. It also approved the FY 2014 Adult Drug Court Certification Application and the FY 2014 Mental Health Court Certification Application.

Judicial Council • June 2013

Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein
Chair Supreme Court of Georgia

Presiding Justice Hugh P. Thomson
Vice Chair Supreme Court of Georgia

Chief Judge John J. Ellington
Court of Appeals of Georgia

Presiding Judge Herbert E. Phipps
Court of Appeals of Georgia

Judge Louisa Abbot
Council of Superior Court Judges

Judge Mary Staley
Council of Superior Court Judges

Judge Linda S. Cowen
Council of State Court Judges

Judge Charles Wynne
Council of State Court Judges

Judge Robin W. Shearer
Council of Juvenile Court Judges

Judge J. Lane Bearden
Council of Juvenile Court Judges

Judge Kelley Powell
Council of Probate Court Judges

Judge Chase Daughtrey
Council of Probate Court Judges

Judge Alan Harvey
Council of Magistrate Court Judges

Judge Betsey Kidwell
Council of Magistrate Court Judges

Judge Kenneth E. Wickham
Council of Municipal Court Judges

Judge James M. Anderson
Council of Municipal Court Judges



Judicial Council

District Administrative Judges

Judge John E. Morse, Jr.
First District

Judge Harry Jay Altman II
Second District

Judge Edward D. Lukemire
Third District

Judge Gregory A. Adams
Fourth District

Judge Cynthia D. Wright
Fifth District

Chief Judge Arch W. McGarity
Sixth District

Judge James G. Bodiford
Seventh District

Chief Judge Kathy Palmer
Eighth District

Judge Kathlene Gosselin
Ninth District

Chief Judge J. Carlisle Overstreet
Tenth District

Administrative Office of the *Courts*

As a state level court administrative agency, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) furnishes a wide variety of critical support services to the trial and appellate courts and leads business improvement initiatives as directed by the Judicial Council. The agency is organized into three line divisions: Court Services, Financial Administration, and Information Technology, which work closely with the Director's Office staff professionals.

The Director is responsible to the Judicial Council for the operation and performance of the AOC and supervises staff functions involving budget, communications, governmental and court liaison, human resources, and legal support.

The Director participates on state boards and commissions including the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Commission on Family Violence, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, and the State Bar of Georgia's Next Generation Courts Commission.

On a national level, the Director contributes to the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) by sharing subject matter expertise and collaborating to improve court business processes across the country.

Budget
Budget policy support is provided by an analyst who oversees internal budget activities, monitors expenditures, and reviews and recommends budget, program, and policy proposals for the Judicial Council, AOC, and affiliated agencies. The analyst also evaluates the fiscal impact of potential legislation, projects, and programs.

Communications
The AOC maintains relations with judges, court users, and the public. Newsletters, press releases, social media updates, a directory of court officials and personnel, and an annual report on the courts serve to inform the judiciary and other constituents of newsworthy developments. The communications team is regularly called upon to offer design and photographic services to associated councils, conferences, and groups.

General Counsel
In-house legal counsel provides legal research, advisory, and drafting services for judges, councils, boards, commissions, and court employees. AOC attorneys investigate ethics and other disciplinary complaints against registered court professionals on behalf of their governing organizations and associates with the state Attorney General on matters of mutual concern.


Marla S. Moore, AOC Director

Human Resources
The agency performs and offers assistance with human capital and employee management services, including benefits and salary administration, leave management monitoring, performance reviews, policy management, and professional training designed to enhance employee development. The human resources staff is also responsible for maintaining official personnel records, recruitment, and hiring.

Governmental and Trial Court Liaison
The Governmental and Trial Court Liaison team supports the Judicial Council's Policy and Legislation Committee in executive and legislative branch relations and internal governing initiatives. Additionally, the team furnishes administrative services to trial court judges' councils, training councils, and leadership, and networks to foster cooperation and communication leading to the improvement of the administration of justice, both inside and outside the judicial branch.

In fall of 2012, the Judicial Council and the Council of Probate Court Judges piloted the Judicial Collaborative Service (JCS) to provide a members-only, secure destination for judges to post and edit documents, send messages, and manage projects on-line. The piloted JCS platform proved to be unsuccessful, and a new product is being developed in FY 2014.

In the closing months of FY 2013, the team prepared to accelerate processes relating to Judicial Council policy and legislative development to better communicate and promote judicial branch initiatives to legislators and the Governor.

Court Services Division
Many AOC core functions involving daily contact with judges, clerks, court administrators, and other court system professionals fall under the Court Services Division.

The **Office of Accountability Courts and Grants Management** supports the Judicial Council Accountability Court Committee which is charged with executing responsibilities assigned by the Chief Justice and prior criminal justice reform legislation. Initial operational and treatment standards for felony drug and mental health courts were adopted and later revised by the Judicial Council. Standards for other accountability courts (juvenile, family, DUI) were slated for adoption after the end of the fiscal year. (The current Standards for Georgia Accountability Courts can be found at http://bit.ly/1hqHVWm.)

The certification and peer review processes for felony drug and mental health court programs were adopted in June 2013. Applications for certification were released to these courts immediately after the fiscal year.

Minimum performance measures for adult accountability court programs were identified in HB 1176. Using previously submitted data reports and guidance from the National Drug Court Institute, National Center for State Courts, and Vera Institute of Justice, the Judicial Council identified additional performance measures for adult and other programs.

The Judicial Council sponsored the ninth annual Georgia Accountability Courts Conference on May 20-22, 2013. The Atlanta conference's theme was Setting the Standard: Measuring the Work, Marking Our Progress, and Making a Difference. More than 600 attendees, speakers, and support staff participated in more than 50 workshops and presentations.

The **Office of Certification and Licensing** provides administrative support and registers court professionals for affiliated organizations governing professional qualifications. These professionals include court reporters and court reporting firms, court interpreters for non-English speakers and the hearing impaired, court mediators and neutrals, family violence intervention programs, misdemeanor proba-

Master Jury Lists

During the summer of 2012, Georgia's criminal justice system watched with anticipation as counties began using new jury source lists compiled using a statistical method that greatly increased inclusiveness. The sweeping overhaul of the jury-pool system from county-created jury lists to a master statewide list was the result of groundbreaking legislation sponsored by Rep. Alex Atwood (R-Brunswick) in 2011. The law was enabled by years of study and analysis by the Supreme Court Committee on Jury Composition, led by Justice Hugh Thompson. Working with a consultant, the committee applied sophisticated statistical analysis to millions of public records to ensure that more Georgians are correctly identified on jury lists and are able to exercise their constitutional role as jurors.

From the passage of the legislation until its effective date (July 1, 2012), AOC staff developed rules for creating and using the new master jury lists, while clerks' offices prepared for the enormous, data-intensive task of determining Georgia's jury-eligible population. Once the lists were delivered, local jury and court clerks addressed questions and made the adjustments to accommodate the new system. Prosecutors studied the constitutional ramifications of the lists and successfully defended the constitutionality of several county master jury lists. Feedback on the rollout of the first state and county master lists led to changes in the processing of source lists that improved the accuracy of the 2013 master jury lists.

tion providers, and private process servers. The Office issued registrations and licenses for nearly 5,000 individuals and businesses during the year.

To improve services to these professionals and businesses and permit real time access to their registration processes and records, the AOC initiated development of an online application that decreases processing time from hours to minutes. As a baseline to compare current and future licensing processes and customer service, the AOC surveyed client groups' satisfaction with current registration and renewal procedures. The project will roll out in phases in FY 2014 and 2015.

Court Interpreters
To assist non-English or limited English speakers and deaf or hearing-impaired people using Georgia courts, interpreters must be specially trained as court support professionals to ensure equal access to justice for these individuals.

In FY 2013, the AOC assisted with four interpreter candidate orientation sessions and four written and two oral exams. Fifteen new interpreters in three languages (Spanish, Portuguese, and Vietnamese) were certified or conditionally approved. There are 149 certified and conditionally approved interpreters in Amharic, Bosnian, Cantonese, Farsi, Haitian-Creole, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese. In addition, there are eight sign language interpreting firms currently certified to operate in Georgia.

On behalf of the Supreme Court Commission on Interpreters, an early assessment of language access needs and programs was undertaken to inform development of a state language access plan. The commission considered whether to require court interpreters to fulfill continuing education requirements. Funded through an appropriation by the General Assembly, a Remote Interpreting Pilot Project was initiated in two courts to evaluate the feasibility of providing long-distance, video court interpretation services in areas with limited access to interpreters. The pilot will be completed in FY 2014.

Court Neutrals
The Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution (GODR) administratively supports the Commission on Dispute Resolution in its oversight of local, court-connected programs offering alternatives to traditional litigation. Those alternatives – mediation, non-binding arbitration, and case evaluation – give litigants lower-cost and more participatory choices for resolving their differences, and they help redirect scarce court resources for adversarial cases.

The state's 2,000 neutrals must receive three hours of continuing education credits each year to maintain registered status. GODR provides year-round training opportunities including a series of online videos and publishes *Be Neutral*, an online newsletter that presents topical issues and services for registered neutrals.

The December 2012 Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute had a record-breaking 257 participants attending the conference in Atlanta, live broadcasts in Savannah and Tifton, and a subsequent video viewing in Macon.

Court Reporters and Firms
Court reporters are responsible for producing a verbatim record of court proceedings. In Georgia, most court reporters are certified in one of two methods – machine shorthand or closed microphone – with some certified at various skill levels within the method.

Fulton County Court Improvement Task Force

An AOC team concluded its year-long support of a study of superior and state court administration in Fulton County. Composed of court officials, county commissioners, attorneys, community representatives and local legislators, the Fulton County Court Improvement Task Force released its Final Report and Recommendations on September 28, 2012. The report discussed the critical need for innovation in the courts and outlined several recommendations – customer service, transparency, accountability, budget independence, collaboration, and elimination of redundancies. The report, appendices, list of members, and other information about the task force can be found at:

www.georgiacourts.gov/fulton-taskforce.

During the year, the Judicial Council Court Reporting Matters Committee and the Special Committee on Court Reporting Fees and Processes completed studies of court reporting practices in trial courts to identify potential improvements. The Judicial Council voted to employ technology and process changes that will support efficiencies for courts, county governing authorities, and court reporters.

The Board of Court Reporting of the Judicial Council made significant changes to its rules governing court reporting firms by revising the licensure process, related definitions, and the description of professional services. The Board clarified the prohibition of certain contracts for court reporting services and delineated disclosure and grievance requirements to promulgate firms' professional and ethical conduct.

Family Violence Intervention Programs
There are 106 certified family violence intervention programs operating in 168 locations across the state. These programs, located in 43 judicial circuits and 70 counties, are the only programs certified to teach



Georgia Commission on Family Violence meeting, March 2013

domestic violence intervention classes. Certified programs must comply with state requirements for victim safety, participant completion and termination, and general liability insurance.

Additionally, every class must be facilitated by a person who has met the state's education and background requirements.

Misdemeanor Probation Providers
In addition to routine activities relating to regulatory compliance, the County and Municipal Probation Advisory Council staff participated in the state Department of Audits and Accounts' performance audit of misdemeanor probation providers. The 89 misdemeanor probation providers registered in Georgia employ an average of 1,400 individuals and manage an average of 320,000 cases.

Private Process Servers
Since 2011, the AOC has been responsible for testing private process servers. During FY 2013, the AOC administered two written examinations on Georgia law and procedures as a condition of eligibility for private process servers to apply for full certification or appointment by designated courts. Of 157 persons applying for the state exam, 143 persons passed. The certification

License Type	Registrations/Certifications		Compliance/Discipline Actions	
	Total New Applicants	Total Registered	Total Investigations	Total Disciplined
Court interpreter	113	177		
Court process server	157	143		
Court reporter	52	1,039	20	0*
Court reporting firm	6	115		1**
Family violence intervention program provider	4	168		
Mediator/Neutral	300	1,849		
Misdemeanor probation provider	3	89	21	11
Total	635	3,580	41	12

*One complaint remains under Board review from FY 2013.
**Disciplinary sanctions against the court reporting firm were issued in FY 2013, however the complaint originated in FY 2012.

program operates in partnership with county sheriffs and the Georgia Sheriffs' Association (GSA), which is charged with maintaining a registry of all certified process servers.

The **Office of Children, Families, and the Courts** encompasses several multiagency initiatives targeted at improving court services for vulnerable populations. A goal of the federal- and state-funded Committee on Justice for Children throughout its 17-year span is improved automation and information sharing of deprivation case records. As a result of ongoing development, the Case Processing Reporting System enables 1,500 case managers, child advocates, attorneys, and judges to share child abuse and neglect information. In February 2013, the state Department of Education began sharing education data for more than 4,000 foster children through the system.

An ongoing contract with the Division of Child Support Services (DCSS), Department of Human Services, precipitates coordination between the judicial and executive branches to enhance child support services and collections. Through the contract, the AOC administratively supports the Georgia Child Support Commission in its work to review and engage stakeholders in modifications to child support guidelines. During the year, twenty-three trainings were conducted for judges, attorneys, law office staff, and domestic violence advocates in 22 locations around the state. Specific attention on pro se litigants and mediators targeted calculation of child support using the approved form.

Training for judges and attorneys focused on the law and how to use the electronic calculator tool.

By the end of FY 2013, 89 counties had electronically filed child support establishment orders and other documents between DCSS offices and superior courts.

Judicial Council/AOC Strategic Plan

In late 2012, AOC Director Marla S. Moore asked the Judicial Council leadership to join the AOC in developing a strategic plan to guide the council and AOC during the period FY 2014 to FY 2016. A consultant led working sessions in January, April, and June 2013 while interviewing multiple stakeholders. As a result of those meetings and interviews, the Judicial Council Strategic Planning Committee drafted a mission statement, goals and guiding principles for the strategic plan:

Mission
The Judicial Council and AOC lead collaboration on policy across Georgia's courts to improve the administration of justice in Georgia.

Vision
To improve justice in all Georgia courts through collaboration, innovation, and information.

Guiding Principles
- Uphold the independence and integrity of the judiciary.
- Promote efficient and effective administration of justice.
- Support informed, fact-based decisions that affect the courts.
- Collaborate with key stakeholders in judicial, executive, and legislative branches.

Under the strategic plan, the Judicial Council and the AOC would serve three key functions: as collaborative forums for all classes of courts; as leaders in statewide judicial policy formulation; and as Georgia's premier judicial information resources. Strategic objectives were identified as: improving collaboration and planning; building thought leadership; and improving citizen experience with the courts.

The Chief Justice and AOC Director were tasked with three responsibilities: directing the implementation of the plan; engaging Judicial Council members for input and participation; and reporting to the Judicial Council on the progress of outcomes.

The Strategic Planning Committee members are: Presiding Judge Sara Doyle, Court of Appeals of Georgia (chair); Judge Mary Staley, Council of Superior Court Judges; Judge Charles Wynne, Council of State Court Judges; Judge J. Lane Bearden, Council of Juvenile Court Judges; Judge Chase Daughtrey, Council of Probate Court Judges; Judge W. Allen Wigington, Council of Magistrate Court Judges; and Judge E.R. Lanier, Council of Municipal Court Judges.

The plan can be viewed at http://bit.ly/1daihDC.

In December 2012, the Commission on Family Violence published the *Georgia State Plan for Ending Family Violence*, a statewide plan to end family violence in coordination with over twenty-eight governmental and non-profit entities. The plan outlines goals, objectives, and initiatives to prevent domestic violence, increase access to safety and support resources, improve community connections and support for at-risk families, enhance interventions with abusive people, and improve system response effectiveness.

Financial Administration Division
The Financial Administration Division assists 29 separate judicial branch programs with tasks including budget preparation and management, payroll administration and audit compliance, and invoicing and accounts payable. It also handles budget inquiries from the Governor and General Assembly on behalf of each Judicial Council budget unit.

Throughout the summer and fall of 2012, the division team assisted the Court of Appeals in converting its fiscal operations to Team Works, the statewide accounting system. Weekly meetings between representatives of the AOC, Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, and the State Accounting Office yielded beneficial inter-agency cooperation. All items related to the Court of Appeals system migration were identified, and the team developed a plan that provided for a smooth transition to the Team Works system.

Information Technology Division
The Information Technology Division develops and supports court automation projects including the Georgia Automated Judicial Exchange (child support e-filing application), the AOC's court information and customer portal, several case management and docketing systems for participating courts, and EXPRESS for e-citation solutions. Internally, staff manages desktop software and equipment, the agency's computer network, e-mail, websites, and listservs. Division staff actively participates in local and national groups such as Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS), Consortium of Court IT Officers (CITOC), Joint Technology Committee (JTC), and Legal XML to define, design, and promote judicial technology standards.

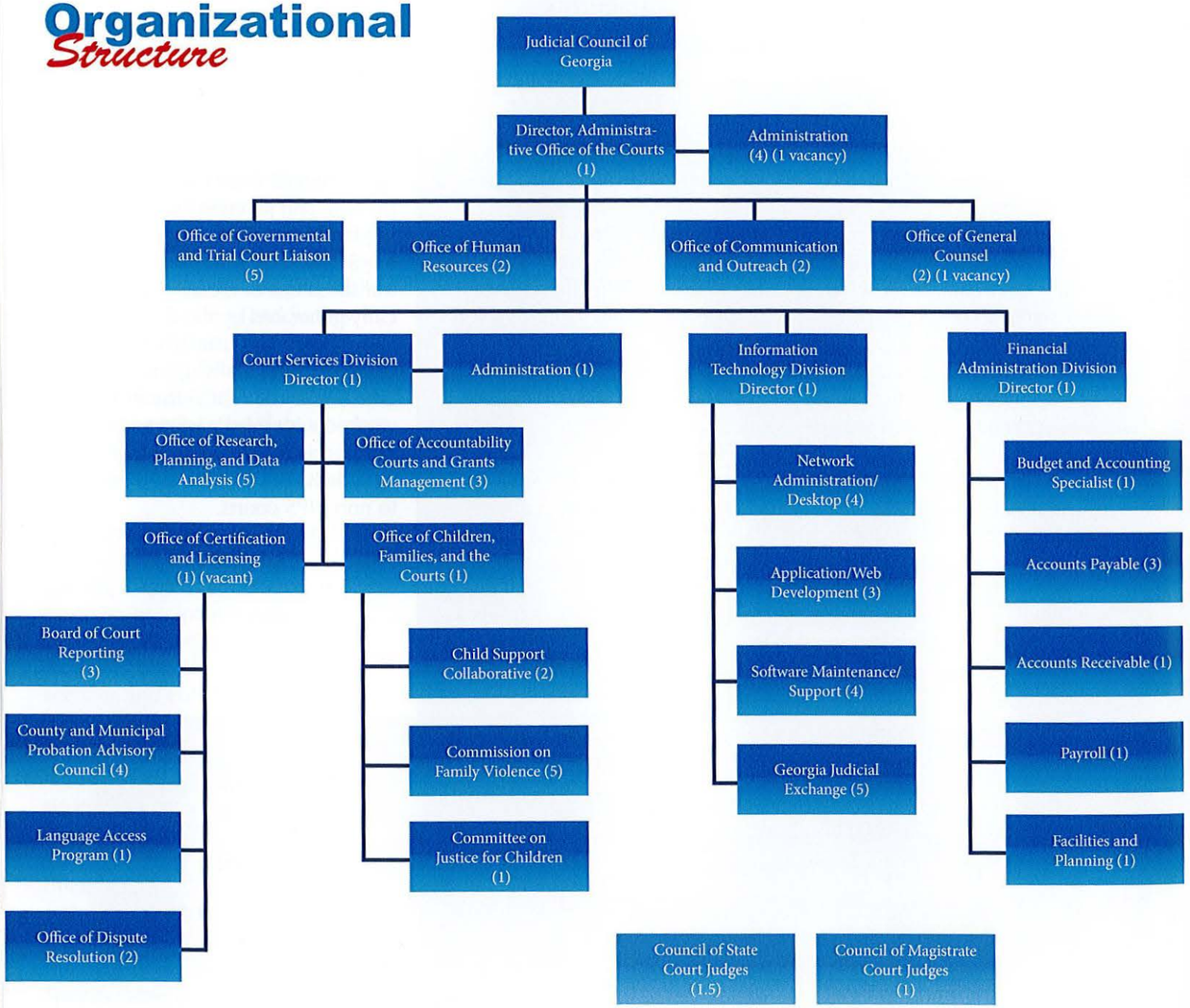
On July 1, 2012, courts -- primarily municipal courts, but some probate and juvenile courts -- using the Traffic Information Processing System (TIPS) received the first transmissions of citations electronically generated by the Georgia State Patrol (GSP). In June 2012, the GSP began automatically uploading its citations to the AOC. The AOC worked with third party vendors to bridge the gap between the citation data delivered through its platform to non-TIPS courts.

Statewide Judiciary Civil E-Filing Steering Committee

In June 2012, the Supreme Court established the Statewide Judiciary Civil E-Filing Steering Committee to lead development and implementation of a system that allows court documents to be filed electronically in all classes of court. Throughout FY 2013, AOC staff worked closely with the committee to draft legislation for implementing statewide civil E-filing. While the project did not receive funding during the 2013 session of the General Assembly, the Judicial Council will continue to seek funding during the 2014 session.

Administrative Office of the Courts

Organizational Structure



AOC and affiliated organizations as of July 2013

Georgia Courts *Year in Review*

JULY

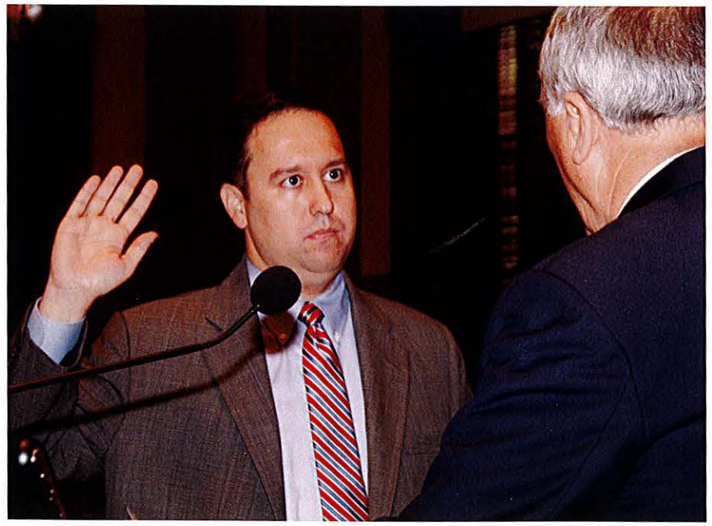
Statewide Master Jury Lists Disseminated
The first statewide master jury lists were distributed to Georgia counties through the new Georgia Jury Management Software System (GAJury). GAJury automatically compiles a list of residents eligible for jury service in a given county from the statewide master list, ensuring that inclusive and representative jury lists are drawn. Douglas County became the first county to successfully draw a list of potential jurors using GAJury. The county list was used to seat a jury for an August capital trial.

Electronic Citations Delivered
Courts using the Traffic Information Processing System (TIPS) began receiving Georgia State Patrol (GSP) citations in electronic form via the new GSP/AOC Citations Web Service

Judicial Council Membership Increased
The Supreme Court amended the membership of the Judicial Council to include the president-elect of the Council of Municipal Court Judges, raising the number of members to 26.

Educational Summit for Court-Involved Children
The Supreme Court Committee on Justice for Children and the Troup County Juvenile Court hosted a two-day summit in LaGrange entitled "Conditioned for Success: Improving Educational Outcomes for Court- and Agency-Involved Children."

Blackwell Joins Supreme Court
Judge Keith Blackwell was sworn in as an associate justice of the Supreme Court by Gov. Nathan Deal. His appointment filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Chief Justice George H. Carley on July 17, 2012. Justice Blackwell had served on the Court of Appeals since November 10, 2010.


Justice Keith Blackwell


Judge William Ray II


Judge Elizabeth Branch

SEPTEMBER

Two Judges Join Court of Appeals
Two new judges of the Court of Appeals were sworn in by Gov. Nathan Deal. Judge William Ray II, Superior Court, Gwinnett Judicial Circuit, filled the vacancy created by the elevation of Judge Keith Blackwell to the Supreme Court. Attorney Elizabeth Branch filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Charles B. Mikell, Jr.

Judicial Council Meets
The Judicial Council met in Forsyth, Georgia, to discuss the need for additional superior court judgeships and approve standards for accountability courts. The Council recommended the creation of an additional judgeship for the Chattahoochee and Oconee judicial circuits.

Statewide Family Violence Conference
The Georgia Commission on Family Violence sponsored the 18th Annual Statewide Family Violence Conference in Macon. The conference, entitled "Safety, Autonomy & Accountability: Envisioning a Society Without Violence," attracted more than 300 attendees.

Georgia Team Attends National Language Access Conference

Georgia was among 49 states, three territories, and the District of Columbia that sent teams to Houston, Texas, to discuss and learn about language access issues in the courts, October 1-3, 2012. Georgia's team members were Justice Harold D. Melton, Supreme Court; Judge Melodie Clayton, State Court of Cobb County; Ms. Marla S. Moore, AOC Director; Ms. Linda Smith, Program Manager, Language Access Programs; and Mr. Antonio DelCampo, Esq., Commission on Interpreters.

Justice Melton said of the summit, "We realized at the conference that we all shared common struggles to reach common goals of providing quality language access to the justice system. More importantly, by sharing our struggles, we were able to come away with both a practical vision and practical steps toward seeing that vision fulfilled."


Interpreter Paul Williamson assists in a trial proceeding from Atlanta.

OCTOBER

Remote Interpreting Pilot Launches
The AOC launched its Remote Interpreting Pilot Project. The pilot, funded by a $45,439 appropriation from the General Assembly, connects certified interpreters to remote courts via computer, video and audio feeds. Selected interpreters provide interpretation for litigants with limited English proficiency from the AOC office in Atlanta to courts in the Augusta and Southwestern judicial circuits.

National Symposium on Language Access
The National Symposium on Language Access in Houston, Texas, brought together national leaders in language access to train state teams on issues such as language access plans, remote interpreting, developing resources, training, and technology considerations. Georgia sent a team of five to the symposium where work began on a statewide plan.

DECEMBER

40th Biennial Institute for Georgia Legislators
AOC representatives attended the 40th Biennial Institute for Georgia Legislators where they spoke about the judiciary with members of the General Assembly and legislative staff, state officials, and leaders of other organizations.

Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform Report
The Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform issued its second report, focusing on statewide juvenile justice reform.

JANUARY

Accountability Court Standards Take Effect
Statewide operational standards for felony drug and mental health courts went into effect.

Judicial Council Meets
The Judicial Council met in Atlanta in conjunction with the mid-year meeting of the State Bar of Georgia. Members discussed legislative initiatives for the 2013 General Assembly session and revised rules for the Board of Court Reporting.


Judge Carla Wong McMillian

Judge McMillian Joins Court of Appeals
Judge Carla Wong McMillian, State Court, Fayette County, was sworn in to the Court of Appeals by Gov. Nathan Deal. Judge McMillian is the first Asian-American to serve on either of Georgia's appellate courts.

CourTools Training
The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and the AOC hosted a three-day training session on Court Performance Standards: CourTools, a performance measurement method that allows courts to track their success in meeting customer expectations. Thirty AOC staff and nine trial court administrators participated in the training, with six becoming certified to teach the course.

Judicial Council, AOC Honored for 40 Years of Service
Both houses of the General Assembly issued resolutions commending the Judicial Council and AOC for their 40-year commitment to the efficient and fair administration of justice.

FEBRUARY

State of the Judiciary Address
Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein delivered her final State of the Judiciary address to a joint legislative session.

Jury Composition Rule Issued
The Supreme Court issued a temporary jury composition rule to allow refinements to statewide data used to compile county jury lists through the GAJury system. New county master lists were to be delivered in late June 2013.

European-American Prison Project
Three judges were part of a Georgia contingent that spent a week in Europe visiting correctional facilities and exchanging ideas and strategies with officials and policy makers. Chief Judge Brenda S. Weaver, Superior Courts, Appalachian Judicial Circuit; Judge David Emerson, Superior Court, Douglas Judicial Circuit; and Judge Stephen Goss, Superior Court, Dougherty Judicial Circuit, toured two prison facilities in Germany and two in the Netherlands to experience how European justice systems deal with criminal behavior.

Georgia Bar, Media and Judiciary Conference
The AOC again co-sponsored the 2013 Georgia Bar, Media and Judiciary Conference was held February 23 in Atlanta. The theme of the 22nd annual conference was "Georgia Judges, Journalists, Lawyers and the First Amendment: A Primer on Friending the Digital Revolution." The conference included a panel discussion on the state's criminal justice reform efforts that included speakers Chief Justice Carol Hunstein and Court of Appeals Judge Mike Boggs.

MARCH

National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts
Justice Robert Benham and AOC Director Marla S. Moore attended the National Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts in Washington, D.C.

APRIL

Judicial Council Meets
The Judicial Council met in Atlanta and adopted recommendations on court reporting fees and processes.

National Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
Atlanta hosted the National Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Conference, sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Over 500 people attended, including seven Georgia juvenile court judges and their JDAI teams.

Human Trafficking and the State Courts Collaborative
The first meeting of the Human Trafficking and State Courts Collaborative was held with stakeholders, judges, and prosecutors to determine the course of the collaborative's work in Georgia.

MAY

40 Years in 40 Days
A 40-day retrospective began on the 40 years of service to courts by the Judicial Council and AOC. Daily posts to @GACourts on Facebook and Twitter detailed the history, highlights, trends, and future of the Judicial Council and AOC.

Accountability Courts Conference
Nearly 650 officials and professionals serving all types of problem-solving courts attended the Annual Accountability Courts Conference in Atlanta. The theme of the conference was "Setting the Standard: Measuring the Work, Marking Our Progress, and Making a Difference." Eight "Accountability Court Heroes" were recognized for special contributions to their stakeholder courts.

JUNE

Judicial Council Meets
The Judicial Council met in Atlanta, where members approved revised and additional accountability court standards and court certifications.

Supreme Court E-filing Announced
The Supreme Court notified attorneys of mandatory e-filing beginning August 1, 2013.

Distinguished Service Award
National Center for State Courts President Mary McQueen presented AOC Director Marla S. Moore with the NCSC's 2012 Distinguished Service Award.



Speaker of the House, David Ralston, speaks at the opening of the Annual Accountability Courts Conference sponsored by the Judicial Council.

AOC Director Receives Prestigious Award

The National Center for State Courts (NCSC) awarded AOC Director Marla S. Moore its 2012 Distinguished Service Award. The award, one of NCSC's highest, is presented annually to those who have made significant contributions to the justice system and who have supported the NCSC's mission.

NCSC President Mary McQueen presented the award to Ms. Moore on June 14, 2013, in Atlanta. Ms. McQueen recognized Ms. Moore's mission to ensure equal judicial access for vulnerable populations in Georgia and nationally. The NCSC Board of Directors selected Ms. Moore because of her demonstrated ability to bring people together toward a common goal. The board cited Ms. Moore's work with language access and jury reform, as well as her introduction of performance measures and transparency at the AOC.

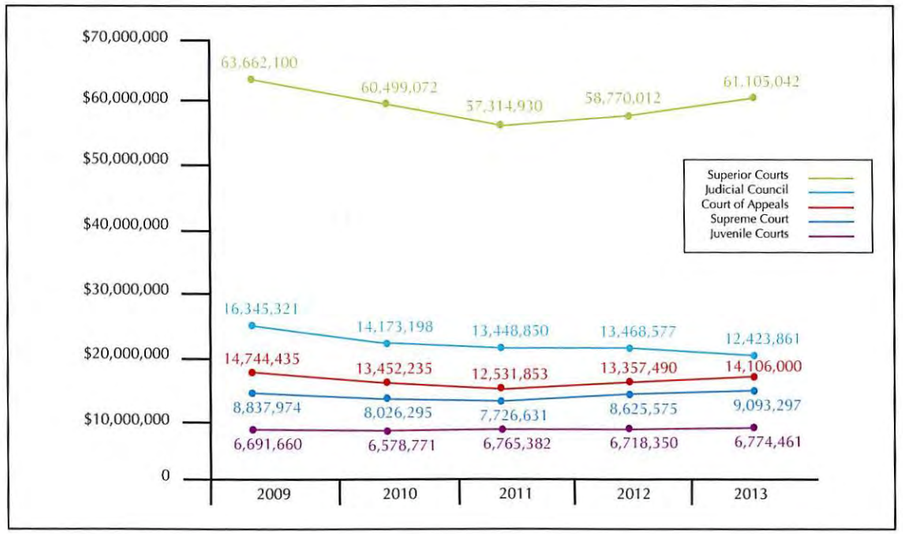
Chief Justice Carol W. Hunstein said of Ms. Moore, "Since taking the reins of the AOC, Marla has made it clear that the agency represents every class of court in this state."


Ms. Mary McQueen, NCSC President, presents AOC Director Marla S. Moore with the Distinguished Service Award.

Georgia Courts *Budgets*

Courts	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	% Change 2009 - 2013
Supreme Court	8,837,974	8,026,295	7,726,631	8,625,575	9,093,297	3%
Court of Appeals	14,744,435	13,452,235	12,531,853	13,357,490	14,106,000	-5%
Superior Courts	63,622,100	60,499,072	57,314,930	58,770,012	61,105,042	-4%
Juvenile Courts	6,691,660	6,578,771	6,765,382	6,718,350	6,774,461	1%
Judicial Council	16,345,321	14,173,198	13,448,850	13,468,577	12,423,861	-32%

State Funding FY 2009 - 2013



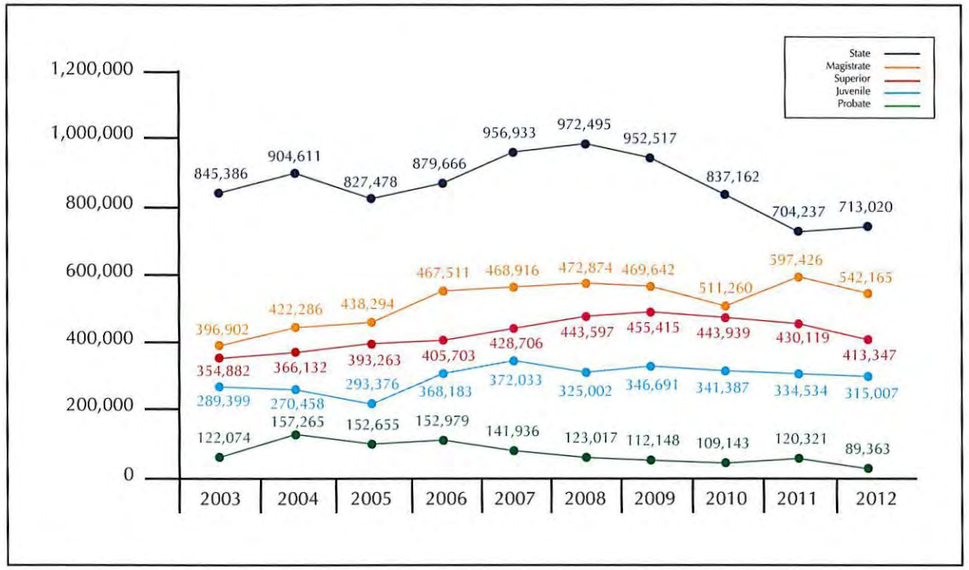
Georgia Courts *Caseload*

Courts	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Superior	354,882	366,132	393,263	405,703	428,706	443,597	455,415	443,939	430,119	413,347
State	845,386	904,611	827,478	879,666	956,933	972,495	952,517	837,162	704,237	713,020
Juvenile	122,074	157,265	152,655	152,979	141,936	123,017	112,148	109,143	120,321	89,363
Probate	289,399	270,458	293,376	368,183	372,033	325,002	346,691	341,387	334,534	315,007
Magistrate	396,902	422,286	438,294	467,511	468,916	472,874	469,642	511,260	597,426	542,165
Total	2,008,643	2,120,752	2,105,066	2,274,042	2,368,524	2,336,985	2,336,413	2,242,891	2,186,637	2,072,902

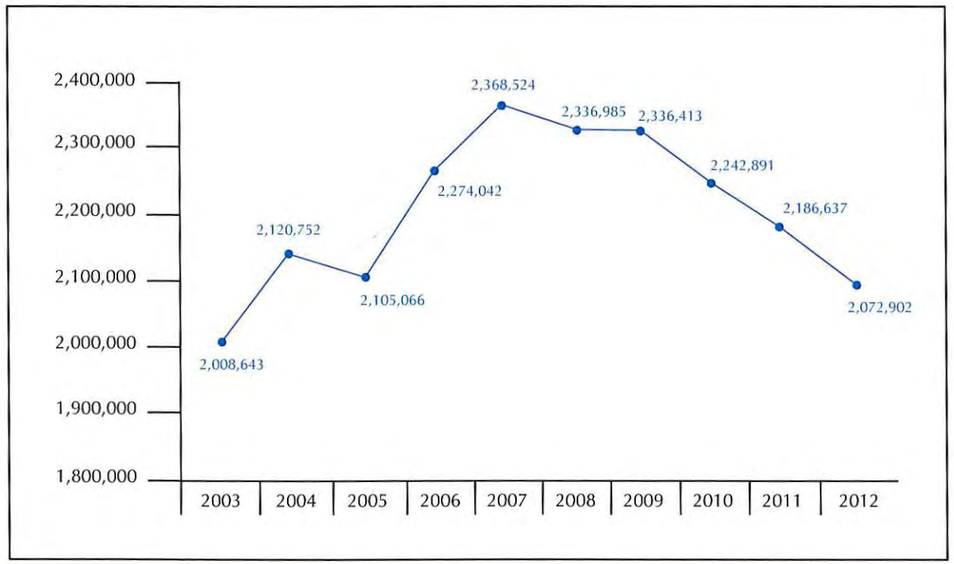
Since 1976, the Administrative Office of the Courts has collected caseload data from Georgia courts to inform policy and decision-making. Recommendations to the General Assembly for new superior court judgeships are determined from circuit caseload and Judicial Council methodology.

Since 2003, Georgia's trial court caseload has held steady at close to 2 million cases. Caseload for superior, state, juvenile, probate, and magistrate courts peaked in 2007 at 2,368,524; in 2012 caseload dropped to 2,072,902 nearing its 2003 total of 2,008,643.

Filings by Court



Total Filings



Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of Georgia, the state's highest court, is composed of a Chief Justice, a Presiding Justice, and five Justices. The court's primary function is to review decisions made in a lower trial or appellate court. The Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction over election contests and questions of elections or constitutionality of laws and has general appellate jurisdiction over cases involving title to land; equity; wills; habeas corpus; extraordinary remedies; divorce and alimony; and cases in which a sentence of death was or could be imposed.

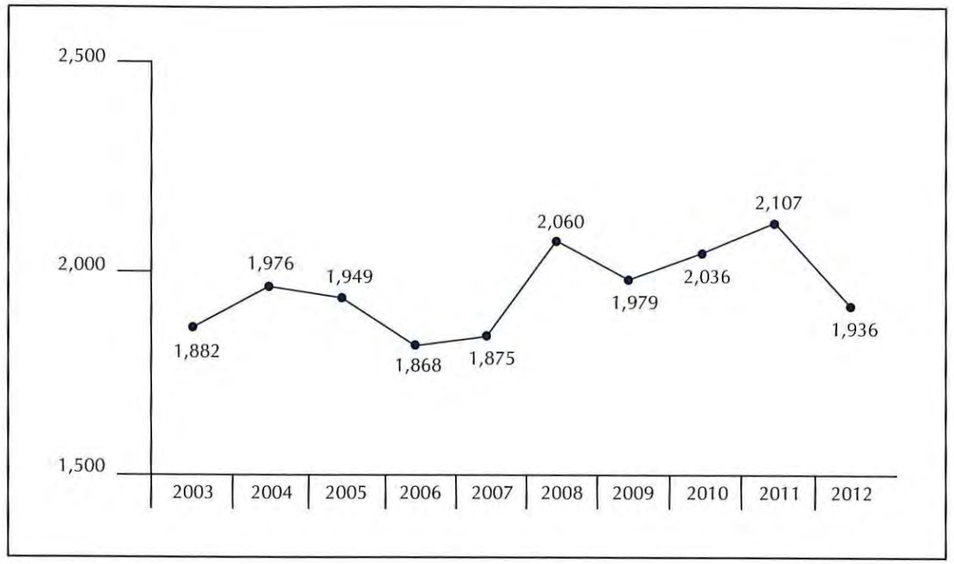
Cases are assigned to one of the seven justices for preparation of opinions. The draft opinion is circulated to all other justices for study; after discussion en banc the opinion is adopted or rejected by vote of the justices.

Cases Filed	2011	2012
Direct Appeals	477	471
Cross Appeals	13	5
Rule 34(4)(F)	14	19
Death Penalty	5	1
Petitions for Certiorari	531	534
Granted Petitions for Certiorari	48	50
Certified Questions	10	6
Applications for Appeal		
Habeas Corpus	360	313
Discretionary	291	245
Interlocutory	58	40
Interim Review	1	2
Attorney Disciplinaries	139	114
Bar Admissions	3	7[1]
Original Petitions	11	18
Emergency Motions	7	6
Execution Matters	4	5
Death Penalty Habeas Corpus	3	5
Unauthorized Practice/ Formal Advisory	0	0
Time Extensions	80	64
Judicial Qualifications	9	NR
Appointments of Special Master	43	31
Total	**2,107**	**1,936**

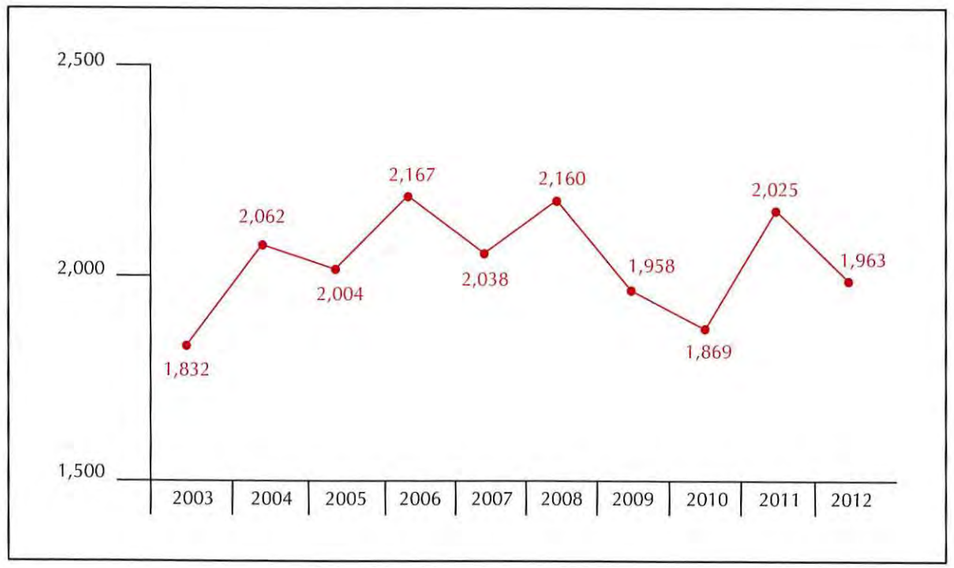
Cases Disposed	2011	2012
By Opinion	314	231
Affirmed without Opinion	3	6
Stricken from Docket	4	2
Allowed Withdrawn	24	14
Transferred to Court of Appeals	97	86
Appeals Dismissed	122	90
Cross Appeals	NR	13
Rule 34(4)(F)	NR	18
Death Penalty	NR	5
Certified Questions	NR	9
Petition for Certiorari		
Granted	54	50
Denied	423	448
Other	60	36
Habeas Corpus Applications		
Death Penalty	5	6
Granted	13	9
Denied	264	263
Dismissed	68	171
Other	7	6
Discretionary Applications		
Granted	46	48
Denied	104	78
Dismissed	65	68
Transferred to Court of Appeals	63	43
Other	6	11
Interlocutory Applications		
Granted	9	7
Denied	14	20
Dismissed	8	7
Transferred to Court of Appeals	10	12
Other	1	1
Interim Review		
Granted	0	0
Denied	1	2
Executions	4	5
Extraordinary Motions		
Granted	0	0
Denied	5	3
Transferred to Court of Appeals	2	2
Dismissed	9	0
Attorney Discipline	123	115
State Bar	0	1
Bar Admissions	5	1
Judicial Qualifications	10	5
Miscellaneous Cases	82	71
Total	**2,025**	**1,963**

NR = Not Reported.

Supreme Court Filings 2003 - 2012



Supreme Court Dispositions 2003 - 2012



Court of Appeals

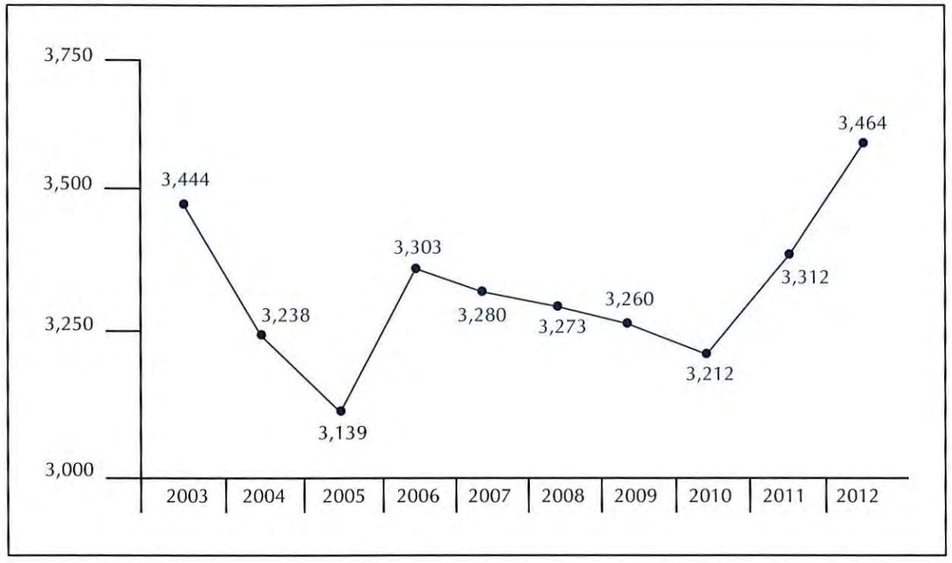
The Court of Appeals, made up of twelve judges, has constitutional jurisdiction over appeals from superior, state, and juvenile courts in all cases where exclusive jurisdiction is not reserved to the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Each case appealed to the court is heard by a panel of three judges. The Chief Judge of the court appoints a Presiding Judge and assigns two other judges to each panel. If a judge of a panel dissents, the case is assigned to a larger panel for decision.

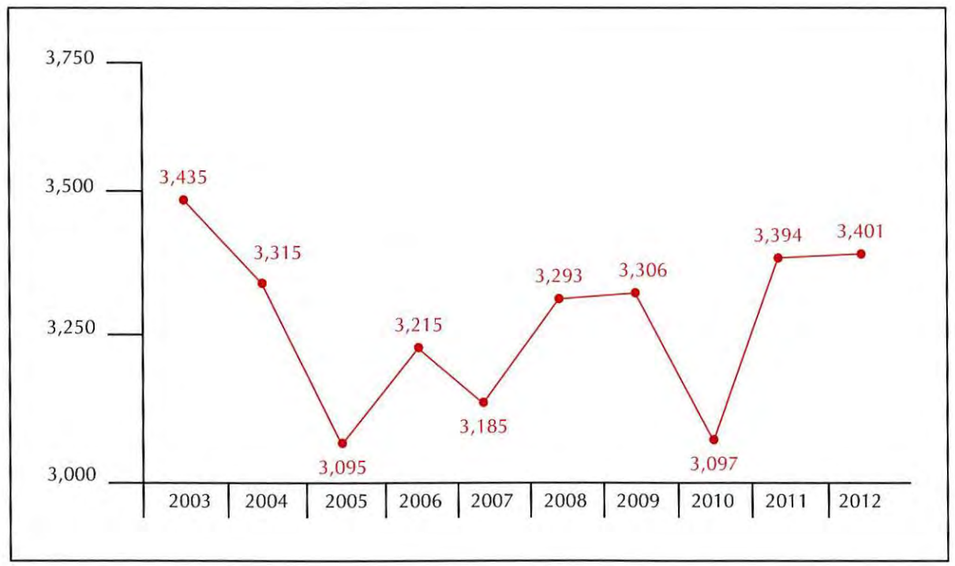
Filings	2011	2012
Direct Appeals	2,434	2,588
Discretionary Applications	517	504
Interlocutory Applications	346	346
40 (b) Motions	15	26
Total	**3,312**	**3,464**

Dispositions	2011	2012
Direct Appeals	2,522	2,526
Discretionary Applications	497	502
Interlocutory Applications	349	347
40 (b) Motions	26	26
Total	**3,394**	**3,401**

Court of Appeals Filings 2003 - 2012



Court of Appeals Dispositions 2003 - 2012



Superior Courts

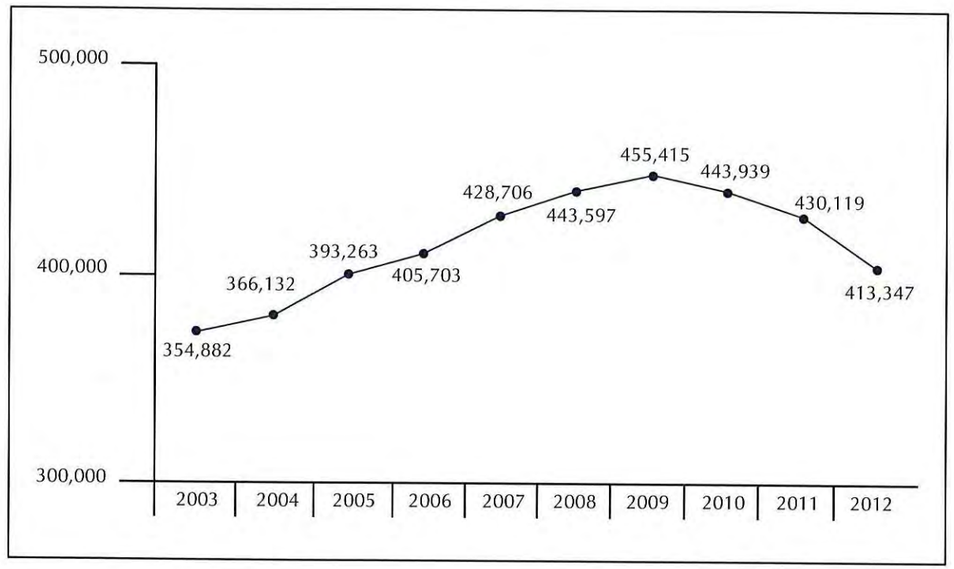
The 159 superior courts are general jurisdiction trial courts exercising both civil and criminal jurisdiction. Superior court judges hear all felony cases, domestic relations cases, equity cases and other civil matters. Superior courts have jurisdiction to hear appeals from lower courts as provided by the Georgia Constitution including appeals of judgments from the probate and magistrate courts that are handled as *de novo* appeals.

The superior courts are organized into 49 judicial circuits made up of one or more counties. Judicial circuits and new superior court judgeships are established by act of the General Assembly.

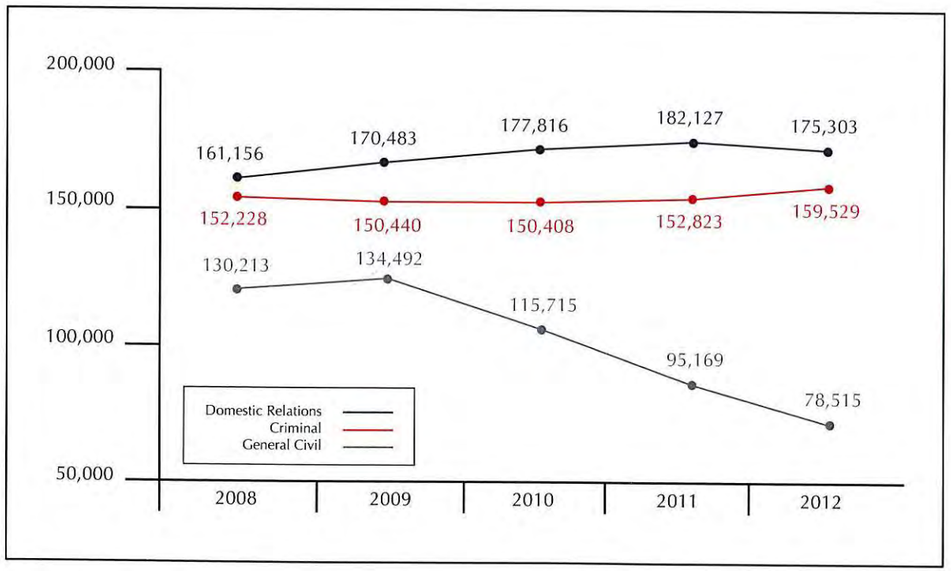
Superior court judges are constitutional officers who are elected to four-year terms in circuit-wide nonpartisan elections. Senior superior court judges may hear cases as assigned in any circuit.

	CY 2011	CY 2012
Total Criminal Dockets Filed	152,823	159,529
Serious Felony Dockets Filed	10,350	8,659
Felony Dockets Filed	70,152	75,177
Unified Appeals	50	49
Misdemeanor Dockets Filed	23,694	29,138
Probation Revocation	48,577	46,506
Total Civil Dockets Filed	277,296	253,818
General Civil Dockets Filed	95,169	78,515
Domestic Relations Dockets Filed	182,127	175,303
Total Dockets Filed	**430,119**	**413,347**

Superior Court Total Filings 2003 - 2012



Superior Court Filings by Type 2008 - 2012



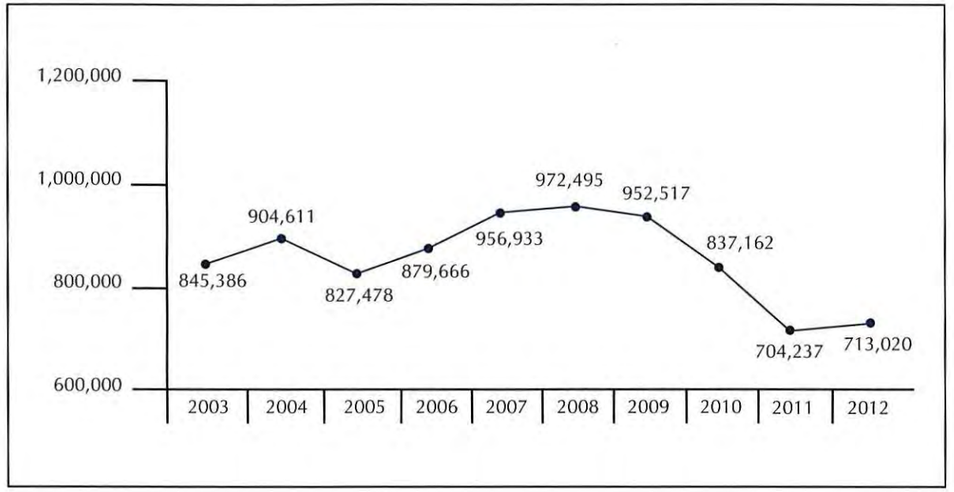
State Courts

State courts are county courts that exercise limited jurisdiction. State court judges have criminal jurisdiction over misdemeanor offenses, felony preliminary hearings, traffic violations, application and issuance of search and arrest warrants. Civil matters not reserved exclusively to the superior courts are also adjudicated in state courts. Appeals of judgments from the magistrate courts may be sent to the state court and handled as a *de novo* appeal.

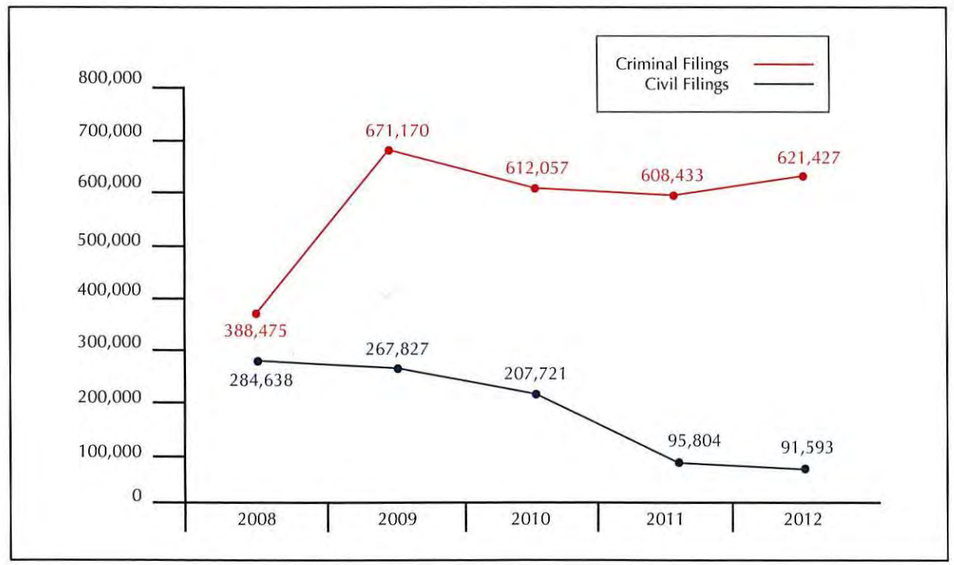
The General Assembly creates state courts by local legislation establishing the number of judges and their status as full-time or part-time. State court judges are elected to four-year terms in countywide, nonpartisan elections.

	CY 2011	CY 2012
Serious Traffic		
Open	26,628	27,867
Filed	32,453	40,221
Disposed	27,770	36,347
Non-Traffic Misdemeanors		
Open	80,298	81,283
Filed	100,354	101,291
Disposed	97,133	99,713
Probation Revocations		
Open	19,189	21,212
Filed	36,715	36,614
Disposed	27,361	24,785
Other Traffic		
Open	138,223	144,906
Filed	438,911	443,301
Disposed	399,105	387,997
Landlord/Tenant Disputes		
Open	706	456
Filed	1,361	1,113
Disposed	1,315	870
Other Civil		
Open	82,959	64,749
Filed	94,443	90,480
Disposed	112,631	88,253
Total		
Open	**348,003**	**340,473**
Filed	**704,237**	**713,020**
Disposed	**665,315**	**637,965**

State Court Total Filings 2003 - 2012



State Court Criminal and Civil Filings 2008 - 2012



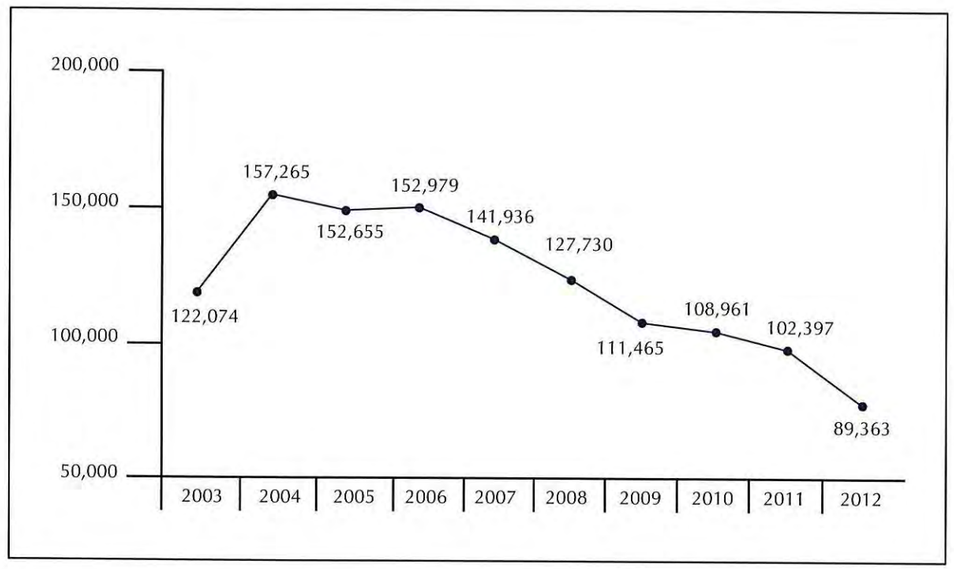
Juvenile Courts

Jurisdiction of the juvenile courts extends to delinquent and unruly children under 17 years of age and deprived and neglected children under 18 years of age. Juvenile court judges have jurisdiction over minors who commit traffic violations, request consent to marry, or enlist in the armed forces. Juvenile courts have concurrent jurisdiction with superior courts in child custody and child support cases and in proceedings to terminate parental rights. Certain serious violent felonies committed by juveniles may be tried in superior court.

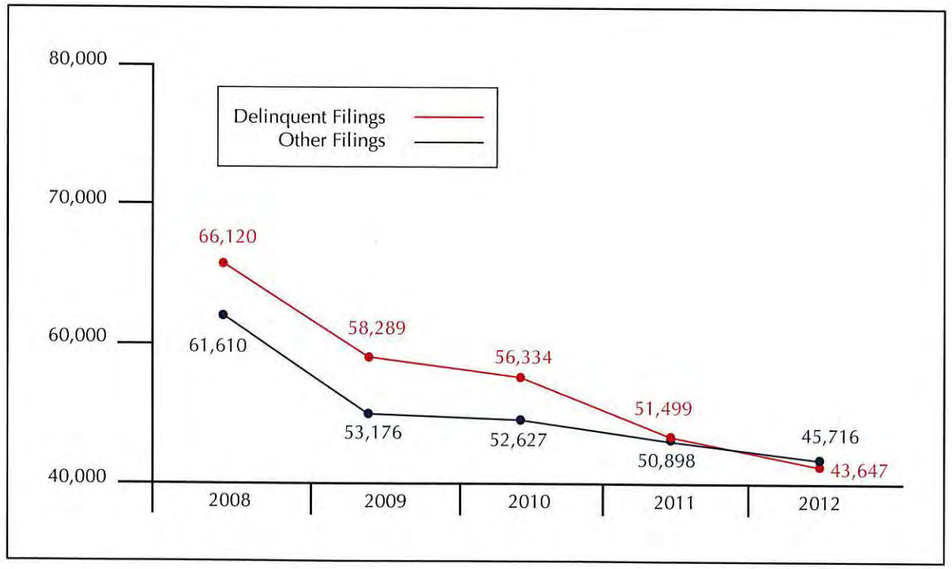
In 48 of the state's 49 judicial circuits, juvenile court judges are appointed to four-year terms by the circuit's superior court judges. The Floyd Judicial Circuit elects its juvenile court judge to a four-year term.

	CY 2011	CY 2012
Delinquent		
Filed	51,499	43,647
Disposed	48,612	44,032
Open	22,096	19,484
Unruly		
Filed	16,668	14,083
Disposed	14,896	13,498
Open	7,628	6,923
Termination of Parental Rights		
Filed	1,353	1,337
Disposed	1,281	1,226
Open	891	883
Deprived		
Filed	20,889	19,631
Disposed	17,505	17,088
Open	15,572	17,110
Traffic		
Filed	7,704	6,830
Disposed	7,075	6,469
Open	3,552	2,845
Special Proceedings		
Filed	4,284	3,835
Disposed	3,791	3,463
Open	2,650	2,673
Total		
Filed	**102,321**	**89,363**
Disposed	**94,152**	**85,816**
Open	**52,519**	**49,904**

Juvenile Court Total Filings 2003 - 2012



Juvenile Court Delinquent and Other Filings 2008 - 2012



Probate Courts

County probate courts exercise exclusive, original jurisdiction in the probate of wills, administration of estates, appointment of guardians, and involuntary hospitalization of incapacitated adults and other individuals.

Probate court judges are constitutional officers who are elected to four-year terms. All probate court judges administer oaths of office and issue marriage licenses. In some counties probate judges may hold habeas corpus hearings or preside over criminal preliminary hearings. Unless a jury trial is requested, a probate court judge may also hear certain misdemeanors, traffic cases, and violations of state game and fish laws in counties where there is no state court.

In counties with a population of 90,000 or greater, the probate judge must be an attorney meeting the qualifications of a superior court judge. In those counties, jurisdiction is expanded or enhanced to include the right to a jury trial, with appeals directly to the Court of Appeals or Supreme Court.

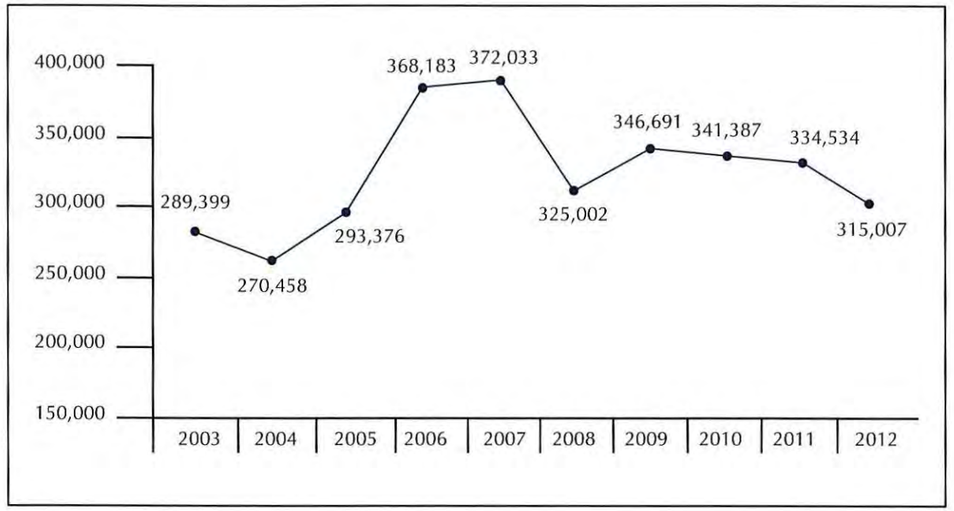
When authorized by local statute, probate judges serve as election supervisors and make appointments to certain local public offices.

In 35 counties, the probate judge also serves as the chief magistrate or a magistrate. As warranted, counties have the option to merge the probate and magistrate courts through local legislation.

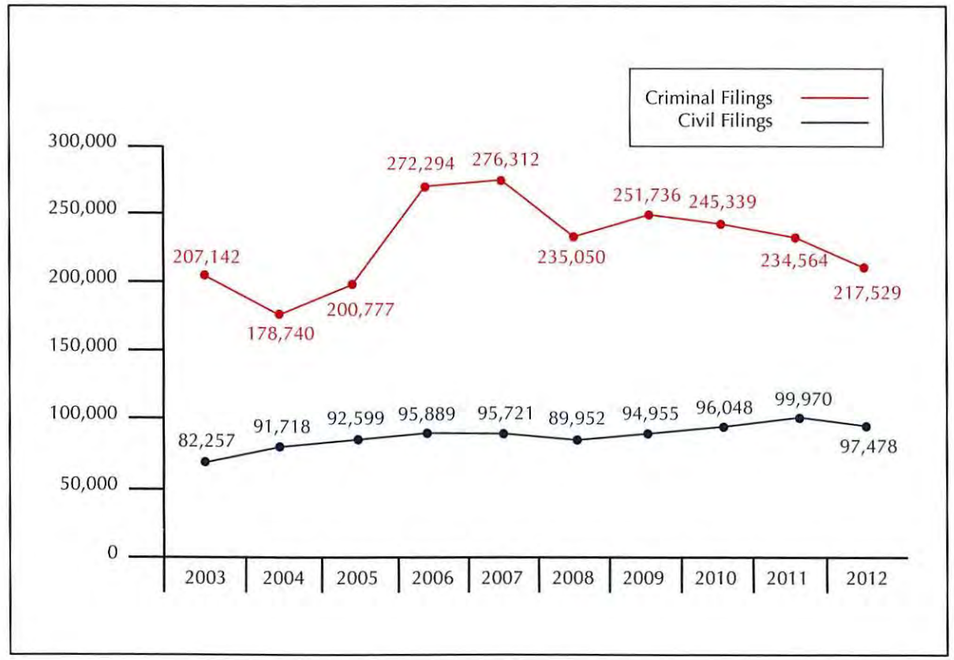
Civil	CY 2011	CY 2012
Letters of Administration	8,193	7,796
No Administration Necessary	692	613
Will Probate	20,584	20,178
Year's Support	2,355	2,078
Guardianship	13,714	12,049
Petitions	651	601
Custodial	21	55
Citations	1,709	1,605
Miscellaneous	31,358	30,878
Inventories	16,938	17,999
Mental Health	3,746	3,590
Habeas Corpus	9	36
Total Dockets	**99,970**	**97,478**
Licenses		
Marriage	73,808	71,563
Firearms	88,937	125,379

Criminal	CY 2011	CY 2012
Misdemeanor		
Filed	39,047	8,458
Disposed		
Guilty Plea	10,727	5,205
Cash Bond	12,996	11,733
Non Trial	13,012	3,204
Bench Trial		
Acquitted	450	426
Convicted	263	184
Traffic		
Filed	195,517	209,071
Disposed		
Guilty Plea	102,189	109,306
Cash Bond	98,820	63,511
Non Trial	17,899	19,789
Bench Trial		
Acquitted	3,506	3,285
Convicted	2,437	2,321
Total		
Filed	**234,564**	**217,529**
Disposed	**262,299**	**218,964**

Probate Court Total Filings 2003 - 2012



Probate Court Criminal and Civil Filings 2003 - 2012



Magistrate Courts

Magistrate court jurisdiction includes: civil claims of $15,000 or less; certain minor criminal offenses; distress warrants and dispossessory writs; county ordinance violations; deposit account fraud (bad checks); preliminary hearings; and summonses, arrest, and search warrants. A chief magistrate, who may be assisted by one or more magistrates, presides over each of Georgia's 159 magistrate courts.

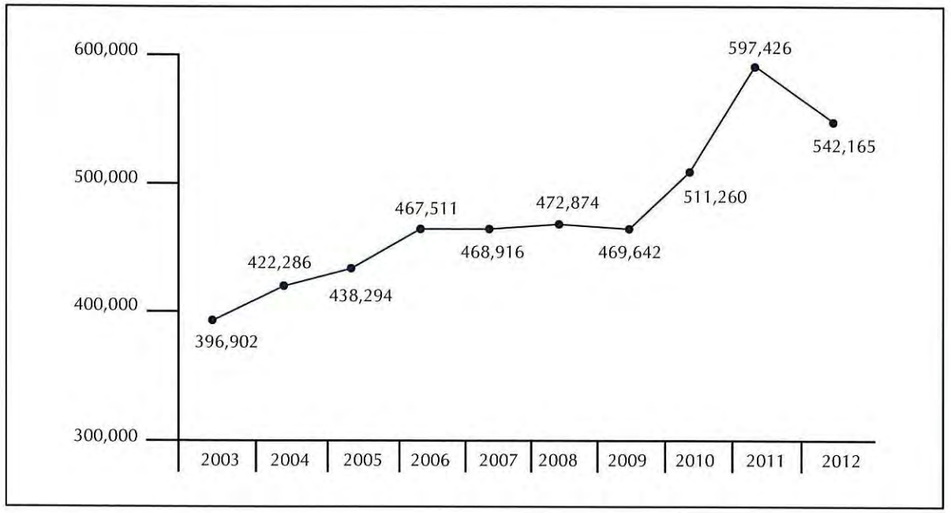
Most chief magistrates are elected in partisan, countywide elections to four-year terms. In some counties, the chief magistrate is appointed by the superior court judges. Terms for other magistrate judges run concurrently with that of the chief magistrate.

In 30 counties, the chief magistrate also serves as the judge of the probate court. As warranted, counties have the option to merge the probate and magistrate courts through local legislation.

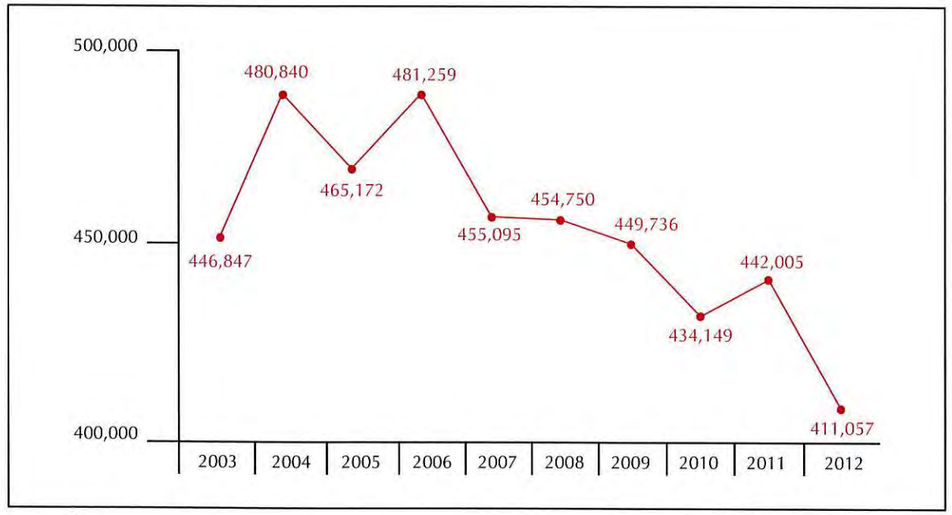
Civil Claims	CY 2011	CY 2012
Filed	242,715	196,346
Disposed		
Non-Trial	144,443	138,178
Trial	41,144	40,391
Dispossessories and Distress Warrants		
Filed	273,192	266,875
Disposed		
Non-Trial	147,500	149,295
Trial	47,455	45,692
Garnishments		
Filed	68,672	67,336
Disposed		
Non-Trial	38,539	37,314
Trial	851	686
Foreclosures and Attachments		
Filed	12,847	11,608
Disposed		
Non-Trial	8,368	7,853
Trial	896	1,074
Total Civil Filings	**597,426**	**542,165**

Criminal	CY 2011	CY 2012
Warrants Issued		
Felony Arrest	146,112	140,998
Misdemeanor Arrest	173,530	168,115
Good Behavior	1,900	1,367
Search Warrant	20,652	13,827
Hearings		
Warrant Application	38,828	35,423
First Appearance	197,031	200,489
Commitment	68,362	54,529
Good Behavior	1,530	1,147
Ordinance Violations		
Filed	71,834	58,899
Disposed		
Non-Trial	17,403	18,926
Trial	32,247	5,995
Misdemeanor		
Filed	27,977	27,851
Disposed		
Non-Trial	8,774	6,801
Trial	2,248	4,279
Criminal & Civil		
Warrants & Filings	442,005	411,057
Hearings & Dispositions	366,423	327,589

Magistrate Court Civil Filings 2003 - 2012



Magistrate Court Criminal Filings 2003 - 2012

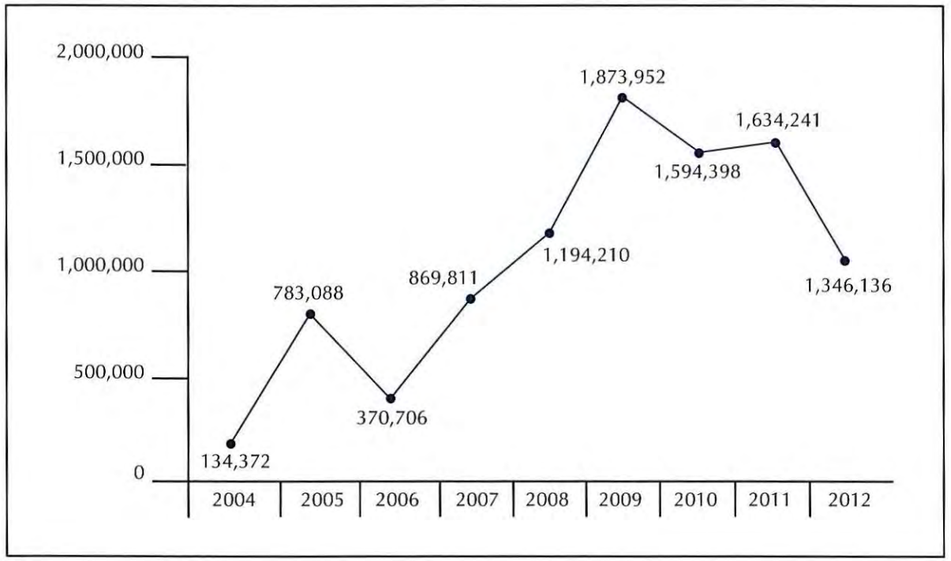


Municipal Courts

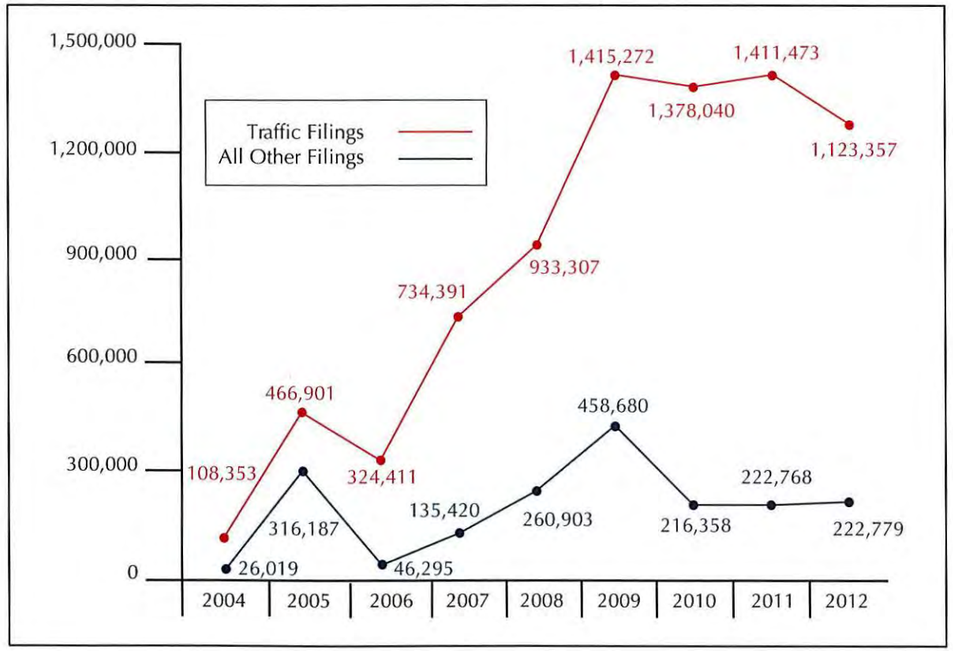
Georgia's municipal courts hear traffic and ordinance violation cases in 400 towns and cities. Municipal court judges also issue criminal warrants, conduct preliminary hearings, and sometimes have concurrent jurisdiction over shoplifting cases and cases involving possession of one ounce or less of marijuana.

	CY 2011	CY 2012
Filings		
Traffic	1,369,259	1,123,357
Ordinance	126,616	87,160
Serious Traffic	42,214	34,175
Drugs	16,922	15,701
Misdemeanors	65,935	76,224
Felony Bindovers	13,295	9,519
Total	**1,634,241**	**1,346,136**
Dispositions		
Traffic	1,094,639	878,313
Ordinance	108,877	77,134
Serious Traffic	41,871	32,585
Drugs	16,986	12,680
Misdemeanors	68,076	54,477
Felony Bindovers	20,314	9,519
Total	**1,350,763**	**1,064,708**

Municipal Court Total Filings 2004 - 2012



Municipal Court Filings by Type 2004 - 2012



Supreme Court

7 justices of the Supreme Court.

4 judges	White Male	57%
2 judges	African American Male	29%
1 judge	White Female	14%

Court of Appeals

12 judges of the Court of Appeals.

6 judges	White Male	50%
3 judges	White Female	25%
1 judge	African American Male	8%
1 judge	African American Female	8%
1 judge	Asian Female	8%

Superior Court

207 superior court judgeships.

156 judges	White Male	75%
31 judges	White Female	15%
10 judges	African American Male	5%
10 judges	African American Female	5%

State Court

125 state court judgeships.

88 judges	White Male	70%
25 judges	White Female	20%
5 judges	African American Male	4%
5 judges	African American Female	4%
1 judge	Asian Male	.8%
1 judge	Native American Male	.8%

Juvenile Court

129 juvenile court judges,
including full time and associate judges.

85 judges	White Male	66%
24 judges	White Female	19%
12 judges	African American Male	9%
7 judges	African American Female	5%
1 judge	Asian Male	.8%

Probate Court

159 probate court judges and 10 associate judges.

83 judges	White Female	49%
75 judges	White Male	44%
6 judges	African American Female	4%
5 judges	African American Male	3%

Magistrate Court

159 chief magistrate judges and 325 magistrate judges.

247 judges	White Male	51%
159 judges	White Female	33%
40 judges	African American Female	8%
31 judges	African American Male	6%
1 judge	Multi Female	.2%
1 judge	Multi Male	.2%
2 judges	Native American Male	.4%
1 judge	Native American Female	.2%
1 judge	Other Male	.2%

Municipal Court

345 municipal court judges.

268 judges	White Male	78%
35 judges	White Female	10%
16 judges	African American Female	5%
20 judges	African American Male	6%
1 judge	Asian Male	.3%
1 judge	Multi Female	.3%
1 judge	Multi Male	.3%
1 judge	Native American Male	.3%

State Totals*

White Male	929	Native American Female	1
White Female	361	Multi-Racial Male	2
African American Male	86	Multi-Racial Female	2
African American Female	85	Other Male	1
Asian Male	3	Unknown	2
Asian Female	1	Male	1025
Native American Male	4	Female	450

*The data used in this report was compiled using information from June 30, 2013.

Judicial Elections and Appointments

Supreme Court Appointed

Keith Blackwell	07/19/12

Court of Appeals Appointed

William Ray	07/30/12
Elizabeth Branch	09/04/12
Carla Wong McMillian	01/24/13

Superior Courts Elected

David Lee Cannon, Jr., Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit	01/01/13
A. Gregory Poole, Cobb Judicial Circuit	01/01/13
Emory Palmer, Coweta Judicial Circuit	01/01/13
Kathy Schrader, Gwinnett Judicial Circuit	01/01/13
Robert Mumford, Rockdale Judicial Circuit	01/01/13

State Courts Elected

Michelle Homier, Cherokee County	01/01/13
Marsha S. Lake, Cobb County	01/01/13
John Stephen Jenkins, Sr., Elbert County	01/01/13
Richard McNeely, Emanuel County	01/01/13
Jane Morrison, Fulton County	01/01/13
Bart Altman, Glynn County	01/01/13
Emily J. Brantley, Gwinnett County	01/01/13
Billy Mullinax, Walker County	01/01/13
John A. Dana, Washington County	01/01/13
Mark E. Mitchell, Thomas County*	01/01/13
Victoria Darrisaw, Dougherty County**	01/01/13

State Courts Appointed

Mark E. Mitchell, Thomas County*	08/16/12
Victoria Darrisaw, Dougherty County**	09/01/12
Vi Bennett, Wayne County	09/18/12
C. Jean Bolin, McIntosh County	01/07/13
R. Michael Gailey Jr., Putnam County	01/09/13
Leslie Abernathy Maddox, Cherokee County	01/10/13
Henry R. Thompson, Cobb County	02/18/13
William W. Rambo, Sumter County	04/09/13
Jason B. Thompson, Fayette County	05/22/13

Magistrate Courts Appointed

Richard Lee Spencer, Crawford County	06/14/13

*Elected in July to begin term on 01/01/13, appointed to fill unexpired term due to death.
**Elected in July to begin term on 01/01/13, appointed to fill unexpired term due to retirement.

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Administrative Office of the Courts
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