

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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State of Maine

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS



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ANNUAL REPORT, 1st

1977 (i.e. Aug. 1975 - Dec. 1976)

State of Maine

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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State Court Administrator

March 9, 1977

Chief Justice Armand A. Dufresne, Jr.
Governor James B. Longley
Members of the 108th Legislature

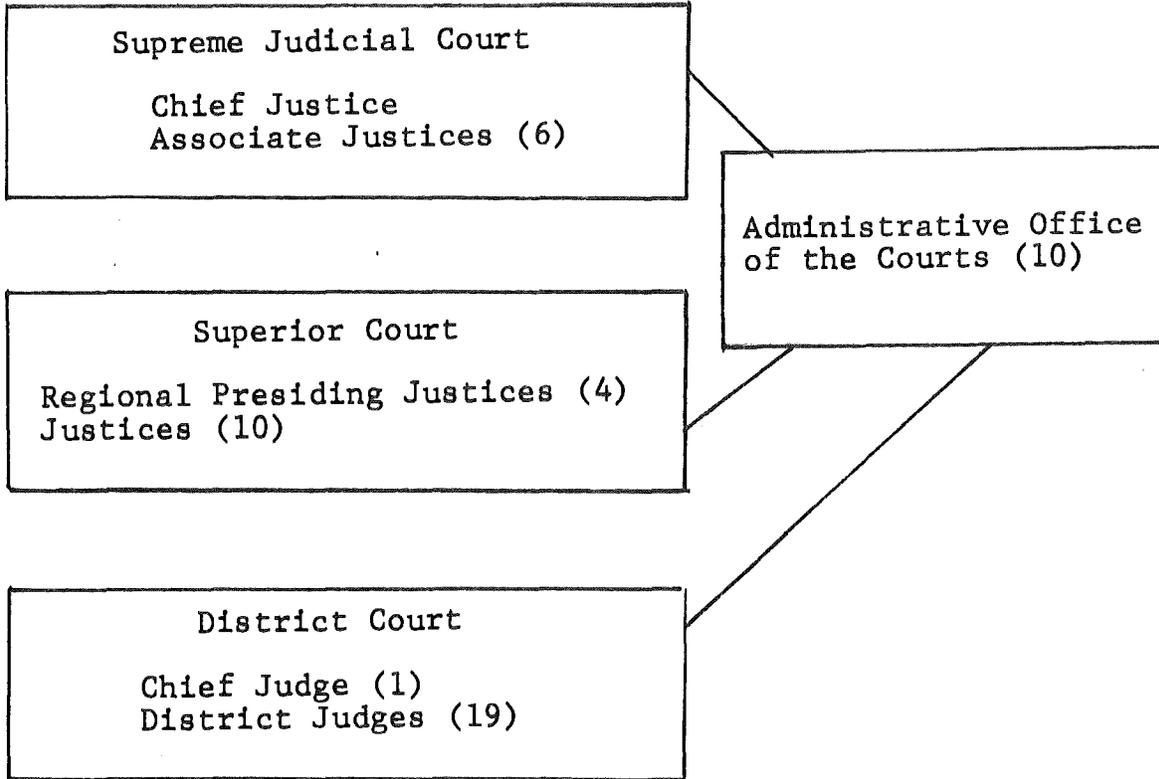
Pursuant to 4 M.R.S.A. 17, Sec. 10, transmitted herewith is the first annual report of the Administrative Office of the Courts. By prior agreement with the Chief Justice, this report covers the period from August, 1975 through December, 1976.

On behalf of the staff of the Administrative Office of the Courts, I wish to express our deep appreciation to the Chief Justice, the Associate Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court and the Regional Presiding Justices of the Superior Court for their unfailing cooperation and support during these sixteen months. Without their continual assistance, the major accomplishments described herein would never have been possible.

Elizabeth D. Belshaw
State Court Administrator

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MAINE STATE COURT SYSTEM



Creation of the Administrative Office of the Courts

In 1973, the 104th Legislature created the Trial Court Revision Commission, which proposed court reform legislation adopted by the 107th Legislature. Chief among the Commission recommendations made into law were:

- 1) Designation of the Chief Justice as head of the Judicial Department and responsible for the efficient operation of the Judicial Department;
- 2) Establishment of the Administrative Office of the Courts for the State court system;
- 3) Development of a unified court budget;
- 4) Development of a court personnel system;
- 5) State appropriation for funding the Superior Court;
- 6) Creation of judicial regions; and
- 7) Appointment of Superior Court Clerks.

The Administrative Office of the Courts began its work in August, 1975, under a grant from the Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency. Employed under the grant are the State Court Administrator, four Regional Court Administrators, the Fiscal Director and the Secretary. One Administrative Services Officer and an accountant were transferred from the office of Clerk of the Law Court to the Administrative Office of the Courts. When the District Court Administrative Office in Bangor was closed, one accounting clerk position was transferred to the Administrative Office of the Courts, one employee was transferred into the District Court transcription division, and two positions were abolished. The Maine court system now has a professional administrative office including the following positions:

State Court Administrator
Regional Court Administrators (4)
Fiscal Director
Administrative Services Officer
Accountant
Accounting Clerk
Secretary

The State Court Administrator is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. Staff for the Administrative Office of the Courts is appointed by the State Court Administrator with approval of the Chief Justice.

Setting Priorities

At meetings with the Supreme Judicial Court in August, 1975, it was determined that the Administrative Office of the Courts should concentrate its initial effort in the Superior Court, because of the advent of state funding of that court on July 1, 1976, and because of the need to implement the regional structure. In addition, the Administrative Office of the Courts was directed to comply with statute by developing a personnel system for the Judicial Department and by preparing a consolidated operating budget for the Judicial Department to be submitted in September of 1976.

Personnel System

In April, 1976, the Administrative Office of the Courts received grants from the Intergovernmental Personnel Agency and Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency, whereby it contracted with Resource Planning Corporation of Washington, D. C. to assist in developing a merit personnel system for court employees.

By July, position classifications had been developed, class descriptions written, a compensation scale established, and the Maine Court System Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual drafted.

After review by the Supreme Judicial Court, the Regional Presiding Justices and District Court Planning and Advisory Committee, the Maine Court Personnel System was promulgated by the Supreme Judicial Court effective July 1, 1976.

Each court employee received a copy of the Policy and Procedures Manual, which covers all aspects of personnel administration for the system, including position classification, compensation, hiring, evaluation, leave, discipline, grievance and appeal.

Implementation of the new personnel system was begun in July and will continue for several months. As part of the implementation process, on August 6, 1976, the Chief Justice appointed the Appeal Board for the Court System. Between August and January, the Appeal Board processed all appeals arising out of the initial classification of non judicial employees of the Judicial Department under the new personnel system.

Budget

In the Fall of 1976, the Administrative Office of the Courts submitted the first consolidated operating budget for

the Judicial Department. This budget was prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts in consultation with the Chief Justice and the Chief Judge of the District Court, and it was approved in final form by the Chief Justice prior to submission.

Included in the budget request is \$194,803 to operate the Administrative Office of the Courts during fiscal year 1978. A breakdown of that request follows:

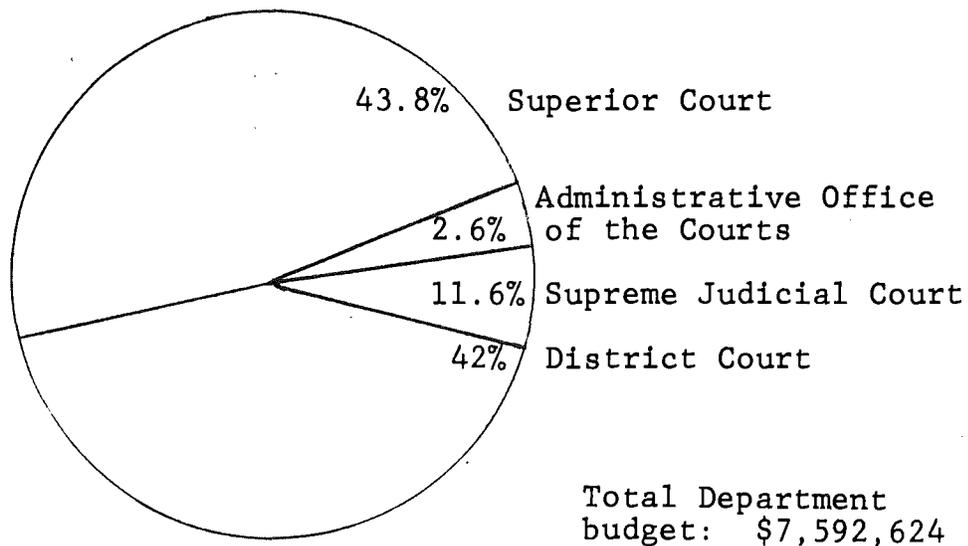
Personal Services	\$134,166
General Operation Expense	57,737
Supplies	2,400
Equipment	<u>500</u>
Total:	\$194,803

Estimated expenditures submitted for the Supreme Judicial Court, Superior and District Courts for fiscal year 1978 are:

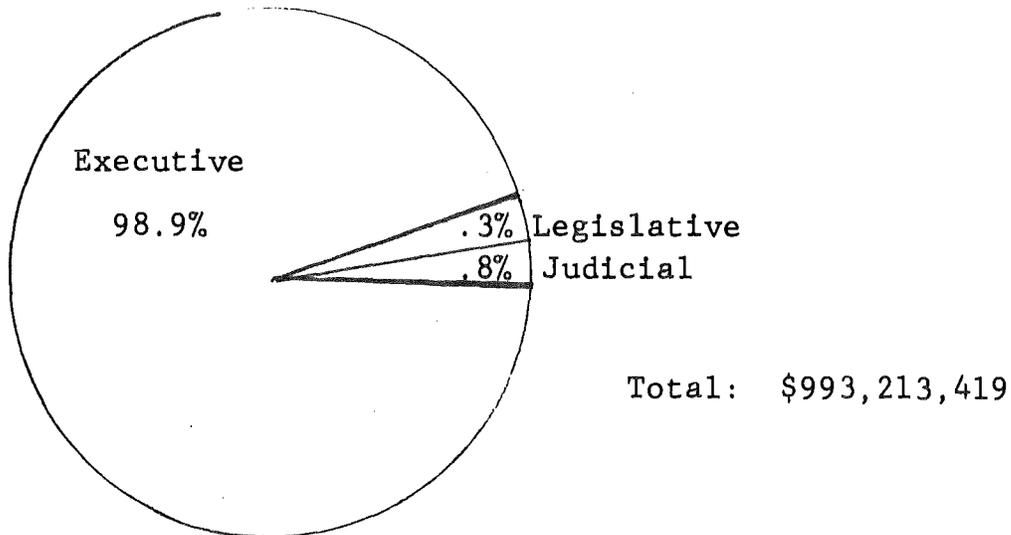
Supreme Judicial Court	\$883,217
Superior Court	3,329,286
District Court	3,185,318

The cost of administering the Judicial Department is less than three percent of the total department budget.

Below is a pie chart showing the percentage cost of the Administrative Office of the Courts in relation to the total Judicial Department budget request:



Below is a pie chart showing the Judicial Department budget request as a percentage of all State agency budget requests for fiscal year 1978:



In order to provide a complete fiscal picture of the Judicial Department, below are appropriate figures:

Superior Court revenue
First 6 months FY 1977 (fees and fines): \$188,352.47

District Court revenue
First 6 months FY 1977 (fees and fines): 2,655,361.32

Total: \$2,843,713.79

Of this total, \$303,527.70 was dedicated to other State agencies or returned to local governments.

At present, projected net revenue from both courts for FY 1977 is \$5,080,372.18.

Superior Court

Regional Presiding Justices

In 1975, pursuant to the provisions of 4 M.R.S.A. 19, the Chief Justice designated four judicial regions in the State and appointed a Regional Presiding Justice for each region.

Honorable Harry P. Glassman, Region I
Cumberland and York counties

Honorable Harold J. Rubin, Region II
Androscoggin, Franklin, Lincoln, Oxford and Sagadahoc
counties

Honorable Lewis I. Naiman, Region III
Kennebec, Knox, Somerset and Waldo counties

Honorable David G. Roberts, Region IV
Aroostook, Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis and
Washington counties

By Administrative Rule, the Supreme Judicial Court delegated the following duties and responsibilities to the Regional Presiding Justices:

1) The supervision of all Superior Court justices assigned to their respective regions and of all non judicial personnel serving the Superior Court within their respective regions.

2) The assignment and re-assignment of Superior Court justices within their respective regions.

3) The supervision of the caseflow management system in the Superior Courts within their respective regions.

4) The implementation and enforcement, within their respective regions, of all administrative rules, orders and policies.

5) The securing of uniformity of practices and procedures among the several regions, to the extent practicable, through the issuance of joint directives and administrative orders after consultation with the State Court Administrator.

6) The performance of such other functions and duties as may be assigned by the Chief Justice or by rule of the Supreme Judicial Court.

Because the Regional Presiding Justices are full-time judges, the task of providing necessary administrative information and day-to-day management is delegated to the Regional Court Administrators, under direct supervision of the Regional Presiding Justices.

Regional Court Administrators

The Regional Court Administrators are staff members of the Administrative Office of the Courts, but they serve the Regional Presiding Justices and the courts within their regions. Each one is a vital link between the Administrative

Office of the Courts, the Regional Presiding Justice and each court in their region. For example, the Regional Presiding Justice is delegated the authority to see that a caseflow management system is implemented within his region, but the Regional Court Administrator actually works with the Calendar Clerk in the implementation of that caseflow management system. The State Court Administrator is delegated the responsibility to see that uniform fiscal policies are implemented in the Superior Court, but the Regional Court Administrators actually work with each clerk to effect that implementation locally.

Being in almost daily contact with the courts within their regions, they continually monitor and study the administrative operation of each court and make recommendations to the State Court Administrator and Regional Presiding Justices regarding the operation of the Superior Court. Under supervision of the State Court Administrator and the Regional Presiding Justices, they direct the day-to-day administrative operation of the region to assure the best possible service to citizens.

Administrative Analysis

In August and September of 1975, the Regional Court Administrators did an administrative analysis of each Superior Court clerk's office. The facts obtained from these studies were discussed with each Regional Court Administrator and with the four Regional Court Administrators at weekly meetings established in September and continued to date.

During these meetings, plans were developed for the administrative reorganization of each office, in order to produce a uniform state-wide system of efficiently operating clerks' offices.

In September, the State Court Administrator and the Regional Court Administrators began monthly meetings with the Regional Presiding Justices. At these meetings, all facets of Superior Court operation were considered, problems discussed, and plans and procedures developed. Decisions made and the resulting procedures developed were implemented in the Superior Courts by the Regional Court Administrators. Policies and procedures affecting Superior Court Justices directly were discussed with them at periodic meetings and a policy consensus developed for implementation.

System Modification

In October, 1975, the Administrative Office of the Courts began to modify Superior Court operations along agreed upon lines. Implementation of changes continues to date and is expected to continue indefinitely. Below are brief descriptions of some of the changes:

1) Workload Redistribution. Where possible, office layouts have been modified to promote efficient internal operation and teamwork. The workload in many offices has been redistributed to effect more efficient workflow and some cross-training. The position of Clerk of Courts is now a full-time position. In the clerks' offices, four full-time positions have been abolished and six full-time positions have been reclassified to part-time positions. Present plans call for elimination of additional positions as vacancies occur.

Functions improperly performed in clerks' offices have been transferred to the proper agency.

2) Duplicate and Unnecessary Functions. Internal duplicate functions and unnecessary functions are being eliminated. For example, legislation will be introduced during the 108th Legislature to abolish the extended record, which is a retyping of every paper filed with the court in a particular case.

3) Records and Exhibits. Both have been reorganized and properly housed, where possible.

4) Dockets and Files. All dockets and files have been inventoried, so that all cases are accounted for and are being processed through the courts. Various dockets have been consolidated. A uniform case numbering system has been developed and implemented.

5) Grand Juries. Grand juries are scheduled more frequently to move criminal cases more effectively.

6) Standardization of Procedures. Some standardization has been achieved in clerks' offices throughout the state and more will be coming. For example, a uniform docket number system and case indexing system was inaugurated throughout the state on January 1, 1977.

7) Research and Writing Time. One week per quarter is scheduled for each Superior Court Justice. During this time, justices do the necessary research and writing for decisions in cases they have taken under advisement.

Justices are asked to submit a list of cases under advisement to the Regional Presiding Justice each quarter. When possible, additional research and writing time is allocated to Justices who have accumulated more cases than can be disposed during the scheduled time.

8) Secretarial Assistance. Secretarial assistance is available to Justices in each region now, either on a full-time or part-time basis.

9) Individuals in Custody Form. Each county sheriff is requested to submit a list of those persons incarcerated in the county jail to the Regional Court Administrator once a week. Superior Court Justices have determined that cases involving incarcerated defendants should be given priority settings. It is the responsibility of the Regional Court Administrator to work with the appropriate Calendar Clerk to move these cases.

10) Juvenile Appeal Cases. By consensus of Superior Court Justices, these cases have been given priority status and are now scheduled almost immediately after they are filed.

11) Notification to Register of Deeds. In the past, notification to the Register of Deeds, regarding filing of cases involving real property disputes, was often prepared by clerks. These forms are now prepared by attorneys involved in these cases.

12) Passport and Naturalization Fees. Fees for processing these forms now accrue to the State.

13) Warrants of Arrest. Warrants are now issued only to District Attorneys or Sheriffs, as determined by the individual Regional Presiding Justice. Execution is made pursuant to statute and rule. Clerks no longer issue warrants directly.

14) Attorney Credit. Attorneys are now required to pay appropriate court charges immediately.

15) Law Clerks. Because of workload and the logistical problems of a circuit court system, Superior Court Justices were increasingly unable to allocate library research time necessary for decision preparation. To assist them in decision research, two law clerk positions have been created. One position is located in Portland and one in Bangor.

16) Indigency Cases. An indigency determination form has been developed for use in both Superior and District Court as well as a voucher for payment for services for indigent defendants. These forms will assist Justices, Judges and the Administrative Office of the Courts in handling indigency cases expeditiously.

17) Hearings. By order of the Chief Justice, hearings in matters involving docketed cases are being held in the courtroom and on the record, except when the jury must be excluded pursuant to court rule.

18) Bail. A new uniform bail form has been developed and is now in use. Bail commissioners are charged a per sheet cost for the forms, which are supplied by District Court Clerks.

19) Disposition of Appeals and Bail Review. At the request of District Court Judges, monthly information concerning disposition of cases appealed from District Court to Superior Court, and the outcome of bail review hearings, is being forwarded from Superior Court to District Court through a system developed by the Regional Court Administrators.

20) 41(b) Cases. Rule 41(b) of the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure requires that civil cases be dismissed for want of prosecution, if the court docket shows no action in the case for two years. Clerks now prepare a list of these cases monthly, and the cases are dismissed promptly by the Regional Presiding Justice after appropriate notice to litigants.

21) Jury. All clerical work concerning juries has been consolidated in respective clerks' offices, and the position of jury commission executive secretary is no longer being funded.

Jury summons are being sent by first class rather than registered mail at a substantial saving.

22) Statistics. A new statistical reporting form and instruction book has been developed by the Administrative Office of the Courts, with assistance provided by a Court Technical Assistance Project grant through American University in Washington, D. C. Through use of the new form, the Administrative Office of the Courts will be able to gather case time-lapse information which can be used to determine whether case backlogs are developing in specific courts. In addition, more complete and accurate case filing and disposition information will be compiled.

23) Clerks' Manual. The Maine Superior Court Clerks' Manual, developed in 1974, is being revised and up-dated to reflect changes made in the Superior Court operations. The revision will be completed in 1977.

Caseflow Management System

The most important change in Superior Court operation has been development and implementation of the caseflow management system.

Due to a statutory change, the Chief Justice now assigns Superior Court Justices to one of the four regions for a specific period, and the Justices are then assigned within the region by the appropriate Regional Presiding Justice. This procedure allows flexibility in allocating judicial time by allowing Justices to respond to caseload demands rather than a fixed schedule of so many days per court, regardless of caseload.

Prior to 1976, the District Attorney scheduled criminal cases and attorneys often could schedule civil cases. On January 1, 1976, the Superior Court assumed total scheduling responsibility.

Under the new system, a calendar clerk is designated in each clerk's office. (In larger courts, one person has been designated civil calendar clerk and another criminal calendar clerk.) Under supervision of the Regional Court Administrators,

the calendar clerks schedule all matters for hearing. Thus, when a Justice arrives at court, a calendar of scheduled cases awaits him, the attorneys and litigants are ready for trial, and the Justice begins to hear cases immediately. Continuances are granted only for good cause after a formal motion has been filed with the court.

The time-consuming call of the docket has been eliminated, and civil cases are no longer neglected because of criminal case loads.

In addition, a schedule of motion days has been established, eliminating as much as possible motion day conflicts between contiguous counties.

The use of the caseflow management system, combined with the hard work of existing Superior Court Justices and clerks' office staffs, resulted in the disappearance of existing Superior Court case backlogs between January 1 and July 1 of 1976. The Superior Court is now current in that cases ready for trial can be scheduled for trial within 30 to 60 days. The full extent of this accomplishment, as it affects each county, can be seen in Appendix I.

Court Reporters

Prior to August 1975, there were 18 court reporters, who were assigned to court terms by a Chief Court Reporter.

Inefficient use of court reporter time, and the fact that reporters were available for non court work, resulted in backlogs of unprepared transcripts which delayed cases on appeal.

Since January 1, 1976, court reporters have been assigned to regions by the State Court Administrator and within the regions by the Regional Court Administrators. Reporters are being assigned to serve specific justices for specific periods, within their region of residence when possible.

Court reporters now file a monthly report with the Administrative Office of the Courts indicating their transcript backlogs. From the information contained in these reports, the State Court Administrator can schedule reporter transcript time for those reporters whose backlogs are most severe, just as research and writing time is scheduled for Superior Court Justices.

The number of court reporters has been reduced from 18 to 15. Reporters are now full-time court employees, and legislation will be introduced during the 108th Legislature to permit absorption of the reporters into the court personnel system.

State Funding and Fiscal Organization

On July 1, 1976, the Superior Court came under state funding. Prior to that time, each of the 16 courts was funded by its respective county, which resulted in 16 different financial systems.

In the Spring of 1976, the Administrative Office of the Courts developed a Manual of Financial Procedures for Superior Court. Included in the manual are sections on Payment of Jurors, Payroll, Fees, Bail, Weekly Income Statements and Supplies. Included, also, is a list of items of cost in Superior Court with citations for payment authority. The latter was developed at the request of county commissioners.

A training session on the new uniform fiscal procedures was held for court clerks in June, and a smooth transition from county to state funding of the Superior Court was accomplished.

While preparations for state funding were going on, internal fiscal procedures for the Administrative Office of the Courts were being developed. A uniform system for handling court requisitions, invoices, payroll, cash deposits, monthly reports to the State Treasurer and monthly reconciliations from Accounts and Control was implemented. Further refinement of the present fiscal controls, accounts and procedures is planned, as we gain more experience with a centralized fiscal operation of the Judicial Department.

Forms

The Chief Justice has appointed both a criminal and civil forms committee for Superior Court. Each committee is composed of a Justice, Regional Court Administrator and court clerks.

The Criminal Forms Committee began its work in early 1976 with the goal of reviewing all the existing forms and establishing an official set of criminal forms for Superior Court by July 1, 1976. On that date, a rule revision went into effect mandating 8½ x 11" instead of 8½ x 14" for the form size. The Committee achieved its goal. Through the abolition of archaic forms, consolidation of forms and revisions, the number of Superior Court forms went from 80 (with variations in those 80 from county to county) to one set of 60 official Superior Court forms. The revised set of forms was reviewed and approved by all Superior Court Justices prior to distribution throughout the system.

Benchbook

Under contract with the National Center for State Courts, with funds provided by Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency, a Superior Court Benchbook was developed and distributed to all the Justices.

District Court

Administrative Analysis

At the meetings with the Supreme Judicial Court in August, 1975, it was determined that the Administrative Office of the Courts should direct its attention to the District Court, after the initial work in Superior Court was completed. Although the Administrative Office of the Courts worked with the District Court administrative office in Bangor and the Chief Judge on various problems and projects, intensive work with that court did not begin until May of 1976.

At the May meeting of the District Judges, the State Court Administrator reported on the progress of the personnel study and the State Court Administrator and Regional Court Administrators outlined plans for the administrative analysis of District Court clerks' offices, similar to those done for Superior Court.

At the end of this meeting, the Chief Judge appointed the District Court Planning and Advisory Committee which was authorized to review the proposed personnel system on behalf of the District Court, and to whom the Administrative Office of the Courts was directed to present its recommendations when the administrative analysis was completed.

During July, August and September, 1976, the Regional Court Administrators carried on their study of each District Court clerk's office operation. At a series of meetings following the study, the State Court Administrator and Regional Court Administrators developed proposed recommendations for consideration by the Chief Judge and the Planning and Advisory Committee. The proposals were distributed to the Committee on October 18.

These proposals were discussed at length with all the District Court Judges and Supreme Judicial Court at a meeting on December 3.

Uniform Traffic Ticket and Complaint

The 106th Legislature (1975) enacted into law recommendations of the Maine Traffic Court Advisory Committee which resulted in major changes in processing of traffic cases, effective October 1, 1975. The State Court Administrator discovered in late August that little had been done to implement the legislation.

Between August 25 and October 1, 1975, the State Court Administrator worked with a previously established committee to draft the necessary uniform traffic ticket and complaint,

establish procedures, draft procedural forms, arrange for printing and distribution of the materials throughout the state, and hold training sessions for over 2,000 law enforcement personnel and District Court Clerks. The entire implementation of the new system was accomplished in less than six weeks; only one day after the effective date.

Statistics

A new statistical reporting system, which will produce accurate filing and disposition figures as well as case time-lapse figures, is in the planning stage at the present time. Appendix II contains District Court Filing information only, because these are the only figures that can be determined accurately.

Supreme Judicial Court

The Supreme Judicial Court designated itself as the third priority of the Administrative Office of the Courts at the meetings in August, 1975. Therefore, to date, administrative assistance to the Supreme Judicial Court has been provided on an ad hoc basis only.

Statistics

Under the same grant that provided assistance in developing a new statistical reporting form and instructions for the Superior Court, new reporting forms for the Law Court and the Appellate Division were also developed.

The first statistical reports, using the new forms, are given in Appendix III.

Individual Areas of Endeavor

In 4 M.R.S.A. 17, 14 specific duties are listed for the State Court Administrator. Previous sections of this report address seven of those duties. The remaining seven areas will be covered below.

Investigate Complaints

We have kept no record of the number of complaints received, but they have been many and wide-ranging. Those that concerned specific cases or specific procedural problems were investigated, dealt with and followed to resolution for the complainant.

Those of a more general nature, we have attempted to answer with information or explanations.

Investigation and resolution of complaints is given a high priority by the Administrative Office of the Courts, because most of the complaints come from citizens who are disturbed by their court experience or lack thereof or who, often because of a lack of understanding of what the court system is and how it works, are angry with that system.

Facilities

This is a very difficult area and one in which much needs to be done. A comprehensive court facilities study is planned during 1977, which we feel will assist us in developing a system-wide facilities plan for implementation.

In the past year, problems from peeling plaster to jurors fainting in the heat to miserably cramped working quarters have been handled as they arose and solved as best we could under the circumstances.

One major effort was our attempt to secure an independent, expert evaluation of the Central Maine Power Building in Augusta as a possible permanent Supreme Judicial Court facility. This effort was suspended when the Bureau of Public Improvements made its recommendation against purchase of the building for such a facility.

Equipment

We are beginning to compile an accurate inventory of all court system equipment, but this project has not been given a high priority.

In the meantime, when an equipment request is made, the Regional Court Administrators contact all courts within their regions to see if there is a surplus of the wanted item. If there is, permission is obtained from the Chief Judge or Regional Presiding Justice to transfer the needed item to another court. So far, we have managed to transfer typewriters, file cabinets, desks, chairs, tables and books.

An additional saving has been made in the area of copy machines. In some locations, we have been able to locate the machine so that both Superior Court and District Court have access to it, and one machine can suffice for both courts.

Telephones

The Administrative Office of the Courts, in conjunction with New England Telephone Company, is conducting a state-wide study of court telephone usage which will be completed during 1977.

Substantial monthly cost savings have been accomplished in some courts by a change in instrument distribution and arrangement. In addition, transfer of calls between Superior and District Court is now possible in many courts.

Secretary to Judicial Conference

Since no conference was held during the reporting period, the Administrative Office of the Courts has provided no services in this regard.

Maintain Liaison

The State Court Administrator has spent a great deal of time working to develop liaison with public and private agencies.

During implementation of the modifications in Superior Court operations, meetings were held with all but four local bar associations to gain input from the bar regarding the changes. Follow-up meetings have been held with these groups and also the Maine Bar Association.

Upon invitation, informational meetings were held with university groups, the Sheriffs' association, League groups, the Standards and Goals committees, and Maine Criminal Justice Planning and Assistance Agency projects groups. The State Court Administrator has attended meetings of Citizens for Modern Courts, a newly incorporated citizens group, and the Administrative Office of the Courts has acted as an information resource for this group.

The State Court Administrator was invited to attend Judicial Council meetings and the meetings of the Juvenile Laws Revision Commission, acting as a resource person for both groups.

Within the court system, the State Court Administrator has participated in many meetings with Justices and Judges from the three levels of the system. A new system liaison group has been established with inauguration of quarterly meetings of the Regional Presiding Justices and the District Court Planning and Advisory Committee. Several meetings have been held with court reporters and clerks.

Within state government, working relationships have been established with the Attorney General's office, Department of Audit, the Executive Department, Bureau of Accounts and Control, Bureau of Budget, Bureau of Central Computer Services, Bureau of Public Improvements, Bureau of Purchases, State Law Library, Legislative Research and Legislative Finance offices, Department of Mental Health and Corrections, Department of Public Safety, Maine State Retirement System, Motor Vehicle Division and the Treasury Department.

In addition, the State Court Administrator has appeared before the Appropriations and Judiciary Committees of the Legislature and provided requested information to these committees as well as individual legislators.

Educational and Training Programs

Except for educational and training sessions for clerks of court, this mandate has been handled through attendance by Justices and Judges at seminars sponsored or organized by private and public organizations, not the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Until such time as the Maine court system is operating at a level acceptable to the Supreme Judicial Court, by agreement with the Chief Justice, Justices and Judges will attend education and training seminars developed by organizations such as the American Academy of Judicial Education, the National College of the State Judiciary or the National College of Juvenile Justice. This program is already in operation and funds have been set aside to continue it.

Education and training of clerical personnel has begun and will continue under the auspices of the Administrative Office of the Courts. Sessions are planned on personnel, statistics, docketing, fiscal procedures and record maintenance.

Planning

Planning is not listed as a specific duty of the State Court Administrator. Instead, it is included as an afterthought in the section on "Continuous Study and Survey" in 4 M.R.S.A. 17. It is highlighted in this report because of its importance to the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Supreme Judicial Court.

With the advent of the Administrative Office of the Courts and a new era of court improvement in Maine, the need for short and long range system planning is acute. Unfortunately, all too often, this vital function is relegated a low priority. Long range planning has been given a low priority in the Maine court system during the past 16 months. This situation will change shortly.

Maine has been chosen as one of five pilot states in an LEAA funded Court Planning Capabilities Project of the National Center for State Courts. This means that over the next year, the Maine court system will be involved in both short and long range system planning under the guidance and assistance of the National Center for State Courts. We look forward to this opportunity to move a vital administrative function from low to high priority.

Annual Report and Other Matters

The first annual report is before you, and I hope that "Perform such other duties and attend to such other matters consistent with the powers delegated herein assigned to him by the Chief Justice and the Supreme Judicial Court." has been included in this report.

Conclusion

These first sixteen months have been extremely busy, but very rewarding because we have seen the Maine court system take on new vitality as its internal reorganization began, and the resulting improved operation became visible. There are still major problems to be addressed. Some have been mentioned already. Others include improving jury management, improving exhibit and records management and improving county law libraries.

We are proud of the accomplishments of the Administrative Office of the Courts during its project status period, and we hope to add to this compilation of accomplishments as a permanent Judicial Department component.

Appendix I

SUPERIOR COURT - Criminal and Civil Statistics

1975 & 1976

This statistical report compares civil and criminal workloads in the Maine Superior Court for the years 1975 and 1976. The figures were compiled by the Regional Court Administrators, who examined the dockets and files in each county in the State.

The primary goal in researching this information was to determine whether or not the number of elapsed days between significant stages in criminal and civil case processing has been reduced since the implementation of the Superior Court caseflow management system. In addition, we wish to illustrate changes in the total number of filings, dispositions, pre-trials, etc.

The Regional Administration caseflow management system was based upon two major assumptions: 1) Greater flexibility in assigning judges to courts where and when they were needed would allow matters to be heard on a more timely basis; and 2) court control of both the criminal and civil calendars would allow judicial manpower to be utilized evenly between civil and criminal litigation. The statistics contained in this report seem to prove these assumptions correct.

For example, the average time between the filing and disposition of indictments has been reduced in the majority of the counties. Whereas, in 1975 the average indictment required in excess of 100 days from filing to disposition in Penobscot, Hancock, Cumberland, York, Kennebec and Androscoggin counties, the average in 1976 has been reduced to less than 80 days. The average time between filing and disposition has been reduced in Washington, Waldo and Lincoln counties also. Although the 1976 criminal disposition rate in a few counties is not impressive compared to 1975, because there were some counties where the problem was not that great, the 1976 rate is impressive in counties where a serious problem existed.

An important point to consider is the fact that the gross number of criminal filings has been reduced considerably in 1976. We believe the traffic infraction law, which has prevented many petty traffic offenses from being filed in Superior Court, is the main reason for this decrease. At the same time, a majority of the counties have experienced an increase in the number of indictments disposed in 1976 over 1975.

The civil statistics reveal a number of interesting points. The number of filings seem to have remained either unchanged or have increased by a small percentage in most counties. In Androscoggin, Kennebec and Somerset counties, the number of filings have increased considerably. Also, the number of civil dispositions in 1976 is greater than in 1975 in a majority of the counties. Most impressive is the fact that the number of pre-trials heard in 1976 is far greater than the number heard in 1975. In the larger counties, such as Cumberland, York, Androscoggin, Kennebec and Penobscot, the increase in pre-trials has been the most significant.

These statistics show the average length of time between the filing of the first pre-trial memorandum and the pre-trial hearing, as well as the average time between the pre-trial hearing and disposition of the case. In practically all the counties, pre-trials were heard much sooner after the filing of a pre-trial memo in 1976 than in 1975. For example; in Cumberland County, the average time lapse between filing of a pre-trial memo and actual pre-trial hearing was 88.8 days in 1976, as opposed to 215 days in 1975. The corresponding figures in Kennebec County were 88 days in 1976 and 132 days in 1975. In Androscoggin, the time from memo to pre-trial hearing was reduced from over a year to 147 days.

Similarly, the length of time between the pre-trial hearing and the date a case is disposed has been reduced. In Cumberland County, the elapsed time dropped from 255 days for 58 trials to 121 for 119 trials; in Androscoggin the drop was from 183 days for 38 trials to 100 days for 62 trials; and in Kennebec from 247 days for 27 trials to 169 days for 52 trials.

In conclusion, we wish to emphasize that our goal is to improve the quality of justice in Maine by reducing delays in the judicial process. At the same time, we recognize that quantity, in terms of the number and speed that individual cases are disposed, cannot blind us to the need for quality in justice. It is our feeling that the scheduling procedures we have established have not sacrificed this quality by increasing the quantity of cases disposed.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICAL FORM
AND METHODOLOGY

I. Criminal

A. Cases filed

The total number of cases entered in the criminal docket for the year indicated. The criminal dockets in each county were reviewed by the Regional Court Administrators.

B. Indictments Disposed

The total number of indictments disposed in a given year. The year in which a case was disposed is the year in which judgment was entered. Individual criminal docket sheets in each county were examined to secure all indictments terminated in 1975 and 1976.

C. Number of Days to Disposition (Indictments)

The average length of time, in days, between date of filing of the indictment to the date of disposition (date judgment entered). Each criminal docket sheet was reviewed to determine the number of indictments disposed in 1975 and 1976; the date of filing and the date judgment was entered were noted. The number of days from filing to disposition was calculated for each case.

D. Transfers Disposed

The total number of transfers disposed in a given year. The year in which a case was disposed is the year in which judgment was entered. Individual criminal docket sheets in each county were examined to secure all transfers terminated in 1975 and 1976.

E. Number of Days to Disposition (Transfers)

The average length of time, in days, between date of filing of the transfer to the date of disposition. (Date judgment entered). Each criminal docket sheet was reviewed to obtain transfers disposed in 1975 and 1976; the date of filing and the date judgment was entered were noted. The number of days from filing to disposition was calculated for each case.

F. Trials Held

The total number of criminal jury and jury waived trials held during the year indicated. Hearings on motions and other matters were not included in this figure.

II. Civil

A. Cases Filed

The total number of cases entered in the civil docket for the year indicated.

B. Cases Disposed

The total number of civil cases disposed in a given year. The year in which a case was disposed is the year in which judgment was entered. Individual civil docket sheets in each county were examined to secure all civil cases terminated in 1975 and 1976.

C. Pre-trial Conferences Held

This figure represents the total number of pre-trial conferences held during the year indicated.

D. Pre-Trial Memo to Pre-Trial Conference

The average length of time, in days, between the filing of the first pre-trial memo and the holding of the pre-trial conference. Individual civil docket sheets were examined to obtain the date of the first pre-trial memo and the date of the pre-trial conference. The amount of time elapsing from filing of first pre-trial memo to date of pre-trial conference was noted for each case reaching disposition in 1975 and 1976.

E. Pre-trial Conference to Disposition (All cases disposed)

The average length of time, in days, between date of pre-trial conference and date of disposition. The year in which a case was disposed is the year in which the judgment was entered. (Represents all cases disposed, regardless of method of disposition).

F. Pre-trial Conference to Disposition (Cases disposed by trial)

The average length of time, in days, between date of pre-trial conference and date of disposition. The year in which a case was disposed is the year in which the judgment was entered. (Represents only those cases disposed by jury or non-jury trial.)

G. Trials Held

The total number of jury and jury waived trials held during the year indicated. Hearings on motions and other matters were not included in this figure.

REGION I

County	Cumberland		York			
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
<u>I. Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	1,686 ¹	1,017	786	779		
B. Indictments disposed	490	501	109	213		
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	105.27 ²	70.2	114.4	74.7		
D. Transfers disposed	1,582 ²	607	882	478		
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	123.2	57.4	136.5	76.5		
F. Trials held	115	139	42	58		
<u>II. Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	1,102	1,331	693	726		
B. Cases disposed	1,162	1,201	552	618		
C. Pre-trial conferences held	189	378	140	213		
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	215.0	119.8 ³	86.2	67.0		
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	231.0	118.2	218.0	125.9		
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	255.5	121.6	292.0	120.0		
G. Trials held	58	119	37	60		

¹Figure includes approximately 600 petty traffic offenses that are no longer transferable to the Superior Court.

²Approximately one-third of these cases were disposed after September 1975 (Court took control of criminal calendaring on November 1, 1975).

³This rate includes memos filed in early 1975 and late 1974; the actual rate for memos filed in 1976 is 81.8.

REGION II

County	Androscoggin		Franklin		Lincoln	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
<u>I. Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	524	378	208	191	250	143
B. Indictments disposed	239	327	56	75	36	77
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	110.18	83.7	73.5	76.3	52.7	40.4
D. Transfers disposed	290	159	187	181	162	166
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	105.6	66.3	123.4	96.2	98.4	50.5
F. Trials held	24	33	20	12	15	26
<u>II. Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	442	590	72	105	139	145
B. Cases disposed	507	640	89	75	69	140
C. Pre-trial conferences held	114	186	28	12	---	54
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	367.2	147.5	212.1	69.3	109.9	67.5
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	165.0	97.8	136.3	102.8	123.9	79.3
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	183.2	100.8	85.4	62.3	87.3	60.4
G. Trials held	38	62	8	12	7	12

REGION II - Cont.

County	Oxford		Sagadahoc			
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
<u>I. Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	278	295	199	116		
B. Indictments disposed	69	118	28	61		
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	69.2	98.4 ⁴	40.2	46.3		
D. Transfers disposed	206	154	226	108		
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	93.3	99.4	63.8	53.4		
F. Trials held	28	32	20	27		
<u>II. Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	152	187	114	117		
B. Cases disposed	95	182	86	118		
C. Pre-trial conferences held	44	50	---	36		
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	172.3	84.7	121.3	33.0		
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	158.5	104.6	138.6	106.9		
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	99.3	96.5	153.2	152.6		
G. Trials held	12	18	6	10		

⁴The number of indictments disposed of in 1976 increased by 71%. The disposition rate for indictments in 1976 increased by 42%. This increase in time may be attributed to the disposition of many indictments in 1976 which were actually filed in early 1975.

REGION III

County	Kennebec		Knox		Somerset	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
<u>I. Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	786	560	341	227	619	477
B. Indictments disposed	440	352	89	122	195	245
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	102.0	71.0	63.0	76.0	48.0	68.0
D. Transfers disposed	344	172	150	98	357	240
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	89.0	90.0	71.0	90.0	90.0	58.0
F. Trials held	83	65	38	46	31	34
<u>II. Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	545	680	224	180	175	240
B. Cases disposed	580	550	163	190	145	192
C. Pre-trial conferences held	90	182	---	81	65	56
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	132.0	88.0	128.0	73.0	141.0	117.0
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	203.0	155.0	188.0	144.0	259.0	209.0
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	247.0	169.0	101.0	168.0	242.0	183.0
G. Trials held	27	52	10	14	14	10

REGION III - Cont.

County	Waldo					
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
I. <u>Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	192	176				
B. Indictments disposed	20	60				
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	97.0	90.0				
D. Transfers disposed	170	123				
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	125.0	110.0				
F. Trials held	23	22				
II. <u>Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	105	98				
B. Cases disposed	77	75				
C. Pre-trial conferences held	---	14				
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	113.0	114.0				
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	400.0	170.0				
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	218.0	195.0				
G. Trials held	3	4				

REGION IV

County	Aroostook		Hancock		Washington	
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
I. <u>Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	864	696	586	459	230	125
B. Indictments disposed	132	115	67	65	107	58
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	102.9	117.4	128.8	75.6	85.4	77.4
D. Transfers disposed	540	446	433 ⁵	298	127	56
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	125.3	108.6	137.9	107.6	108.9	86.3
F. Trials held	47	23	17	27	35	14
II. <u>Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	361	384	255	265	158	154
B. Cases disposed	184	210	39	88 ⁶	89	131
C. Pre-trial conferences held	53	76	80	106	27	37
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	147.9	82.5	153.3	103.2	86.9	118.2
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	116.2	132.6	190.8	303.5 ⁷	164.9	197.1
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	94.5	153.0	260.6	313.1	81.2	125.9
G. Trials held	4	9	11	33	4	12

⁵Many 1975 dispositions were the result of the court taking calendar control in November 1975.

⁶Does not include cases disposed without a pre-trial memo filed.

⁷Matters are now placed on the trial list with priority given to oldest pre-tried cases.

Consequently, many cases tried in 1976 were pre-tried in early 1974 and 1975, resulting in an increase in the disposition rate between 1975 and 1976.

REGION IV - Cont.

County	Penobscot		Piscataquis			
	1975	1976	1975	1976	1975	1976
I. <u>Criminal</u>						
A. Cases filed	1,048	778	137	116		
B. Indictments disposed	397	272	34	14		
C. No. of days to disposition (Indictments)	104.2	78.8	73.1	97.0		
D. Transfers disposed	754	348	72	30		
E. No. of days to disposition (Transfers)	92.5	67.0	99.3	56.8		
F. Trials held	56	43	6	3		
II. <u>Civil</u>						
A. Cases filed	520	575	101	74		
B. Cases disposed	473	552	54	62		
C. Pre-trial conferences held	165	202	19	20		
D. Pre-trial memo to pre-trial conference	97.7	114.8	92.0	37.8		
E. P-t. conf. to disp. (All cases disp.)	212.8	136.3	51.2	156.9		
F. P-t. conf. to disp. (Cases disp. by trial)	138.6	126.7	116.6	135.6		
G. Trials held	47	40	2	10		

Appendix II

The following District Court case filing statistics are provided in a fiscal year format, because District Court docket books are presently kept according to fiscal year rather than calendar year.

These figures were compiled by the Regional Court Administrators.

REGION I

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Biddeford	Criminal	9,410	6,205
	Civil	611	592
	Small Claims	408	520
	Divorce	421	404
	Juvenile	191	127
	Disclosure	151	186
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	11,192	8,034
Bridgton	Criminal	1,527	1,900
	Civil	111	111
	Small Claims	185	196
	Divorce	100	92
	Juvenile	80	101
	Disclosure	24	56
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	2,027	2,456
Kittery	Criminal	5,626	5,645
	Civil	166	154
	Small Claims	137	178
	Divorce	184	175
	Juvenile	57	29
	Disclosure	40	49
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	6,210	6,230
Portland	Criminal	25,596	24,873
	Civil	2,918	2,547
	Small Claims	707	910
	Divorce	1,255	1,204
	Juvenile	844	774
	Disclosure	656	607
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	31,976	30,915
Sanford	Criminal	3,206	3,080
	Civil	209	240
	Small Claims	268	433
	Divorce	196	256
	Juvenile	85	51
	Disclosure	64	72
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	4,028	4,132

REGION II

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Bath	Criminal	3,032	2,744
	Civil	199	157
	Small Claims	190	250
	Divorce	203	209
	Juvenile	72	81
	Disclosure	59	76
	Reciprocal	---	3
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		3,755
Brunswick	Criminal	4,360	4,429
	Civil	194	153
	Small Claims	230	315
	Divorce	232	230
	Juvenile	124	100
	Disclosure	44	61
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		5,184
Lewiston	Criminal	6,780	9,386
	Civil	1,082	1,012
	Small Claims	626	684
	Divorce	640	605
	Juvenile	250	340
	Disclosure	427	472
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		9,805
Livermore Falls	Criminal	962	1,002
	Civil	45	48
	Small Claims	98	97
	Divorce	44	61
	Juvenile	18	44
	Disclosure	19	21
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		1,186
Rockland	Criminal	2,404	2,752
	Civil	459	414
	Small Claims	414	667
	Divorce	241	216
	Juvenile	120	76
	Disclosure	214	211
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		3,852

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Rumford	Criminal	1,967	1,836
	Civil	71	98
	Small Claims	210	244
	Divorce	107	113
	Juvenile	173	189
	Disclosure	65	67
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	2,593	2,547
South Paris	Criminal	1,533	1,479
	Civil	197	161
	Small Claims	112	249
	Divorce	116	150
	Juvenile	89	92
	Disclosure	42	69
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	2,089	2,200
Wiscasset	Criminal	2,027	2,054
	Civil	188	170
	Small Claims	489	506
	Divorce	168	176
	Juvenile	59	46
	Disclosure	57	86
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	2,988	3,038

REGION III

Augusta	Criminal	7,227	7,959
	Civil	777	749
	Small Claims	452	772
	Divorce	457	467
	Juvenile	228	281
	Disclosure	314	318
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	143	218
	Total:	9,598	10,764
Bar Harbor	Criminal	1,018	940
	Civil	98	68
	Small Claims	114	118
	Divorce	60	53
	Juvenile	40	65
	Disclosure	26	36
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	1,356	1,280

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Belfast	Criminal	2,188	2,386
	Civil	298	205
	Small Claims	300	564
	Divorce	183	186
	Juvenile	105	95
	Disclosure	142	122
	Reciprocal	12	9
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	3,228	3,567
Ellsworth	Criminal	3,240	3,289
	Civil	317	345
	Small Claims	329	528
	Divorce	158	170
	Juvenile	137	137
	Disclosure	146	188
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	4,327	4,657
Farmington	Criminal	2,738	2,039
	Civil	164	141
	Small Claims	279	376
	Divorce	146	175
	Juvenile	61	60
	Disclosure	102	108
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	3,490	2,899
Skowhegan	Criminal	4,828	6,463
	Civil	454	499
	Small Claims	454	558
	Divorce	275	271
	Juvenile	134	227
	Disclosure	335	356
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	6,480	8,374
Waterville	Criminal	4,252	5,152
	Civil	871	593
	Small Claims	412	379
	Divorce	291	284
	Juvenile	114	112
	Disclosure	383	322
	Reciprocal	1	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	6,324	6,842

REGION IV

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Bangor	Criminal	10,362	8,622
	Civil	1,043	1,269
	Small Claims	503	658
	Divorce	584	583
	Juvenile	383	394
	Disclosure	433	447
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	161	200
	Total:		13,469
Calais	Criminal	2,141	2,150
	Civil	195	154
	Small Claims	471	427
	Divorce	105	124
	Juvenile	161	123
	Disclosure	87	88
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		3,160
Caribou	Criminal	2,742	2,849
	Civil	274	244
	Small Claims	199	363
	Divorce	185	195
	Juvenile	52	74
	Disclosure	139	152
	Reciprocal	---	7
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		3,591
Dover-Foxcroft	Criminal	3,302	3,157
	Civil	150	153
	Small Claims	236	231
	Divorce	119	122
	Juvenile	162	111
	Disclosure	106	88
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:		4,075
Fort Kent	Criminal	1,628	2,107
	Juvenile	35	46
	Total:		1,663

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Houlton	Criminal	4,120	4,836
	Civil	330	365
	Small Claims	146	428
	Divorce	102	102
	Juvenile	114	91
	Disclosure	102	261
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	4,914	6,083
Lincoln	Criminal	3,073	2,800
	Civil	136	95
	Small Claims	291	266
	Divorce	72	61
	Juvenile	92	106
	Disclosure	94	72
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	3,758	3,400
Machias	Criminal	1,937	1,556
	Civil	117	146
	Small Claims	219	265
	Divorce	84	97
	Juvenile	54	101
	Disclosure	96	44
	Reciprocal	3	5
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	2,510	2,214
Madawaska	Criminal	907	1,021
	Civil	216	247
	Small Claims	266	323
	Divorce	53	54
	Juvenile	33	34
	Disclosure	115	166
	Reciprocal	8	4
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	1,598	1,849
Millinocket	Criminal	3,362	2,568
	Civil	180	332
	Small Claims	472	529
	Divorce	149	148
	Juvenile	130	130
	Disclosure	201	190
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	4,494	3,897

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Case</u>	<u>FY 1974-75</u>	<u>FY 1975-76</u>
Newport	Criminal	4,045	2,681
	Civil	131	123
	Small Claims	102	140
	Divorce	130	136
	Juvenile	104	75
	Disclosure	51	76
	Reciprocal	---	---
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	4,653	3,231
Presque Isle	Criminal	3,405	3,785
	Civil	680	864
	Small Claims	307	337
	Divorce	202	204
	Juvenile	229	147
	Disclosure	572	884
	Reciprocal	---	13
	Mental Health	---	---
	Total:	5,395	6,234
Van Buren	Criminal	615	890
	Juvenile	56	58
	Total:	671	948

Appendix III

STATE OF MAINE
ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTING FORMLAW COURT YEAR 1976

I. CASEFLOW INFORMATION	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
A. No. of Cases pending at End of Previous Year	<u>119</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>246</u>
B. No. of New Appeals This Year	<u>140</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>262</u>
C. No. of Interlocutories (Reports) This Year	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>
D. Total Caseload This Year (A + B + C)	<u>264</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>515</u>
E. No. of Dispositions This Year	<u>121</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>236</u>
F. No. of Cases Pending at End of This Year (D - E)	<u>143</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>279</u>
II. NO. CASES FILED BY COUNTY			
Androscoggin <u>19</u>	Kennebec <u>60</u>	Piscataquis <u>0</u>	
Aroostook <u>6</u>	Knox <u>16</u>	Sagadahoc <u>4</u>	
Cumberland <u>60</u>	Lincoln <u>7</u>	Somerset <u>16</u>	
Franklin <u>3</u>	Oxford <u>7</u>	Waldo <u>10</u>	
Hancock <u>6</u>	Penobscot <u>31</u>	Washington <u>5</u>	
		York <u>19</u>	
III. DISPOSITION INFORMATION			
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
A. No. Per Curiam Opinions	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>
B. No. Written Opinions	<u>88</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>155</u>
C. No. "Solemn Occasion" Opinions	<u>2</u>	<u>---</u>	<u>2</u>
D. No. of Appeals Denied	<u>51</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>113</u>
E. No. of Appeals Sustained	<u>25</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>34</u>
F. No. of Appeals Dismissed	<u>25</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>68</u>
G. No. of Appeals Remanded	<u>1</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>
IV. PENDING CASE INFORMATION			
A. No. Not Yet At Issue		<u>125</u>	
B. No. At Issue Awaiting Oral Argument		<u>35</u>	
C. No. Orally Argued Awaiting Opinion		<u>119</u>	

STATE OF MAINE

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORTING FORM

APPELLATE DIVISION

YEAR 1976

A.	No. of Appeals Pending at End of Previous Year	<u>33</u>
B.	No. of Appeals Filed This Year	<u>57</u>
C.	Total Caseload This Year (A + B)	<u>90</u>
D.	No. of Appeals Disposed of This Year	<u>55</u>
E.	No. of Appeals Pending End of This Year (C - D)	<u>35</u>
F.	No. of Hearings Held	<u>0</u>
G.	Disposition Information:	
1.	No. Sentences Unchanged	<u>54</u>
2.	No. Sentences Reduced	<u>*1</u>
3.	No. Sentences Increased	<u>0</u>
*sentence remains the same-except words "to be served consecutive with other sentence" stricken.		
H.	No. Cases Filed by County:	
	Androscoggin	<u>2</u>
	Aroostook	<u></u>
	Cumberland	<u>17</u>
	Franklin	<u>1</u>
	Hancock	<u></u>
	Kennebec	<u>8</u>
	Knox	<u></u>
	Lincoln	<u>2</u>
	Oxford	<u>6</u>
	Penobscot	<u>4</u>
	Piscataquis	<u></u>
	Sagadahoc	<u>6</u>
	Somerset	<u>4</u>
	Waldo	<u></u>
	Washington	<u>1</u>
	York	<u>6</u>
I.	No. Cases Pending Because Appeal Is Pending In Law Court	<u>25</u>