

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
JUDICIAL BRANCH  
ANNUAL REPORT



FISCAL YEAR 1994



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JUDICIAL BRANCH  
ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1994

JULY 1, 1993 — JUNE 30, 1994

Administrative Office of the Courts  
70 Center Street  
Post Office Box 4820  
Portland, Maine 04112  
telephone: (207) 822-0792  
fax: (207) 822-0781



## **ABOUT THE COVER**

The cover photograph of the Pownalborough Courthouse was lent to the Judicial Branch by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. We extend our thanks to Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian, for his assistance in obtaining the photograph and for providing us with the following information about the history of the courthouse.

**“ ...Pownalborough Courthouse, Cedar Grove Road, Dresden, Maine, [1760-61].**

Built by Boston housewright Gershom Flagg for the Kennebec Proprietors in 1761, Pownalborough Courthouse served Lincoln County when that political division included all of Maine east of the Kennebec River.

The courthouse, which overlooks one of the eighteenth century's major “highways”, the Kennebec River, is a large, 3-story, hipped-roof building of post and beam construction, with two large chimneys servicing twelve fireplaces.

In the 1770's, John Adams, later to become the second president of the United States, practiced law here. The building also served as a tavern and inn for travelers.

Today Pownalborough Courthouse, Maine's oldest surviving judicial building, is seasonally open to the public as a museum. ...”

*(Excerpt from Maine's Historic Places, by Frank A. Beard & Bette A. Smith with Robert L. Bradley & Arthur E. Spiess of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, published by Down East Books, Camden, Maine.)*



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*Administrative Office of the Courts*  
70 Center Street, P.O. Box 4820, Portland, Maine 04112

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*James T. Glessner*  
State Court Administrator  
Telephone: (207) 822-0792  
FAX: (207) 822-0781

January 1995

Honorable Daniel E. Wathen, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court  
Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of Maine  
Members of the 117th Maine Legislature

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Fiscal Year 1994 was a year of development and change, and it was also a year of planning and building foundations. It was the year that the Judicial Branch Performance Council matured and began to function independently. It was the year that the Administrative Office developed a comprehensive list of objectives and action plans to achieve those objectives. It was the year that staff from throughout the court system began to involve themselves in the development of a technology plan. In short, it was a year of preparation for major improvements in the Judicial Branch.

This was also a year for team building. Utilizing the principles of participatory management, a new reliance on group processes for solving problems saw the creation of numerous teams. The creation of teams underscored the need for training and a comprehensive training initiative was begun. Overall, there was a strong focus on looking forward and creating an environment for productive change.

The year also saw needed improvements in the area of communication. Regional meetings provided all court staff with an opportunity to meet fellow employees while receiving information updates and participating in discussions about issues in the Court system. The newsletter served as a vehicle to hear about the latest events in the Judicial Branch.

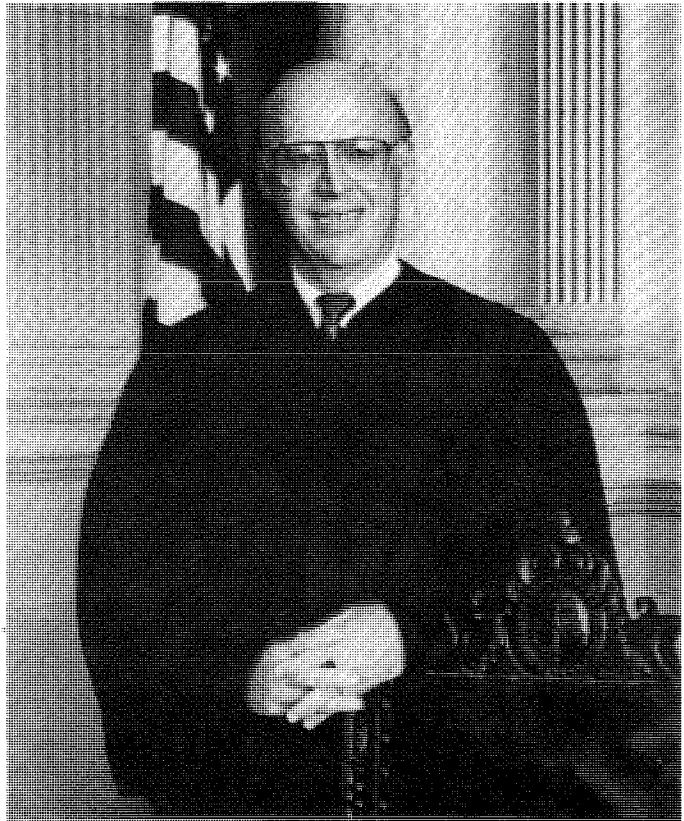
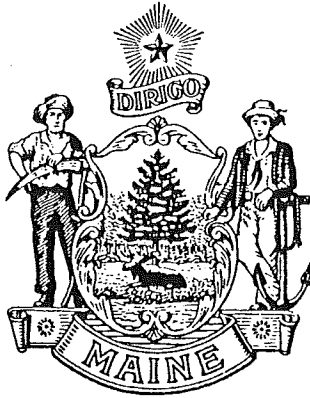
The remarkable fact is that this occurred during a period of continuing financial problems. The system is underfunded and our ability to achieve our mission is hindered as a result. In spite of that fact, the women and men of the Judicial Branch continue to make the best use of their time and talents to serve the citizens of the state who rely on the service and the protection that only the court system can provide.

This report was produced by Sherry Reed and Marcy Kamin-Crane under the direction of Debby Olken. It was typed by Fran Norton. The data contained in the report was submitted by the clerks of court and many members of the court community contributed portions of the narrative. For all of their efforts I would like to extend my thanks. On behalf of the entire court community it is my pleasure to transmit the annual report of the Judicial Branch for Fiscal Year 1994.

Sincerely,



James T. Glessner  
State Court Administrator



*From the Chief Justice . . . . .*

When the history of the judicial branch of Maine's government is recorded, fiscal 1994 will be noted as a year of great challenge, and achievement. As a result of budget difficulties of unprecedented proportions, the court system was left completely without operating funds for four months beginning in January of 1994. Without the cooperation of suppliers, landlords, witnesses, jurors, mediators, court officers, attorneys, counties, and municipalities, normal operations could not have been maintained. I am proud to say that, without exception, the people of Maine drew together and gave their support and assistance. Not one juror refused to serve because of uncertainty concerning payment. Not only did attorneys wait patiently for fees earned as court appointed counsel, but many donated their services. Of equal importance is the fact that the Maine Legislature appropriated sufficient funds in the last quarter of the year to discharge most of our accumulated obligations. Financially it was difficult, but we made it through the year and we are indebted to everyone who helped.

I am particularly proud of the level of achievement documented in this annual report. The women and men who work in the judicial branch, including judges, number less than four hundred. We serve one and one-quarter million Maine people at fifty different courthouses, stretching from Fort Kent to York and South Paris to Calais. By any comparative standard the Maine court system seriously lacks staff, technology, and funding. Although demands have increased exponentially in recent years, court performance has been sustained thus far by the dedication of our employees and the efforts of many citizen volunteers. As Maine begins its 175th year as a state, we must make a modest investment in automation and training if we are to continue to provide justice to all. A bright future is within our grasp.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Daniel E. Wathen'.

Daniel E. Wathen  
Chief Justice  
Supreme Judicial Court of Maine

# **JUDICIAL BRANCH**

## **MISSION-VISION-GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

### **MISSION**

To administer justice by providing an accessible, efficient and impartial system of dispute resolution that serves the public interest, protects individual rights, and instills respect for the law.

### **VISION**

**Public Service.** The Judicial Branch will:

- provide appropriate facilities, equipment, and personnel to deliver judicial services required by the public;
- continuously gather, analyze, and utilize information from all sources concerning the actual needs of Maine citizens;
- eliminate inconsistency, needless complexity, waste and delay;
- eliminate barriers to accessibility, whether those barriers are physical, economic, procedural or otherwise;
- institute uniform and simplified procedures and inform the public about those procedures in a format that is readily available and easily understood.

**Judges and Staff.** The Judicial Branch will:

- provide training to enable all employees to perform their tasks and fulfill their potential;
- motivate employees by encouraging and recognizing their contributions; and,
- provide a work environment that promotes employee productivity and well-being.

**Court Management.** The Judicial Branch will:

- maintain the degree of financial and operational independence that is necessary for the proper performance of its separate constitutional obligations;
- maintain systems to ensure financial and operational accountability;
- institute uniform and coordinated internal operating procedures;
- develop and maintain a system of reciprocal communication with employees, those involved in the justice system, the other branches of government, and the public;
- rely on teamwork and participation by employees in management decision-making;
- systematically evaluate new technologies and implement those appropriate for use in the courts;
- develop and utilize objective standards for the measurement of performance; and,
- plan for the future.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The Judicial Branch:

- strives to make justice accessible to all;
- treats everyone with respect, dignity, and courtesy;
- works as a team and encourages and recognizes the contributions of all employees;
- communicates public information openly and effectively;
- provides employees with opportunities for continuous learning, growth and advancement; and,
- provides the service that will best serve the public.

Developed by the Judicial Branch and adopted by the Supreme Judicial Court, 1993.

# PARTICIPATORY MANAGEMENT

Under the leadership of Chief Justice Daniel E. Wathen, the Supreme Judicial Court adopted a plan in September 1992 to implement participatory management throughout the Maine Judicial Branch. While borrowing some concepts from the "total quality management" effort undertaken in the Executive Branch and in many Maine businesses, the Judicial Branch's participatory management effort focuses on actively involving employees at all levels of the organization in solving problems facing the court system and improving customer service.

Chief Justice Wathen sought volunteers for a "Performance Council" to oversee this endeavor, and appointed a 20-member Council consisting of judges, clerks of court, managers and accounting staff, as well as attorneys from Pine Tree Legal Assistance and the Court Futures Commission. While the Performance Council conducted much planning work and established several teams during FY'93, the fruits of these efforts were realized more fully during FY'94.

Beginning on July 1, 1993, the Judicial Branch was awarded a State Justice Institute grant for \$121,127 to fund the fledgling project. These funds were used to pay for a staff person to coordinate the project, and to hire consultants well versed in total quality management, teamwork principles, and staff training.

During Fiscal Year 1994, the Performance Council met at least once a month. Its accomplishments include the development of: ground rules for Performance Council meetings; criteria for selecting volunteers to serve on teams; criteria for selecting projects for which teams would be created; and charters establishing team expectations and parameters.

The Council also sponsored six focus group meetings to solicit suggestions for court improvements from court customers; developed a comprehensive training plan and a plan for Council activities in FY'95; and established and trained an Internal Trainers Team to assume the training role upon the departure of the consultants.

Creation of teams was another major focus of the Council's activities during this period. The following teams were created, trained and monitored by the Council: Mail Management; Pro Se Divorce; Jury Management; Customer Directions in the Portland Courthouse; and Transcript Production.

TEAM ACTIVITIES: In the winter of 1993, the Performance Council launched its first official teams. These cross-functional teams include participants that represent all of the constituencies that might be affected or involved in a particular process, and include members from outside the Judicial Branch where appropriate. Members of these teams receive several days of team-building and problem-solving skills training.

During FY'94, the Mail Management and the Pro Se Divorce teams completed the Problem Definition phase of their work, and conducted a number of surveys, focus groups, and interviews with members of the "customer" groups involved in the processes they are working on.

The end of FY'94 brought a flurry of activity during which three additional teams were trained in team-building and problem-solving skills. In May of 1994, these teams began work in the following areas:

- The Customer Directions in the Portland Courthouse team was chartered to provide recommendations and an implementation strategy that will result in improved satisfaction of persons entering the Portland Courthouse by knowing how to get where they are going in a simplified, clear-cut way.
- The Jury Management team was charged with developing recommendations and an implementation strategy that will result in more effective utilization of persons called for jury duty in the Superior Court by: reducing the number of persons summoned; increasing the satisfaction of persons so summoned by increasing the likelihood of their service on a jury; providing for greater consistency in the number of jurors called; while reducing the cost of providing juries.
- The Transcript Production team was asked to develop recommendations and an implementation strategy that will result in increased satisfaction to litigants and better service to the public by more timely production of transcripts needed in review of cases filed on appeal from the trial courts.

Finally, a team of Internal Trainers received eight days of Train-the-Trainer training. This team, which includes judges, clerks, and administrative staff, will be expected to carry on the work of the consultants in supporting current and future teams. They will facilitate the work of teams, in addition to providing participatory management training throughout the Judicial Branch.

# AOC PLANNING

**Mission Statement:** The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is dedicated in its effort to serve the Chief Justice, Judiciary, Judicial Branch employees and the public. The AOC shall provide leadership and management which will enable the Judicial Branch to fulfill its mission.

The staff of the AOC continued the planning process it had begun during the previous year. The FY'94 Plan included nine goals for which 73 objectives were identified. Of those objectives, teams or individuals were appointed to develop specific action plans for 20 of them.

The AOC's goals for Fiscal Year 1994 are noted in bold print below. While some progress was made in virtually all of the 20 objectives for which action plans were developed, significant progress was made toward the accomplishment of those objectives noted under each goal:

**COMMUNICATION:** *Improve and expand effective communication for the Judicial Branch, both internally and externally.*

- Organize and coordinate a series of regularly scheduled regional Judicial Branch employee meetings.
- Conduct an evaluation of the systems used to communicate between Judicial Branch locations, including electronic and conventional mail, facsimile machines, telephones and video, to develop standards for their usage and to identify efficient and effective means of communication.

**FACILITIES:** *Provide and properly maintain accessible, adequate, and appropriate facilities for all operations of the Judicial Branch.*

- Study and identify the operational and space needs of the central and satellite AOC offices.
- Develop a plan for conducting a Maine Court System Facilities Study to identify operational, safety, health, security and space deficiencies of all Judicial Branch facilities.

**UNIFORM PROCEDURES:** *Improve Judicial Branch operations by developing, implementing and enforcing uniform standards and procedures.*

- Perform a comprehensive review of the District and Superior Court Forms Committees, addressing organization, responsibilities, number, membership and focus, and make recommendations.

**INFORMATION SYSTEM:** *Develop, implement and maintain a comprehensive management information system to encourage management by fact.*

- Compile an inventory of all information systems currently in use and include all pertinent information about the systems.

**FINANCIAL RESOURCES:** *Secure and prudently manage the financial resources required to effectively operate the Judicial Branch.*

- Examine the process for Judicial Branch vendor payments and make recommendations for improvement.

**HUMAN RESOURCES:** *Expand the scope of human resource management services to better serve the personnel of the Judicial Branch.*

- Expand the education and training program.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY:** *Provide employees and the public with a secure environment free from all health and safety hazards.*

- Develop and implement safety procedures for appropriately dealing with blood borne pathogens in the courthouse.

- Develop and implement a security and safety training program for all court staff.

**TECHNOLOGY:** *Promote the application and coordination of all technology appropriate to improve the efficiency of Judicial Branch operations.*

- Develop and implement standards for the selection, installation and maintenance of software programs for the Macintosh computers. Additionally, provide training on the standards and applications to maximize the use of the tools.

- Develop a requirements definition for a single court management system for all levels of courts, integrating not only court functions but accounting, statistical and management information systems.

**PLANNING:** *Establish a comprehensive planning process within the Judicial Branch to coordinate, prioritize and monitor the implementation of all goals.*

- Develop and prepare written documentation detailing the planning process and annual timetable.

During the Spring of 1994, an annual timetable was developed for the planning process. The staff met to develop its FY'95 Plan, based on its experience over the previous year as well as new input from other Judicial Branch employees. The nine original AOC goals remained virtually unchanged, but a tenth goal was added relating to the implementation of participatory management in the Judicial Branch.

# PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

## ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

In its final report, the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts made a series of recommendations regarding the development of a comprehensive court-based system of "alternative dispute resolution." In the Fall of 1993, Chief Justice Wathen appointed an ADR Planning and Implementation Committee to begin to put into place central elements of those recommendations. That Committee has been meeting regularly since December 1993 and has developed a pilot program for use of dispute resolution in civil cases in the Superior Court.

By the end of FY'94, the Committee was planning to prepare a grant application to the State Justice Institute to fund a pilot program in four counties where volunteer lawyers will serve as conference neutrals in civil cases filed in the Superior Court. Neutrals will review the issues of each case with the parties, discuss settlement possibilities, review options for dispute resolution, help plan and narrow any discovery, and issue a draft scheduling order which may include private dispute resolution.

The Committee has developed draft rules for submission to the Supreme Judicial Court in anticipation of starting the pilot program in early 1995.

## CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT

During FY'94, the Judicial Branch renewed its Cooperative Agreement with the Department of Human Services (DHS), enabling the court system to continue to receive federal funds for processing child support and paternity cases that qualify for federal reimbursement under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act.

The activities of the Child Support Coordinator during FY'94 included: keeping abreast of changes in federal and state laws relating to child support and paternity, helping to ensure that the courts are in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations, acting as a resource person for clerks and judges in the areas of child support and paternity, serving as a liaison with the Department of Human Services, Division of Support Enforcement and Recovery, working to ensure the courts are carrying out their responsibilities under the cooperative agreement with DHS, and monitoring pending legislation and offering input as needed.

There were two major projects undertaken in this area during FY'94. The first involved designing and revising court procedures and forms to implement the immediate income withholding statute that took effect on January 1, 1994. Training sessions for all court clerks on the new statute and procedures were also conducted statewide. The second project involved conducting child support workshops in different locations around the state at the request of local judges and/or clerks. Local attorneys, legal secretaries and paralegals were also invited to attend these workshops to learn about court forms and procedures and the new income withholding statute.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Progress continued to be made in the area of improving communication within the Judicial Branch, through efforts such as regional meetings and an in-house newsletter.

All court employees had the opportunity to attend regional meetings that were held at two times during the year. For purposes of these meetings the courts are divided into six regions. These meetings provide an opportunity for all staff to come together on a periodic basis to share ideas and gather information. They are designed to enhance communication in order to assist the Judicial Branch in achieving its mission. The sessions provide a forum for discussion, training, and meeting with colleagues which are critical elements of a successful organization. During the year staff received updates on topics such as the budget, the work of the Performance Council and planning while participating in discussions on a number of policy and procedural issues.

"Just'us For All", the Judicial Branch newsletter, continued to be published in-house every six weeks by court employees. The newsletter is distributed to all court employees with their paychecks as well as to many other interested parties, most of whom are involved in court-related services. Those groups include federal judges in Maine, retired Maine judges, external participatory management team members, contractual employees and court volunteers. The newsletter generally features letters from the Chief Justice and State Court Administrator, updates on court projects and team efforts, and a Human Resources page.

In addition to efforts to improve communication within the court system, an initiative was undertaken to better acquaint state legislators with the work of the courts. To that end individual legislators were invited to sit in with judges to observe courtroom activities. Legislators had the opportunity to discuss their observations with the judges. This initial phase of the legislative visit program was received very positively by participants and will be continued in the next fiscal year.

### **COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM**

Maine's Court Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA) continues to provide trained lay volunteers to serve as guardians ad litem in child protective custody disputes before the court. Each CASA volunteer conducts an independent investigation of the case in accordance with 22 M.R.S.A. §4005. They are active participants in the legal process, acting as an advocate, facilitator and monitor of each case as it proceeds through the legal and administrative process. They also provide the court with written recommendations regarding what is "in the best interest of the child". CASA volunteers provide individual representation for the children and may continue to do so for a period of several years.

In FY'94, CASA volunteers were appointed in 178 new cases involving 234 children. Throughout the year, 249 active volunteers provided representation for 894 children in a total of 712 active cases. Volunteers are paid only for travel and out-of-pocket expenses. Their service greatly reduced the need for State-paid attorneys who serve as guardians ad litem for children in cases when volunteers are not available. CASA expenditures for FY'94 totaled \$106,300, a 13.8% increase compared to FY'93.

As of June 30, 1994, CASA volunteers were involved in cases in 28 of Maine's 32 District Courts. A total of 575 volunteers have been trained since the program began in 1986. In FY'94, five training seminars were held around the state, through which 48 individuals were trained to be CASA volunteers. Training was provided by the Director of CASA, the Judiciary, the Attorney General's office, the Department of Human Services, members of the Maine Bar, and veteran CASA volunteers.

Regional support groups, run by the volunteers with guidance and input from the CASA Director and CASA staff person met periodically in Portland, Lewiston, Bangor, and Camden.

### **COURT MEDIATION SERVICE**

During FY'94, the Court Mediation Service provided domestic relations and small claims mediation for the Superior and District Courts. A reduction in the hours of administrative staff resulted in a limited ability to produce workload statistics. Reports completed by mediators at the end of each mediation session, however, showed that fewer than 20% of domestic relations cases mediated reached no agreement at all. Financial reports showed that mediation fees generated more than \$300,000 in general revenues.

FY'94 saw the consolidation of the Court Mediation Service's seven regions into three regions: Northern, Central and Southern. The Court Mediation Committee approved the restructuring proposal first suggested by the Expert Panel that reviewed the Court Mediation Service in 1991 as part of the work done by the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts.

Although the number of regional coordinators has been reduced, their role and responsibilities have been expanded. In addition to coordinating scheduling needs, they help administer the Mediation Service's quality assurance program by providing supervision, peer review, and consultation services for the state's fifty court-appointed mediators.

As part of the ongoing effort to provide professional development and continuing education for mediators, spring and fall day-long workshops focused on: the ethical dilemmas faced by mediators, the growing use of mediation throughout the state in both the private and public sector, and on how the Court Mediation Service of the future might look. Obvious at these workshops was a keen desire on the part of mediators to demonstrate how new and varied mediation services could benefit the public and the courts.

As a result, a mediation pilot project was designed and planned for the West Bath District Court. The Early Intervention Mediation Program, now underway, has two central features: (1) a mediator is on hand at the courthouse to handle walk-in clients, and (2) to mediate cases referred directly from the bench when court is in session. Six court mediators have volunteered their time for a four-month period, providing weekly, at no cost to the courts or the public, some 24 hours of mediator time. Although a final evaluation of the project will not be completed for some time, early indications are that the program is most helpful for referrals made directly from the bench.

Five new mediators were hired and trained during the year to replace three mediators who had resigned and to serve courts in Aroostook County, Skowhegan, Farmington, Machias, Ellsworth and Rockland. To help coordinate administrative matters more effectively, one of the regional court administrators was designated as the Administrative Office of the Courts' liaison with the Court Mediation Service.

Finally, in FY'94, and for the first time since 1986, the Court Mediation Service's forty-page Policies and Procedures Manual was revised, updated, and reissued to mediators. For the first time ever, a ninety-page Mediation Skills Manual was also made available to mediators.

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In October 1993, the Judicial Branch created the position of Training Officer to develop and implement an in-house training program. A statewide training needs survey was conducted to ascertain the needs and priorities of all court staff. Results of the survey indicated that the primary needs of Judicial Branch employees include computer training, handling difficult people, stress management, time management, supervisory skills, and communication skills training.

A team was appointed by the State Court Administrator in February 1994 to oversee the development of the training program. The team was charged with: the development of in-house trainers, the design of program procedures and standards, the creation of curricula, and the development of a plan for evaluating the program's effectiveness. During FY'94 the AOC Training Team made considerable progress by developing registration policies and procedures for participants, recruiting in-house trainers, designing a Train-the-Trainer program, and planning initial course offerings.

In May 1994, the AOC Training Program conducted a three-day program for nineteen Judicial Branch employees as the initial phase of trainer development. Trainers were then asked to choose training topics of interest based on priorities of the statewide training needs survey. Available trainers began curriculum development in June 1994 with the hope of conducting pilot training programs early in FY'95.

### FACILITIES

The 116th Legislature authorized the Maine Court Facilities Authority to issue securities in an amount up to \$7,000,000 for the purpose of paying the cost of

courthouse projects in Biddeford, Skowhegan and other locations designated by the Authority.

In FY'94, the architect selection and programming phases of the Biddeford and Skowhegan court construction projects were completed. Portland Design Team will be designing the Biddeford courthouse, with construction expected to begin in the late summer of 1995. Reed and Barba were chosen to design the Skowhegan courthouse, and the process of selecting a construction site is currently underway.

The Judicial Branch also took advantage of an opportunity to purchase the York District Court Building. The court previously leased space in the facility. The purchase resulted in a substantial increase in space and an ultimate financial savings.

### FAMILY COURT PROJECT

In 1990, the Legislature authorized the creation of a Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts and directed the courts to establish a pilot project to handle family law cases. The pilot project was implemented in the Cumberland County Superior Court and in the Ninth District Court on June 10, 1991, with substantial direction and support provided by the judges and staff of the Administrative Court. The project provides specialized and expedited procedures for all cases filed in these courts involving divorce, post-divorce motions, paternity, protection from abuse and child protective proceedings. Although resources have not been available to conduct an empirical evaluation of the project to date, the response of the Bar and the public has been very favorable.

In June 1993, the Legislature enacted a law implementing the recommendation of the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts that the Family Court Project be continued and expanded into other geographic areas with large numbers of family law cases, as well as in other appropriate areas. The loss of clerical staff, the resignation of the Chief Judge of the Administrative Court who served as the Project Director, and continuing budget constraints have prevented further expansion and improvement of the project this year. However, a new Project Director was appointed in May 1994.

### FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

Spending Controls and Cost Reductions: Specific cost controls were initiated by the AOC Finance and Accounting Department during FY'94 to cope with the



chronic underfunding of the Judicial Branch. These measures included flat funding of all security contracts and facility leases, special review of all phone bills to correct overbillings, special restrictions on overtime and judicial per diem, and strict limitations on use of temporary contractors.

Financial Reporting: Use of a system of linked spreadsheets was introduced last year and fully developed this year. These linked spreadsheets allow quarterly updates for over eighty cost centers and over one hundred cost types. This was the foundation of an improved quarterly financial report. The new report contains information on overtime, grants, revenues, analysis of variances, and estimates for the rest of the year, and will allow for more informed decision-making throughout the Judicial Branch.

Audit Program: At the close of the fiscal year, the internal auditor had audited 45 locations using new simplified audit procedures piloted last year. The internal auditor program has been viewed positively by staff and has served as a deterrent to non-compliance with financial rules and procedures.

Bail Reconciliation Project: With the technical support of a local bank, a pilot program centralizing bail accounts and their reconciliation into one statewide master account was introduced in five courts. There are plans to expand the program into all courts. The program should save valuable clerk time by eliminating local reconciliations, providing better control, and allowing the State to earn higher returns on a single large deposit rather than on many small ones.

Unpaid Fines: This year the unpaid fine “dunning” letter procedures were improved, so that every District Court defendant with an unpaid fine receives a letter explaining the consequences of his/her nonpayment no later than six months after the fine became overdue. The “tax offset” program was also used successfully this year, and generated an additional \$100,000 of collection recoveries.

Accrual of Unpaid Fine Revenue: During this period, a portion of unpaid fines were accrued as revenue. This reflects the fact that the Judicial Branch for the first time has the capability to “age” its receivables, which should prove helpful to efforts to secure proper funding from the Legislature.

Purchasing Procedures: During this period, the purchasing section of the financial procedures manual was revised and procedural changes were implemented.

The scope of this section was broadened to include instructions for all employees. It also incorporates procedures that have been simplified and that reflect less dependence on State procedures and authorities.

### GENDER, JUSTICE AND THE COURTS

The Commission on Gender, Justice and the Courts was created by the Supreme Judicial Court in January 1993. Its mandate from the Court is to “identify attitudes and behavior operating within the Maine judicial system that either reflect gender bias or may be perceived to reflect gender bias and to make appropriate remedial recommendations.”

Throughout FY’94, the Commission wrestled with the question of how to most effectively carry out its mandate in the absence of financial resources and staff. Recognizing that a full-blown study would be costly, the Commission opted for a middle-ground approach. They chose to identify a relatively small number of issues on which to do original, Maine-based research, and to utilize research done in other states to assist in developing recommendations on other issues unable to be studied.

During the summer and fall of 1993, the Commission’s three subcommittees, (on Gender and Economics, Gender in the Courts, and Crime and the Court), met to identify a handful of Maine-focused research issues. They were assisted in this effort by a social science researcher from the Muskie Institute at USM who volunteered to work on this task.

The issues ultimately identified by the subcommittees fall into three broad categories: Access (how does gender affect access to representation in divorce proceedings, obtaining protection orders and other related issues); Interaction (how does gender affect hiring and promotion within the court system and interaction between the system’s various participants); and Results (how does gender affect jury and judicial decision-making with respect to alimony, custody, child support and sentencing).

Since early 1994, the Commission has been engaged in an ongoing effort to raise the funds that will enable it to conduct this Maine-based research. With a grant from the Maine State Bar Association, through the Committee on the Status of Women Attorneys, they were able to hire a fundraising consultant who has assisted them in developing a fund appeal sent to law firms around the state. Proposals to several Maine foundations to fund specific aspects of the research are

now in process. The Commission has also initiated contacts with local and county bar associations to request their assistance in organizing public forums at which gender bias issues can be identified and discussed.

### GRANTS

Grant funds supporting the following projects and activities were an important supplement to the Judicial Branch budget during FY'94. Funds were awarded for the following activities from a variety of non-Judicial Branch sources:

- Computer equipment and support for trial court computerization (Maine Justice Assistance Council's federal funds from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance).
- Computer equipment and support for trial court computerization (Maine Department of Public Safety's federal funds from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics).
- Child support enforcement activities (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).
- Participatory Management Project (State Justice Institute).
- Various in-state judicial education activities (Maine Department of Human Services; National Bankruptcy Association; Women's Fund for Justice; State Justice Institute).
- Support for out-of-state educational opportunities (National Judicial Education Program to Promote Equality for Women and Men; State Justice Institute).
- Training for participatory management teams (Maine Quality Management Council).

### INDIGENCY SCREENING PROJECT

An experimental indigency screening project continued to prove successful in Androscoggin, Cumberland, Kennebec, Sagadahoc and York Counties. Trained screeners reviewed the financial status of persons seeking counsel at State expense and made recommendations to judges concerning eligibility for counsel and ability to reimburse the State in whole or in part.

The program not only returns revenue to the State from those able to pay, but helps to remove the court from an adversarial role in dealing with applicants for

counsel. It also adds credibility to the program by ensuring that only those who are eligible are provided with counsel from scarce State resources.

### JUDICIAL EDUCATION

The Judicial Education Committee was appointed by Chief Justice Wathen in 1993. The Committee, chaired by Caroline D. Glassman, Associate Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, includes two Superior Court justices, two District Court judges, a law school professor, and the Judicial Branch training officer. The Committee is responsible for seeking financial resources and providing continuing education for the judiciary, including new appointees to the bench.

In October 1993 the Committee, in cooperation with the Department of Human Services (DHS), presented a three-day program on "Domestic Violence" attended by all Maine judges, judges from New Hampshire and Vermont, and a number of DHS employees. Throughout 1994, the Committee has also been working with DHS to co-sponsor a program on "Sexual Abuse" in 1995.

At the winter meeting of the Maine State Bar Association, the Committee (with the assistance of the Maine Bankruptcy Judges) presented a program to the entire judiciary on the Bankruptcy Act, and also presented a program on psychological or psychiatric evaluations of criminal defendants.

In April 1994, a "Mini-Leadership Institute in Judicial Education" two-day program was attended by all Committee members and approximately 20 other judges and law school faculty. In cooperation with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group and the Council of Churches, the Committee presented a one-day program on "Juvenile Issues" in May. This program was attended by all District and Administrative Court judges as well as legislators, district attorneys, law enforcement officers, and community service providers.

The Committee secured various grants to enable judges to attend out-of-state educational conferences, and scholarships for newer judges to attend the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada. The programs varied widely in subject matter and included: Sexual Abuse of Adults and Strangers, Children and the Courts, National Conference on Juvenile Justice, Reproduction Rights, Jury Management, and Children and Violence.

A Tri-State Judicial Education Committee was formed in cooperation with New Hampshire and Vermont. This

committee will develop and present judicial education programs to be attended by all sitting judges from the three states and is currently planning a Tri-State Conference on "Evidence", to be held in early FY'95.

### LAW LIBRARIES

Legislation enacted in 1981 regionalized the 18 law libraries located in Maine's county courthouses and created the State Court Library Committee with seven members appointed by the Chief Justice. In 1993, the 115th Legislature voted to expand the membership of the committee to nine, and reestablish the four-tier system (based on collection size and potential use) by reinstating four of the six small libraries that had been previously closed.

The state court library supervisor is charged with the general supervision of these libraries. Visits to each library included collection appraisals, meetings with local library committees on a variety of concerns, and working with those clerks of court and judicial secretaries responsible for the day-to-day operation of the libraries.

### LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

During the legislative session, staff in the AOC Planning and Management Information Department drafted Judicial Branch-sponsored legislation, reviewed over 600 pieces of proposed legislation, tracked the status of bills and amendments determined to have potential impact on the Judicial Branch, and prepared more than 150 fiscal and programmatic impact statements.

The Public Information Officer monitored and reported the activity of the Legislature throughout the session with a particular focus on budgetary matters, and otherwise ensured timely communication between the legislative and judicial branches of government.

The 116th Legislature, Second Regular Session, enacted over 340 public laws, private and special laws, resolutions and/or constitutional amendments, many of which impact the Judicial Branch in some way. Those having significant impact include:

- An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts. Addresses a number of issues affecting the Judicial Branch including provisions for: the continuation and expansion of the Family Court Project; the equalization of salaries of the District Court judges and Superior

Court justices, including a requirement that the Supreme Judicial Court present plans to the Judiciary Committee by January 31, 1995, outlining plans to equalize salaries and titles; the creation of an interbranch forum so that the three branches of government may communicate more effectively; and provisions governing appeals in civil matters. (P.L. 1994, ch. 675).

- An Act to Revise and Recodify the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 29. Recodifies the transportation and motor vehicle statutes into Title 29-A. Effective January 1, 1995. (P.L. 1994, ch. 683).

- An Act to Adopt the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act. Repeals the Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act and adopts the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act. (P.L. 1994, ch. 690).

- An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government. Deappropriates funds from the Judicial Branch budget reflecting the deferral of judicial cost-of-living adjustments and reductions in "Capital" expenditures. Also provides for appropriation of funds to meet "All Other" expenditure requirements. (P.L. 1994, ch. 508).

In addition, numerous pieces of legislation were enacted which created new civil or criminal violations and/or new causes of action. While each law affects the Judicial Branch in only a limited way, the new laws in the aggregate significantly impact court workload and Judicial Branch resources.

### MAINE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Much of the Council's work during FY'94 was conducted through its Futures Implementation Committee (FIC), a panel that has taken over the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission to Study the Future of Maine's Courts.

The FIC, which is chaired by a Portland attorney, met monthly during the year and focused its efforts on both legislative and non-legislative recommendations. A number of recommendations from both categories have been enacted into law or implemented by judicial or administrative action.

The Council, which met once during the year, has also been asked to provide public relations support for more adequate funding of the Judicial Branch budget.

## SECURITY SERVICES

During FY'94, over 200 court security incidents occurred in Judicial Branch facilities. These incidents included assaults, threats, removal of weapons from individuals, high risk and high profile trials, emergency medical situations, and the calming of several situations that could have evolved into violent confrontations. By working closely with sheriffs' offices, local police departments, State Police, the FBI, Secret Service, the U.S. Marshal's Office and the Attorney General's Office, many security issues were prevented from escalating.

The increase in domestic violence and family matters caseload has in turn created increased security needs for court personnel as well as for litigants and attorneys. The Court Security and Safety Office continued to work toward providing a safe environment for everyone involved in these matters, despite operating with flat funding and limited staffing.

In addition to security tasks, many officers became involved with Participatory Management (PMP) and AOC Planning teams. Court officers worked with the Pro Se Divorce, Jury Management, AOC Facilities, Safety and Security, Protection from Abuse, and Customer Directions teams.

## SINGLE JUSTICE ASSIGNMENT PROJECT (Superior Court, Cumberland and Somerset Counties)

At the urging of the Civil Rules Advisory Committee, the Superior Court entered into a pilot project in September 1993, requiring each civil case filed in Cumberland and Somerset counties to be assigned exclusively to a single justice. That judge is then fully responsible for case management, trial and all decisions in the case through final judgment.

Four justices are assigned to manage cases in Cumberland County and two in Somerset County. Cases are assigned to the participating justices by the clerk of court on a strict rotating basis. Upon assignment of a case, the assigned judge has exclusive authority for all matters.

In Cumberland County an assistant clerk from the civil division is assigned to each judge to provide continuity and familiarity in the processing of cases. In Somerset County the clerk of court monitors all civil cases for the judges.

Each of the participating Cumberland County justices

carries the responsibility to manage between 225 and 250 active cases. Each is assigned to preside in Cumberland County for civil matters only for six months each year. These assignments are for three two-month sessions. Two participating justices are assigned each month on a rotating basis. The regional court administrator assigns court sessions for jury and non-jury trials, motions, conferences and other matters as the schedule demands after consultation with the clerk and judges.

In Somerset County each of the participating justices carry an active caseload of approximately 60 cases and will preside in Skowhegan for three one-month sessions. During this time, they may also be assigned to preside over criminal matters which need to be addressed during their assigned court sessions.

The assignment of civil cases to a single justice allows the assigned judge to be fully familiar with all issues in a case, and provides for a greater degree of consistency in setting schedules for discovery and in certain pretrial rulings. It saves substantial judicial time by eliminating the need for several judges to become knowledgeable about the case during its active life on the court calendar. It is decidedly easier to schedule cases and plan court trial calendars with one judge handling a defined caseload than to deal with a number of judges who may have no prior knowledge of the cases. For the attorneys, it is of benefit to have only one judge issuing orders and setting deadlines and trial schedules. Although case management practices may vary among the judges, there is a degree of certainty within each case handled by one judge.

The project will continue for the foreseeable future with an evaluation to determine its effectiveness in a rural county with a part-time court and no resident justice, to determine whether the time between filing and disposition has been reduced, whether the quality of the judicial decisions has been enhanced, whether it has added to the duties and responsibilities of the clerks, and whether it should be expanded to other counties. To-date, the pilot project has been received very favorably by the bar, clerks and participating justices.

## TECHNOLOGY

During FY'94 the Office of Court Computer Services (OCCS) worked to accomplish a number of objectives in the following areas:

**Organization:** The Judicial Branch, in order to better coordinate planning in the area of technology, created a

Technology Project Committee and a Technology Policy Committee. The Project Committee was charged with the development of standards, plans and policies governing Judicial Branch technology. The Policy Committee was charged with reviewing, modifying and approving those recommendations. In FY'94, OCCS promoted a current employee to its only Systems Analyst position and hired a replacement programmer analyst, an additional programmer analyst, and a microsystems coordinator. Total OCCS staffing is now eight full-time employees.

**Support:** OCCS continued to provide support to the 200 users of the District Court Criminal, Violations Bureau, and word processing systems in 32 locations statewide. The connection of many of the District Courts to the Judicial Branch Wide Area Network (JBWAN) enhanced the ability of OCCS staff to determine the cause of problems and to resolve them more quickly. Support of these systems includes handling telephone and on-site assistance, simple software upgrades, updates to offense and other files, and networking problems.

In the second quarter, the responsibility of supporting 150 Macintosh computers was transferred to OCCS. These machines are located in 27 different facilities. With the approval of the Policy Committee, a set of standard software was selected and the job of installing it and training the users began. This task will be completed in the first quarter of FY'95.

**Wide Area Network:** 22 of the 30 District Courts were connected to the JBWAN. The network provides features such as: E-mail, remote printing, document transfers, access to any court's records from any other court, centralized overdue fine collection, and more. These features are available statewide at all of the connected courts. The JBWAN is also connected to the Executive Branch Wide Area Network at several locations. These connections have enabled the District Court Violations Bureau to view Bureau of Motor Vehicle records, and have allowed the AOC to electronically submit tax offset fine collections and to streamline certain procedures in conjunction with participatory management projects.

**Application Systems:** The Violations Bureau System was enhanced to improve the processing of traffic tickets. Major effort went into improving management reporting, data entry and historical docketing information capabilities. To assist the District Courts in handling contested cases, better forms and reply sheets were developed. Statistical reporting

improvements were begun and should be completed by mid-FY'95.

The District Court System underwent several network changes during the year. These changes allow the records of one court to be shared by all courts. Minor changes were made to support both new and revised statutes. Changes in the Bureau of Taxation's systems also required OCCS to modify the data collection and collation system. No major changes were made to the system during the year, however.

**Planning:** Four years ago, OCCS developed a plan to improve its technological infrastructure. The objectives set at that time are less than a year away from being accomplished. The Judicial Branch is changing the focus of its technology efforts from hardware and networks to applications. Hardware and networks will still be monitored and enhanced as needed, but the push now will be on improved applications.

The current District Court System is over nine years old and there is no docketing or case management system for civil cases. There is currently no docketing or case management system at all in the Superior Courts. Given these facts, long-term planning being conducted by the Project Committee is focusing on the need for application systems that support and improve the ability of Judicial Branch employees to serve the public and manage its resources.

During FY'94, the Judicial Branch began to review the processes, forms, procedures, etc., that make up its daily business. Teams of employees from many courts at all levels are participating in analysis groups to ensure that all needs are documented. This analysis is expected to continue through mid-FY'95. The result will be a set of options and a plan designed to meet the ongoing technology needs of the Judicial Branch.

## FISCAL INFORMATION

Fiscal Year 1994 continued as the sixth of a series of difficult financial years for the Judicial Branch that began in the late 1980's. The Judicial Branch received \$30.4 million from the State of Maine General Fund which was approximately \$200,000 less than the FY'93 appropriation and several million dollars less than the appropriation received in the previous three years.

This reduced appropriation has meant a continuation of a variety of short term cost deferral measures implemented last fiscal year. These included deferring all major "Capital" projects including automation projects; carrying over large amounts of unpaid bills; deferring the last payroll of the year into the next fiscal year; allowing no cost of living increases for all judges for the third consecutive year; curtailing judicial education; negotiating temporary lease reductions from courthouse landlords; and holding all county security contracts at a flat rate for the third consecutive year.

In the "All Other" category of expenditures, which covers most of the non-payroll expenditures, the Judicial Branch spent \$14.4 million in FY'94, which is \$800,000 less than was spent four years ago in FY'90.

Staff levels have remained essentially flat and the Judicial Branch now carries approximately the same number of authorized positions as were carried in Calendar Year 1986, despite a dramatic rise in the number of complex cases.

On a more positive financial note, the Judicial Branch in FY'94 increasingly took advantage of federal and other local fund sources to fund wholly or in part various studies, initiatives, and court improvement projects. This trend is expected to continue into FY'95 and the following biennium.

## JUDICIAL BRANCH EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

The Judicial Branch operates primarily from the State general funds appropriated by the Maine Legislature, although it also receives some grants from public and private sources.

TABLE F-1

CATEGORY	<u>FY'93</u>	<u>FY'94</u>	<u>% of Total In FY'94</u>	<u>% Change '93-'94</u>
District Court	\$10,181,400	\$10,745,760	34.3	5.5
Superior Court	6,940,613	7,352,531	23.5	5.9
Indigent Legal Services	5,134,941	4,951,298	15.8	-3.6
Supreme Judicial Court	2,022,138	2,426,910	7.8	20.0
Administrative Office of the Courts (a)	874,969	1,423,578	4.5	62.7
Mediation	266,000	243,118	0.8	-8.6
Administrative Court	326,895	305,337	1.0	-6.6
Court Automation	356,603	569,298	1.8	59.6
State Court Library	231,743	169,020	0.5	-27.1
Grants (b)	261,301	547,788	1.8	109.6
Court Security Administration (c)	331,688	876,804	2.8	164.3
Court Appointed Special Advocate	93,436	106,300	0.3	13.8
Judicial Council	4,457	4,568	0.0	2.5
Judicial Responsibility & Disability	0	44,518	0.1	0.0
Other Department Activities (d)	2,165,040	1,530,200	4.9	-29.3
TOTAL	\$29,191,224	\$31,297,028	100.0	7.2

- (a) In FY'94, due to a change in reporting, the Regional Court Administrators and Librarian have been classified in this category. In prior years, they had been allocated to the courts and library accounts respectively.
- (b) Other monies expended during FY'94 were as follows:
- Augusta Mental Health Institute Master Agreement - \$83,121 (Maine Department of Human Services)
  - Court Automation - \$333,186 (Bureau of Justice Assistance, through Maine Justice Assistance Council)
  - Commission to Study the Future of Maine Courts - \$3,808 (State Justice Institute; Libra Foundation; National Institute of Dispute Resolution; Maine Bar Foundation)
  - Cooperative IV-D Program - \$29,622 (Maine Department of Human Services)
  - Total Quality Management - \$98,051 (State Justice Institute)
- (c) Prior to FY'94, Court Security was allocated to court locations. Beginning FY'94, all Court Security was included in this category.
- (d) In FY'93, \$1,854,441 (86%) represented annual bond interest payments and lease costs of the new Portland courthouse addition; in FY'94, \$1,461,563 (96%) of "other department activities" was annual bond interest.

JUDICIAL BRANCH EXPENDITURES BY CATEGORY: FY'91 - FY'94

TABLE F-2

	<u>FY'91</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>FY'92</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>FY'93</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>FY'94</u> <u>Expenditures</u>	<u>FY'94</u> <u>% of Total</u>
<b>PERSONAL SERVICES</b>	\$15,373,651	\$15,411,158	\$14,434,134	\$16,114,023	52.4
<b>ALL OTHER</b>					
Court Appt. Counsel	4,179,040	3,768,752	4,562,957	4,305,462	14.0
Medical Services*	336,672	419,854	267,848	321,164	1.0
Transcript Costs*	42,446	16,033	26,323	99,342	0.3
Investigators*	72,470	87,667	79,688	114,405	0.4
Witness Fees*	591,790	595,571	287,695	177,554	0.6
Misc. Professional Fees	242,846	288,500	267,479	105,385	0.3
Court Officers*	820,432	187,628	217,847	118,565	0.4
Bailiffs*	987,109	1,361,085	744,961	947,791	3.1
Traverse Jury Costs	1,238,873	590,885	461,125	595,856	1.9
Grand Jury Costs	146,005	73,960	67,039	69,957	0.2
Pensions	1,563,030	1,635,382	1,687,062	1,644,449	5.3
Disability Compensation	131,227	112,309	205,683	173,567	0.6
Mediators	278,350	232,424	221,006	215,225	0.7
County Law Libraries	233,185	205,658	197,740	153,938	0.5
Books	136,091	159,819	116,034	100,753	0.3
Printing/Binding	134,858	119,786	111,517	114,782	0.4
Photocopying	174,773	204,837	153,541	138,177	0.4
Postage	168,978	142,403	93,360	174,036	0.6
Office Supplies	153,103	130,057	134,801	135,536	0.4
Telephone	453,048	428,836	236,279	375,410	1.2
Leases	2,403,140	1,522,437	1,298,877	1,146,695	3.7
Janitorial Services	29,643	62,185	161,398	289,767	0.9
Court Facilities Bonds	-	2,149,339	1,854,441	1,461,563	4.8
Travel/Mileage	327,534	300,435	281,109	293,373	1.0
Other*	824,295	873,684	653,423	1,199,608	3.9
<b>Total All Other</b>	\$15,668,938	\$15,669,526	\$14,389,233	\$14,472,360	47.1
<b>CAPITAL</b>	\$161,191	\$249,155	\$106,556	\$172,031	0.6
<b>TOTAL **</b>	<b>\$31,203,780</b>	<b>\$31,329,839</b>	<b>\$28,929,923</b>	<b>\$30,758,414</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**\*DEFINITIONS**

- Medical Services:** Psychiatric examinations and testimony under the following circumstances: involuntary hospitalization of mentally ill and mentally retarded individuals; periodic review of mentally ill individuals and re-certification of mentally retarded individual indigent criminal defendants; and any other criminal defendants on the order of the judge, in Superior and District Court cases.
- Transcript Costs:** Transcript costs for indigent defendants, and for judicial review in sentencing.
- Investigators:** Investigators in indigent defense cases.
- Witness Fees:** Payments to municipal police departments, county sheriffs, state police and the State Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for their officers to serve as witnesses for the prosecution in District Court cases; and for indigent defendants' witnesses in Superior and District Court cases; and to private citizens serving as witnesses in any criminal case.
- Court Officers:** Payments to county sheriffs to provide security in Superior Court for FY'91. As of FY'93 this type of service is reflected at bailiff cost center. Also payments to county sheriffs and municipal police departments to serve as court complaint officers in District Court.
- Bailiffs:** Payments to county sheriffs and municipal police departments to provide security in the District Court and as of FY'92 includes Superior Court costs.
- Other:** Data processing, casual labor, complaint justices, research services, analysis and lab services, out of state travel, utilities, rent and repairs to equipment subscriptions, dues, janitorial services, clothing, miscellaneous and minor equipment, training, and disability compensation.

\*\* NOTE: DOES NOT INCLUDE SPECIAL PROJECTS ADMINISTERED WITH FEDERAL MONIES.



COMPARATIVE REVENUE SUMMARY FOR  
SUPERIOR, DISTRICT AND ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS:

TABLE F-3

<u>SUPERIOR COURT</u>	<u>FY'91 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'92 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'93 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'94 Revenue</u>	<u>% chg. '93-'94</u>
Androscoggin	\$197,762	\$242,644	\$323,395	\$245,123	-24.2
Aroostook	170,389	191,200	180,178	188,560	4.7
Cumberland	620,792	634,098	701,747	739,889	5.4
Franklin	74,978	79,079	68,747	77,716	13.0
Hancock	132,540	89,479	103,514	74,653	-27.9
Kennebec	178,533	192,871	247,159	210,903	-14.7
Knox	127,873	105,601	102,676	120,497	17.4
Lincoln	85,527	81,919	103,353	67,592	-34.6
Oxford	99,202	99,079	114,804	100,350	-12.6
Penobscot	306,348	345,112	219,446	227,772	3.8
Piscataquis	21,274	22,701	16,076	18,035	12.2
Sagadahoc	77,244	84,442	80,885	100,599	24.4
Somerset	151,973	127,113	133,875	129,996	-2.9
Waldo	55,986	64,005	63,502	73,545	15.8
Washington	85,751	76,051	63,292	78,863	24.6
York	321,877	390,979	489,594	488,151	-0.3
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$2,708,049</b>	<b>\$2,826,373</b>	<b>\$3,012,243</b>	<b>\$2,942,244</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
<u>DISTRICT COURT</u>	<u>FY'91 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'92 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'93 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'94 Revenue</u>	<u>% chg '93-'94 (b)</u>
Augusta	\$1,216,968	\$951,963	\$606,399	\$529,700	-12.6
Bangor	1,613,231	1,274,379	779,244	791,472	1.6
Bar Harbor	182,909	146,406	102,833	106,366	3.4
Bath/Brunswick (a)	1,199,983	1,002,586	589,671	582,919	-1.1
Belfast	392,556	341,251	239,439	230,034	-3.9
Biddeford	1,539,596	1,415,323	804,112	649,409	-19.2
Bridgton	452,684	381,593	239,510	229,092	-4.3
Calais	307,247	296,729	207,556	170,865	-17.7
Caribou	294,318	222,430	150,300	141,999	-5.5
Dover-Foxcroft	308,783	271,903	193,056	213,585	10.6
Ellsworth	622,540	454,991	309,287	309,701	0.1
Farmington	431,310	334,212	173,815	200,933	15.6
Fort Kent	102,267	85,400	55,257	62,709	13.5
Houlton	409,125	281,881	188,262	166,835	-11.4
Lewiston	1,750,378	1,581,895	874,736	809,973	-7.4
Lincoln	324,157	291,790	146,193	153,735	5.2
Livermore Falls	155,357	131,440	74,998	79,630	6.2
Machias	227,796	212,518	148,547	130,304	-12.3
Madawaska	90,597	74,520	48,805	41,055	-15.9
Millinocket	217,975	168,274	135,861	112,229	-17.4
Newport	507,656	415,625	209,165	191,687	-8.4
Portland	3,958,372	3,151,072	1,751,150	1,538,565	-12.1
Presque Isle	499,396	439,327	272,314	221,393	-18.7
Rockland	533,355	396,044	310,197	323,238	4.2
Rumford	390,584	296,890	181,265	176,089	-2.9
Skowhegan	1,079,848	900,412	491,402	448,813	-8.7
South Paris	261,786	244,111	190,316	179,633	-5.6
Springvale	724,493	636,483	396,522	387,456	-2.3
Van Buren	36,316	29,712	13,020	15,055	15.6
Waterville	891,458	689,780	529,776	425,643	-19.7
Wiscasset	381,171	316,686	250,192	296,160	18.4
York	1,985,753	1,769,269	716,763	741,912	3.5
D.C. Violations Bureau (b)	-	\$3,565,694	\$8,058,726	\$8,459,778	5.0
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$23,089,965</b>	<b>\$22,772,589</b>	<b>\$19,438,689</b>	<b>\$19,117,967</b>	<b>-1.6</b>
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE COURT</u>	<u>FY'91 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'92 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'93 Revenue</u>	<u>FY'94 Revenue</u>	<u>% chg '93-'94</u>
	\$119,511	\$101,745	\$80,594	\$76,626	-4.9
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,917,525</b>	<b>\$25,700,707</b>	<b>\$22,531,526</b>	<b>\$22,136,837</b>	<b>-1.8</b>

(a) Bath/Brunswick courts were merged, effective July 1, 1990. Data prior to July 1, 1990 has also been combined to allow for trend analysis.

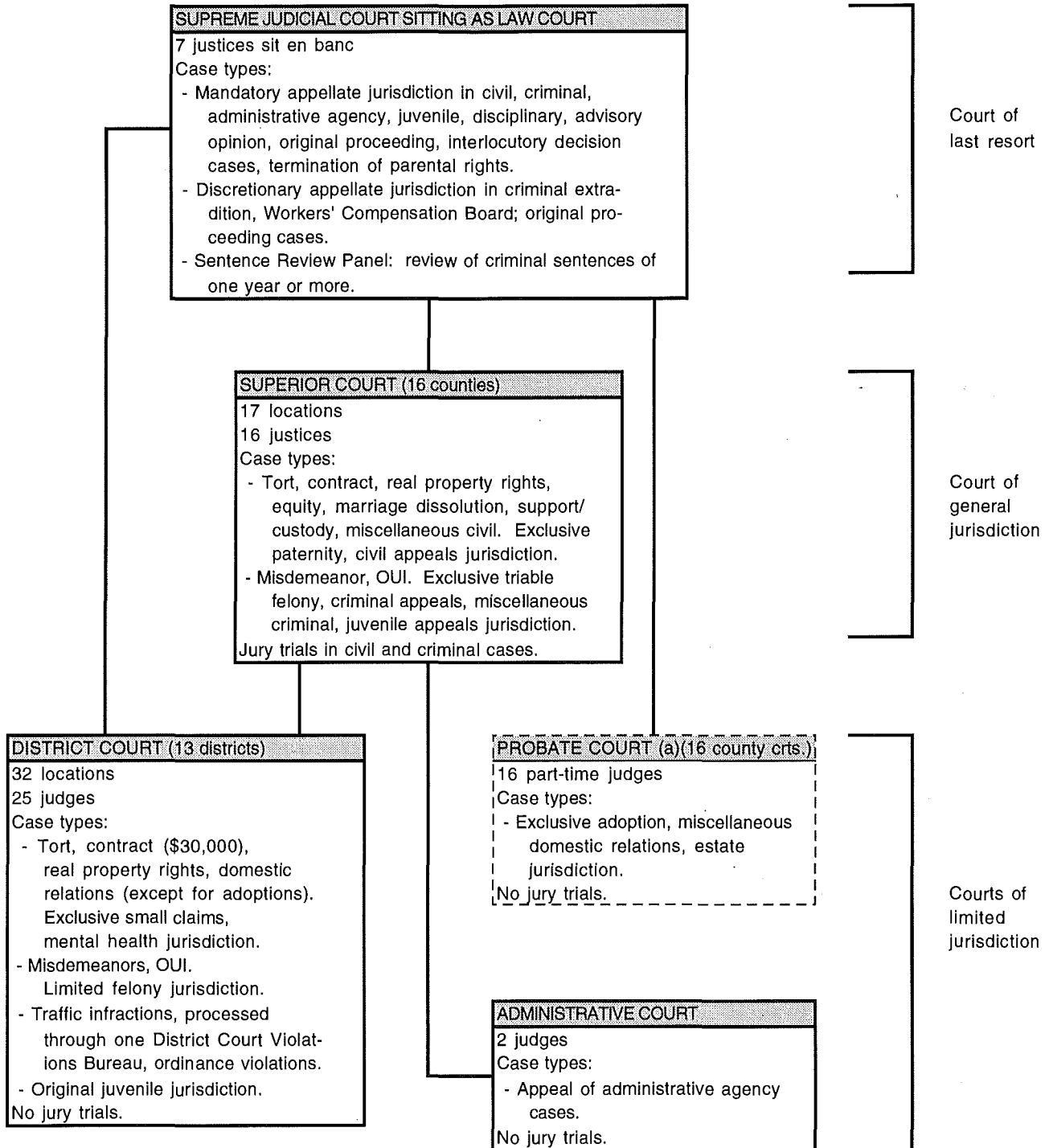
(b) Effective 1/1/92 all traffic infractions are filed at a central location called the District Court Violations Bureau. In FY'93 all traffic infractions revenue is reported at the Violations Bureau and not at the individual District Courts.

# DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS COLLECTED BY THE JUDICIAL BRANCH

TABLE F-4

	<u>FY'92</u>	<u>FY'93</u>	<u>FY'94</u>	<u>Composition</u> <u>FY'94</u> %	<u>Change</u> <u>'93 - '94</u> %
<b>GROSS COLLECTIONS</b>	25,953,306	22,717,982	22,319,627	100%	-1.8
DEDICATED REVENUES:					
Dept. of Conservation (Keep Maine Scenic Fund)	2,890	3,120	1,680	0.0%	-46.2
Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (Fish and Game Fund)	527,676	603,616	538,428	2.4%	-10.8
Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (Watercraft Fund)	46,991	36,641	36,496	0.2%	-0.4
Dept. of Attorney General (Victim's Compensation Fund)	0	109,599	421,991	1.9%	285.0
Dept. of Transportation (Transportation Safety Fund)	484,019	300,611	290,199	1.3%	-3.5
Dept. of Transportation (Highway Fund)	1,244,035	954,038	1,097,960	4.9%	15.1
Maine County Governments (Gov't Operations Surcharge Fund)	398,129	381,680	351,125	1.6%	-8.0
Maine Municipal Governments (Violations of Local Ordinances)	73,827	81,343	77,230	0.3%	-5.1
<b>TOTAL DEDICATED REVENUES</b>	<b>2,777,567</b>	<b>2,470,648</b>	<b>2,815,109</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>13.9</b>
<b>DISTRIBUTED TO GENERAL FUND (NOT DEDICATED)</b>	<b>23,175,739</b>	<b>20,247,334</b>	<b>19,504,518</b>	<b>87.4%</b>	<b>-3.7</b>
Additional Funds from Partial Reimbursements Provided by Indigent Defendants	191,347	301,227	376,823		25.1

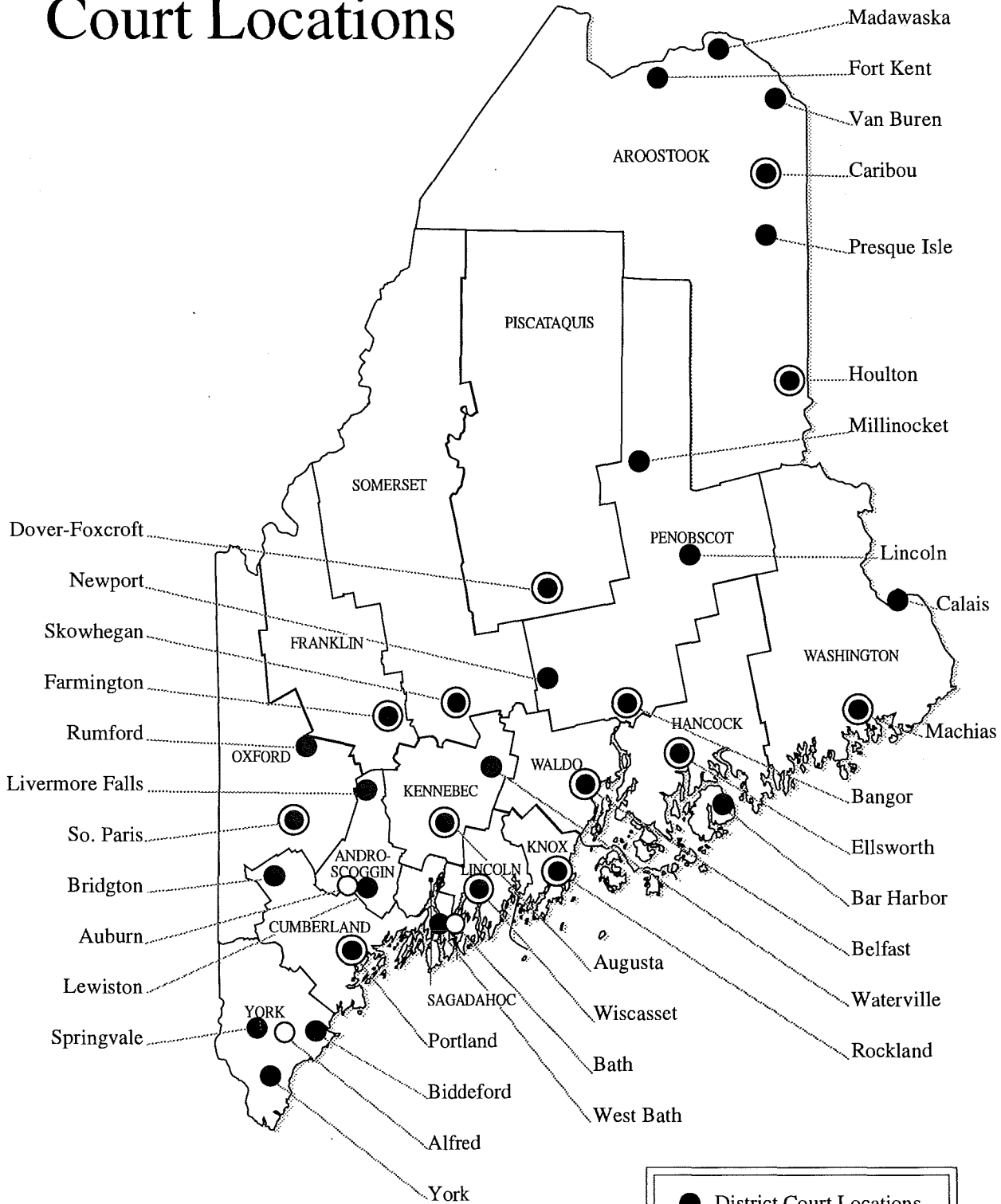
# MAINE COURT STRUCTURE



NOTE: (a) Probate Courts are operated by counties and are not considered part of the state funded court system.

In addition to the regular appointed judges, active retired judges serve in the District and Superior Courts. In FY'94, active retired judges provided 1,002 days of judicial service - the equivalent of slightly more than four full-time judges (333 days in the District Court and 669 days in the Superior Court).

# State of Maine Court Locations



●	District Court Locations
○	Superior Court Locations
●	District & Superior Court facilities at this location

## STATE COURT CASELOAD SUMMARY

Caseloads throughout Maine's state court system have undergone significant changes during the past several years. There are characteristic differences in today's court caseload compared to that of the past, but these changes are difficult to quantify; statistics cannot demonstrate the increased complexity of civil litigation, and it is often impossible to document the actual impact of new legislation each year. Nonetheless, the statistics summarized in Graph TC-1 and detailed in the "Work of the Courts" section of this report provide a basic understanding of state court caseload.

In the Law Court, the State's highest appellate court, fiscal year 1994 filings increased by 58.7% compared to fiscal year 1993. Most of this dramatic increase was due to the nearly tripling (from 154 to 448 cases) in filings of Worker's Compensation cases. There were 1,038 cases filed and 818 cases disposed of in FY'94. In cases for which opinions were written, the average time from notice of appeal to final disposition by the Law Court was 328 days. The Court wrote 140 opinions in criminal cases and 291 opinions in civil cases.

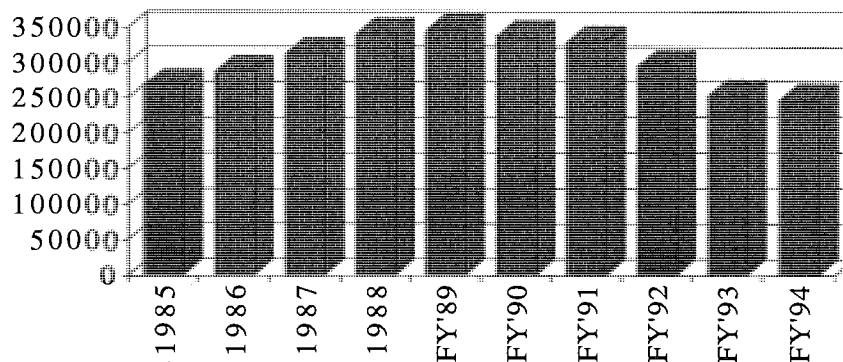
The Superior Court is the state's court of general jurisdiction. There were 17,581 cases filed in FY'94, of which 5,149 (29%) were civil cases and 338 (1.9%) were URESA cases. Of the 5,979 civil dispositions during FY'94, 40% were dismissed upon agreement of the parties (Rule 41(a)). The 212 civil jury trials accounted for 3.5% of all civil dispositions.

The number of criminal filings in the Superior Court was 12,094 in FY'94, a 3.4% decrease compared to FY'93. Forty-seven percent of all criminal case filings were transfers from the District Court. The 3,851 cases involving Class A, Class B and Class C crimes (formerly classified as felonies) constituted 31.8% of the Superior Court's criminal caseload. A total of 55.3% of all dispositions were convictions, while dismissals by the District Attorney accounted for 24.4%. Of the 6,619 convictions, 95.6% were by a plea of guilty.

The state's major court of limited jurisdiction is the District Court. The Court, again for the fourth year, experienced a slight decrease in caseload, with 227,600 filings (including traffic infractions) in FY'94, a 2.3% decrease from FY'93. Criminal filings (77,020) decreased by 1.1% from the previous year, and civil filings (43,407) decreased by 1.6%. During FY'94, the local courts disposed of 43,887 civil cases, 74,605 criminal cases and 7,537 civil violations. A total disposition count is unavailable due to lack of data regarding traffic violations processed through the District Court Violations Bureau.

The Administrative Court has jurisdiction over the suspension and revocation of administrative agency licenses. Almost all (95.5%) of this Court's caseload originates from the Bureau of Liquor Enforcement. In FY'94, filings in the Administrative Court increased by 6.1% from the level reported in FY'93, with a total of 358 filings.

### MAINE STATE COURTS: TOTAL CASELOAD



GRAPH TC-1

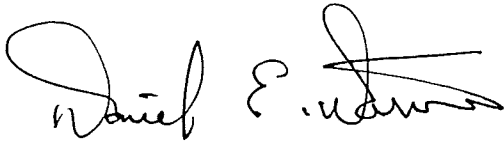
## REPORT OF THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT - FISCAL YEAR 1994

In the midst of a year involving great administrative change and deep financial crisis within the court system, the Supreme Judicial Court experienced filings at a rate unprecedented in its 174-year history. For the first time, annual filings exceeded one thousand, surpassing the prior all time high by 384 cases. The 59% increase in one year results from dramatic changes in the worker's compensation system and a steady increase in both civil and criminal appeals.

The establishment of a new Worker's Compensation Board, effective January 1, 1993, and the discontinuation of the appellate division that operated within the former agency resulted in a flood of new filings. More than 145 cases came directly from the pending docket of the appellate division without ever having been heard. In addition, there was a large increase in the volume of decisions generally as the hearing officers attempted to close out pending cases before the deadline. We hope that this is a one-time flood and that worker's compensation filings under the new system will decline to less than two hundred during the coming year. Although that number would represent an improvement, it is still three or four times higher than historical averages.

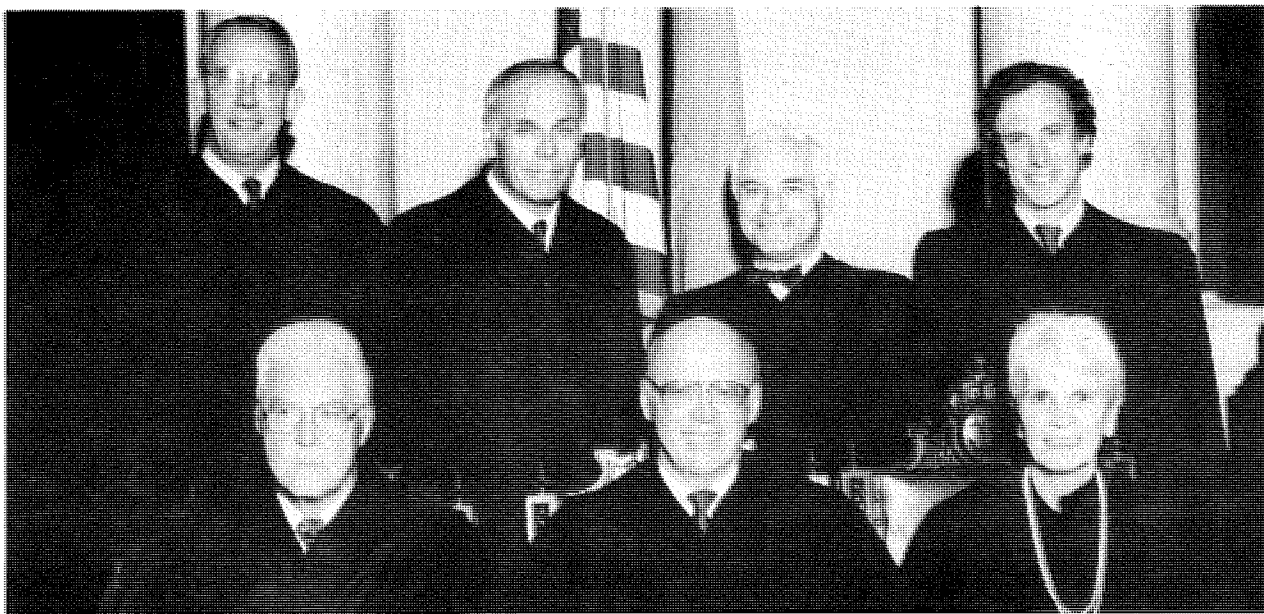
In this time of growth and fiscal austerity, the Court increased the number of dispositions by nearly one-third, and performed commendably in continuing to provide justice to the people of Maine. We were greatly assisted by our dedicated staff. The single staff attorney position made available to us by the Legislature for the last eight months of the year was a critical factor in permitting us to discharge our expanded responsibilities.

Although we face a new year with a heavier backlog than is desirable, we reaffirm our commitment to do all that is within our power to serve the needs of the people of Maine.



Daniel W. Wathen  
Chief Justice

### Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court



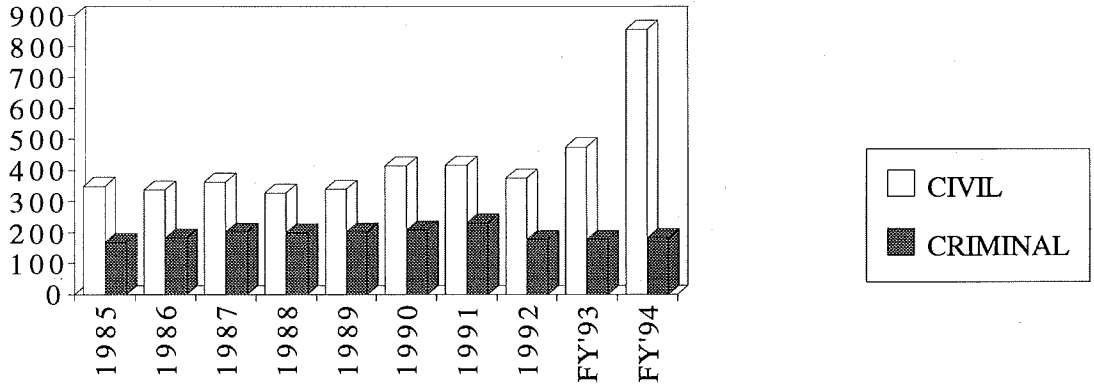
**Front Row** (left to right): David G. Roberts, Daniel E. Wathen, Caroline D. Glassman  
**Back Row** (left to right): Howard H. Dana, Jr., Robert W. Clifford, Paul L. Rudman, Kermit V. Lipez

# LAW COURT

NOTE: Prior to FY'93, Law Court information was reported on a calendar year basis.

**Graph LC-1** illustrates the trend of case filings in Law Court 1984 - FY'94. Civil case filings peaked in FY'94, with 856 cases filed, primarily due to a dramatic increase in worker's compensation filings (from 59 in CY'92 to 154 in FY'93 to 448 in FY'94). Other civil litigation cases increased 27.1%, from 321 in FY'93 to 408 in FY'94.

**CASE FILINGS IN THE LAW COURT**



GRAPH LC-1

## FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS IN THE LAW COURT

**Table LC-2** details the numbers of case filings and dispositions. The most significant change during FY'93 was in workers' compensation caseload. As a result of the Workers' Compensation Act and the abolition of an administrative appellate division as of January 1993, filings in workers' compensation cases now comprise over 40% of all case filings in the Law Court.

**LAW COURT FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS**

Table LC-2

	<u>1990</u>		<u>1991</u>		<u>1992</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Dispos.</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Dispos.</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Dispos.</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Dispos.</u>	<u>Filings</u>	<u>Dispos.</u>
<b>Civil</b>	414	432	416	369	315	341	321	297	408	390
<b>Workers' Compensation</b>					59	61	154	81	448	251
<b>Subtotal</b>	414	432	416	369	374	402	475	378	856	641
<b>Criminal</b>	208	186	230	204	177	169	179	166	182	177
<b>TOTAL</b>	622	618	646	573	551	571	654	544	1038	818

# LAW COURT DISPOSITIONS

**TABLE LC-3** details the type and outcome of Law Court dispositions from 1989 through FY'94. Explanatory Notes: "Administrative Proceedings" are cases seeking review of action (or refusal to act) by agencies of the Executive Department. Through December 1992, appeals from the Appellate Division of the Workers' Compensation Division continued to be filed in the Law Court. As of January 1, 1993, workers' compensation cases were filed in the Law Court directly from the Workers' Compensation Board. For purposes of continuity, all cases are counted as "workers' compensation". "Discretionary Appeals" are requests for certificates of probable cause in post-conviction review cases. "Change" means that the trial court's judgment has been reversed, vacated or substantively modified. In FY'94, 12.4% of all criminal dispositions and 14.9% of all civil dispositions resulted in a change from the lower court's judgment. Prior to FY'94, Child Protective (termination of parental rights) and Divorce cases were included in the "Other Civil" category.

**Law Court Dispositions by Case Type**

**Table LC-3**

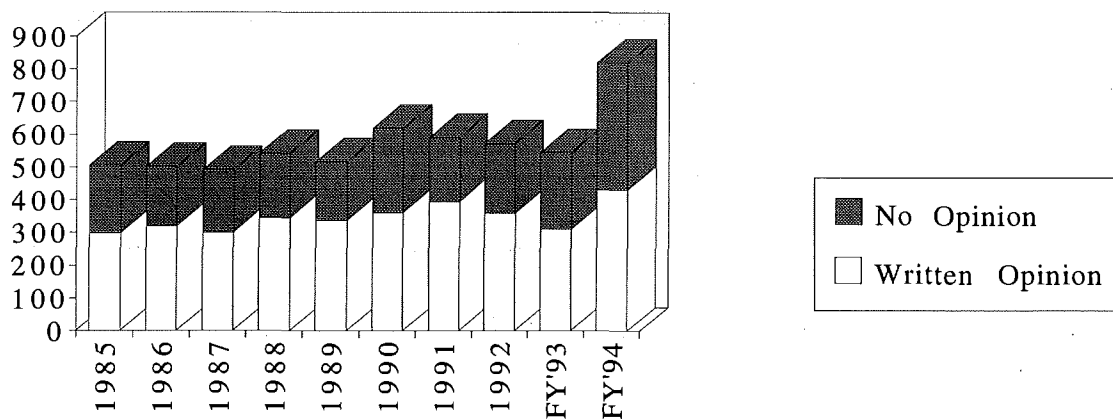
Case Type	1990			1991			1992			FY'93			FY'94		
	no change	sub-change	total	no change	sub-change	total	no change	sub-change	total	no change	sub-change	total	no change	sub-change	total
<b>CRIMINAL</b>															
written opinion	18	109	127	25	119	144	24	97	121	23	98	121	22	118	140
no opinion	-	59	59	-	56	56	-	48	48	-	45	45	-	37	37
<b>Criminal Subtotal</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>177</b>
<b>CIVIL</b>															
<b>Public Utilities Commission</b>															
written opinion	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	3
no opinion	-	1	1	-	0	0	-	2	2	-	3	3	-	1	1
<b>PUC Subtotal</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Workers' Compensation</b>															
written opinion	3	2	5	10	8	18	6	3	9	4	2	6	13	8	21
no opinion	-	38	38	-	30	30	-	52	52	-	75	75	-	230	230
<b>Wkr. Cmp. Subtotal</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>251</b>
<b>Administrative Proceedings</b>															
written opinion	6	19	25	6	17	23	8	18	26	5	14	19	15	10	25
no opinion	-	10	10	-	5	5	-	4	4	-	4	4	-	8	8
<b>Adm. Proc. Subtotal</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Child Protective</b>															
written opinion													0	11	11
no opinion													-	3	3
<b>Ch. Prot. Subtotal</b>													<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Divorce</b>															
written opinion													2	11	13
no opinion													-	6	6
<b>Divorce Subtotal</b>													<b>2</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Other Civil</b>															
written opinion	59	144	203	58	152	210	62	137	199	55	105	160	65	149	214
no opinion	-	148	148	-	92	92	-	98	98	-	98	98	-	90	90
<b>Oth. Civ. Subtotal</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>304</b>
<b>Discretionary Appeals</b>															
written opinion	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	3	4
no opinion	-	0	0	-	12	12	-	8	8	-	9	9	-	12	12
<b>Dis. App. Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>CIVIL TOTAL:</b>															
written opinion	69	166	235	74	177	251	78	160	238	66	123	189	96	195	291
no opinion	-	197	197	-	139	139	-	164	164	-	189	189	-	350	350
<b>Total All Civil</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>641</b>
<b>ALL CASE TYPES</b>															
written opinion	87	275	362	99	296	395	102	257	359	89	221	310	118	313	431
no opinion	-	256	256	-	195	195	-	212	212	-	234	234	-	387	387
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>818</b>



## LAW COURT OPINIONS

**Graph LC-4** illustrates the percentage of cases resulting in a written opinion. Of the 818 cases disposed in FY'94, 431 (52.7%) involved a written opinion, a record high. Nearly 80% (140 of 177) of criminal dispositions and 45.5% (291 of 641) of civil dispositions involved a written opinion.

### LAW COURT DISPOSITIONS



**GRAPH LC-4**

## DISPOSITION TIME IN THE LAW COURT: FY'94

**TABLE LC-5** averages the number of days from filing of notice of appeal to final disposition of cases completed during FY'94. The average completion time of cases for which an opinion was written was 328 days, a 3.5% increase from the 317 day average in FY'93.

### Time from Notice of Appeal to Disposition FY'94

**Table LC-5**

<u>Case Type</u>	<u>OPINION</u>		<u>NO OPINION</u>	
	<u># cases</u>	<u>avg. # days</u>	<u># cases</u>	<u>avg. # days</u>
<b>CRIMINAL</b>	140	380	37	318
<b>PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION</b>	3	333	1	174
<b>WORKERS COMPENSATION</b>	21	275	230	134
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS</b>	25	276	8	537
<b>CHILD PROTECTIVE</b>	11	270	3	134
<b>DIVORCE</b>	13	256	6	110
<b>ALL OTHER CIVIL</b>	214	313	90	438
<b>DISCRETIONARY APPEAL</b>	4	278	12	77
<b>ALL CASES</b>	431	328	387	228

## SENTENCE REVIEW PANEL

Statutory changes effective September 30, 1989 replaced the Appellate Division of the Supreme Judicial Court with the Sentence Review Panel. Applications for leave to appeal come before the Sentence Review Panel, which either grants or denies the leave to appeal. When the leave to appeal is granted, the sentence appeal is then docketed in the Law Court and proceeds as a regular appeal before the full court. When there is also an appeal from the conviction pending in the Law Court, the sentence appeal merges into that case and they are briefed and decided together. The table below shows the caseload of the Sentence Review Panel since October 1989.

**Sentence Review Panel Caseload**

**Table LC-6**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Filed</u>	<u>Granted</u>	<u>Denied or Dismissed</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>	<u>Total Dispositions</u>
<b>1989</b>	16	5	0	0	5
<b>1990</b>	154	18	90	0	108
<b>1991</b>	154	6	130	0	136
<b>1992</b>	137	12	120	3	135
<b>FY'93</b>	131	5	131	0	136
<b>FY'94</b>	121	6	115	0	121

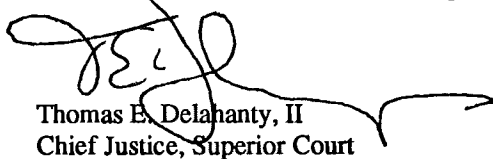
## REPORT OF THE SUPERIOR COURT - FISCAL YEAR 1994

For the first time since 1990 the Superior Court enjoyed a full complement of judges for the entire year. A short vacancy existed when Justice Kermit V. Lipez was appointed to the Supreme Judicial Court. Justice John R. Atwood was nominated and confirmed shortly afterwards. The Superior Court justices continue to process large trial schedules for both civil and criminal matters. Regular assignments were supplemented by the services of the active-retired justices who contributed the equivalent of 2.5 full-time judges.

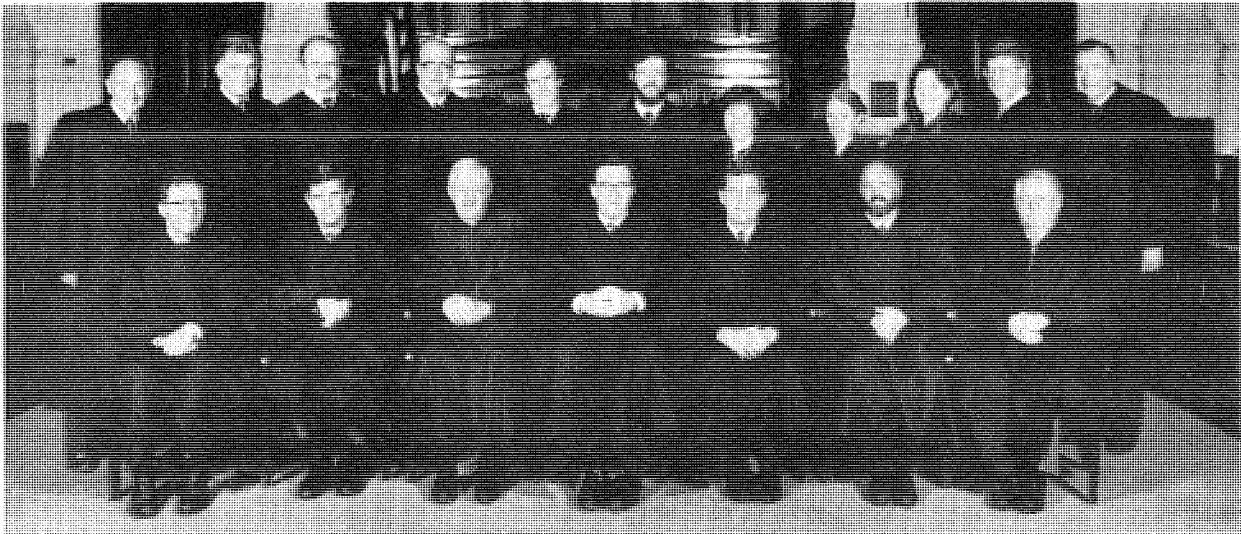
Although the total number of filings and dispositions continued to decline since highs in FY'90, I am pleased to report that the total number of dispositions exceeded the new filings for the third year in a row allowing us to further reduce the number of pending cases. Both the number of trials conducted and the days devoted to trials in the Superior Court increased from the previous year by 15.5%. In fact there were more than 100 extra days for trials in 1994 than in 1990 when we had the highest number of dispositions.

As Chief Justice, I have conducted a series of meetings with representatives of the bar in several counties to address the issue of case management and solicit the suggestions and cooperation of trial counsel in the timely processing of both civil and criminal cases. The meetings will continue with the greatest attention being given to the counties with the oldest pending cases.

As we enter a new fiscal year, the Superior Court has joined with the District Court to implement a program of cross-assignment where emergency matters may be taken care of by any judge if a judge of one court is not available. Trial judges are also permitted to initiate a swap of assignments to allow judges of each court the opportunity to preside in the other. This provides each judge with different experiences to better appreciate the duties and responsibility of the other court. Additionally, the Superior Court is preparing to implement a pilot project promoting alternative dispute resolution in six counties. The ADR project will compare referral to some form of mediation or arbitration at the beginning litigation, in the middle of the discovery period, and cases which follow the normal or traditional track of litigation. A comprehensive jury management study is underway and will examine all phases of the jury system from summons to final discharge. It is expected that these and other studies and projects will lead to substantial changes and improved case management.

  
Thomas E. Delahanty, II  
Chief Justice, Superior Court

### The Justices of the Superior Court



**Front Row (left to right):** G. Arthur Brennan, William S. Brodrick, Stephen L. Perkins, Thomas E. Delahanty II, Carl O. Bradford, Paul T. Pierson, Bruce W. Chandler

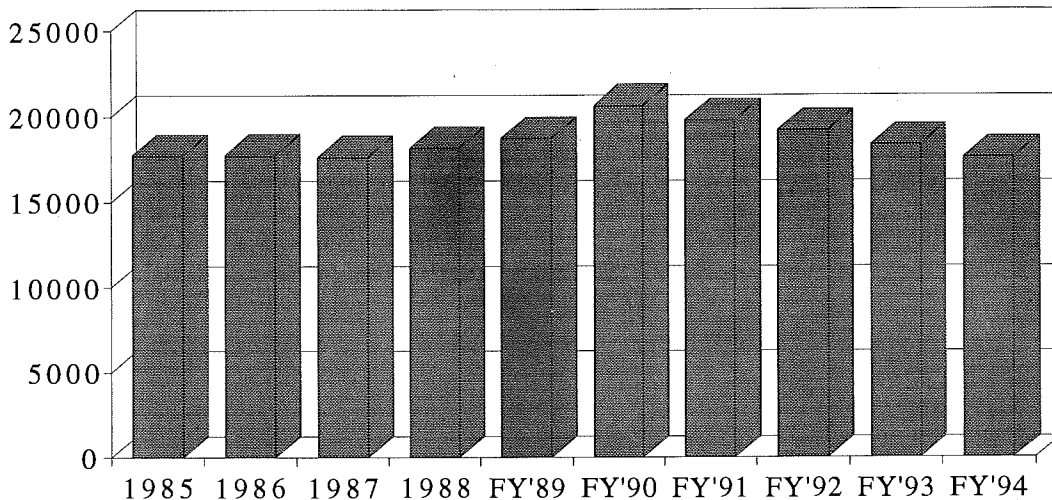
**Back Row (left to right):** Sidney W. Wernick (active retired), Francis C. Marsano, Andrew M. Mead, Roland A. Cole, Kermit V. Lipez (app't to SJC), Paul A. Fritzsche, Margaret A. Kravchuk, Nancy D. Mills, Leigh I. Saufley, Robert E. Crowley, William E. McKinley (active retired)

**Absent from photo:** Donald G. Alexander, James P. Archibald (active retired), John R. Atwood (new appointee), Ian MacInnes (active retired) and Robert L. Browne (active retired)

# SUPERIOR COURT

As illustrated by **Graph SC-1** below, total filings in the Superior Court have fluctuated from a high in FY'90 of 20,638, to a low in this year of 17,581. Generally, total case filings have remained relatively stable, with an average of 18,558 cases filed per year.

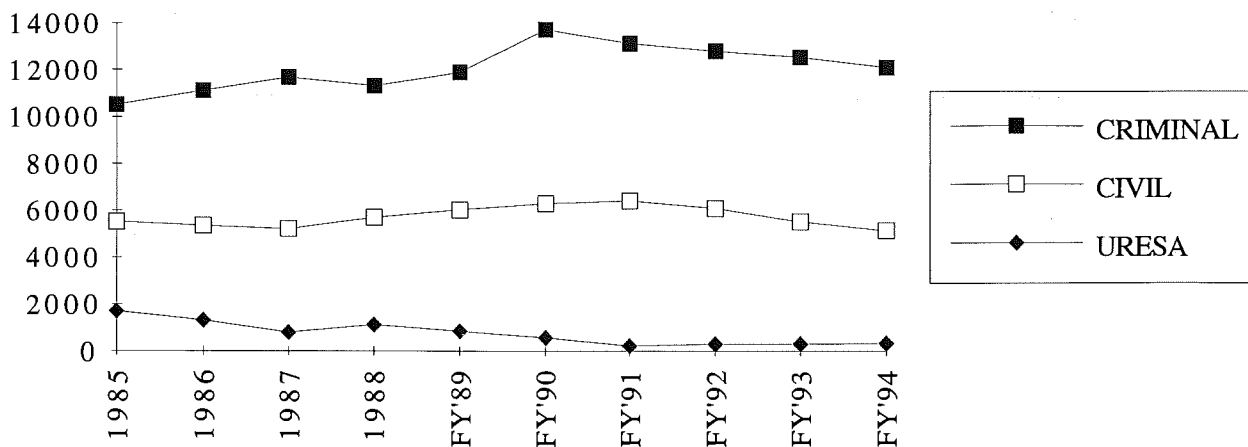
**TOTAL CASE FILINGS IN SUPERIOR COURT**



**GRAPH SC-1**

**Graph SC-2** illustrates total filings by general case type. Criminal filings increased from 10,525 cases filed during calendar year 1985 to a peak of 13,727 cases filed in FY'90, and have declined slightly during each of the past four years to 12,094 cases filed in FY'94. Criminal case filings represent a growing percentage of all cases filed. In 1985, 59.3% of Superior Court cases were criminal; in FY'94, criminal cases comprised 68.8% of cases filed. Civil case filings have remained relatively stable over the past decade, averaging 5,218 cases filed per year. URESA (Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement Support Act) cases, which were transferred during mid-1985 to the Department of Human Services for most administrative processing, have declined from 1,692 in 1985 to 338 in FY'94, and now comprise less than 3% of all cases filings.

**SUPERIOR COURT CASELOAD BY CASE TYPE**



**GRAPH SC-2**

## FILINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

**TABLE SC-3** lists the numbers of case filings and dispositions by type, over the past five years. Generally, numbers of civil and criminal filings have declined slightly when compared to FY'93. Dispositions of civil cases exceeded filings for the third year in a row, further reducing the pending caseload.

### SUPERIOR COURT: FILINGS & DISPOSITIONS BY CASE TYPE

**Table SC-3**

Case Type	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
	FILED	DISP.	FILED	DISP.	FILED	DISP.	FILED	DISP.	FILED	DISP.
<b>CIVIL:</b>										
Damages	533	562	407	487	457	446	398	441	606	486
Personal Injury	1,353	1,406	1,285	1,307	1,195	1,220	1,217	1,239	1,134	1,288
Contract	1,542	1,430	1,536	1,443	1,095	1,425	931	1,209	710	1,036
Divorce	377	391	408	397	284	359	252	309	277	240
Rule 80B/80C Appeal	364	367	297	334	304	270	364	300	371	321
Appeal/Lower Court	302	263	290	310	301	274	264	273	308	275
Real Property Action	753	572	1,166	818	1,380	1,239	1,175	1,362	886	1,128
Equitable Action	344	361	307	308	351	313	310	333	275	318
URESA	596	1,060	228	473	296	318	299	337	338	279
Other	747	755	738	723	725	669	599	616	582	608
<b>CIVIL SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>6,911</b>	<b>7,167</b>	<b>6,662</b>	<b>6,600</b>	<b>6,388</b>	<b>6,533</b>	<b>5,809</b>	<b>6,419</b>	<b>5,487</b>	<b>5,979</b>
<b>CRIMINAL:</b>										
Bail Review	658	632	534	533	470	484	366	359	347	340
Transfer	6,353	5,959	6,036	5,789	5,781	5,651	6,043	6,198	5,719	5,588
Appeal	199	189	136	152	120	129	108	111	101	118
Boundover	273	241	205	261	176	196	215	189	235	221
Indictment	3,922	3,691	3,854	3,793	3,629	3,937	3,210	3,146	3,158	2,942
Information	1,009	990	1,109	1,097	1,302	1,307	1,176	1,169	1,196	1,191
Juvenile Appeal	7	2	4	9	17	5	9	19	13	12
Other	224	191	201	197	204	198	216	191	200	187
Refile: Probation Revocation	1,021	856	1,003	957	1,070	1,017	1,146	1,009	1,065	1,065
Refile: New Trial	61	49	49	55	33	35	32	29	60	54
<b>CRIMINAL SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>13,727</b>	<b>12,800</b>	<b>13,131</b>	<b>12,843</b>	<b>12,802</b>	<b>12,959</b>	<b>12,521</b>	<b>12,420</b>	<b>12,094</b>	<b>11,718</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,638</b>	<b>19,967</b>	<b>19,793</b>	<b>19,443</b>	<b>19,190</b>	<b>19,492</b>	<b>18,330</b>	<b>18,839</b>	<b>17,581</b>	<b>17,697</b>

## TOTAL CASE FILINGS BY COUNTY

**Table SC-4** on the following page lists each Superior Court by county location, and provides figures for filings and dispositions of civil, URESA and criminal cases. Each location has experienced various levels of change in caseload over the last ten years.

**SUPERIOR COURT -- CASE FILINGS BY LOCATION\***

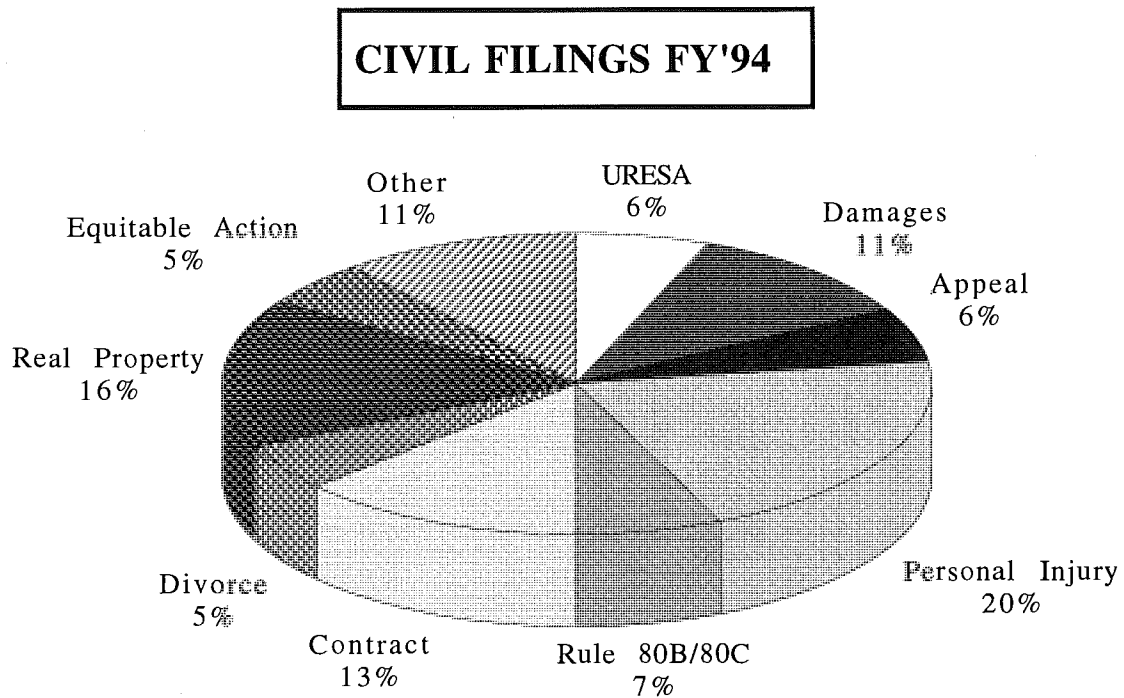
Table SC-4

COUNTY	FILINGS											10 year	1 year
	1985	1986	1987	1988	FY'89	FY'90	FY'91	FY'92	FY'93	FY'94	FY'94	% CHANGE	% CHANGE
<b>ANDROSCOGGIN</b>	Civil	544	507	547	520	530	525	589	553	507	420	-22.8%	-17.2%
	URES	134	127	53	99	67	38	24	18	21	28	-79.1%	33.3%
	Criminal	787	782	822	753	805	1,043	843	846	905	811	3.0%	-10.4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,465</b>	<b>1,416</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,372</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>1,606</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>-14.1%</b>	<b>-12.1%</b>
<b>AROOSTOOK</b>	Civil	322	293	265	264	302	316	302	315	278	317	-1.6%	14.0%
	URES	157	120	86	92	72	48	27	22	38	39	-75.2%	2.6%
	Criminal	426	367	434	398	461	609	685	645	669	676	58.7%	1.0%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>779</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>1,014</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>47.1%</b>
<b>CUMBERLAND</b>	Civil	1,361	1,384	1,379	1,570	1,668	1,683	1,801	1,557	1,390	1,301	-4.4%	-6.4%
	URES	237	208	148	174	127	95	34	40	42	50	-78.9%	19.0%
	Criminal	2,225	2,302	2,538	2,152	2,376	2,836	2,828	2,807	2,647	2,590	16.4%	-2.2%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,824</b>	<b>3,893</b>	<b>4,048</b>	<b>3,896</b>	<b>4,162</b>	<b>4,614</b>	<b>4,663</b>	<b>4,404</b>	<b>4,079</b>	<b>3,941</b>	<b>3.1%</b>	<b>-3.4%</b>
<b>FRANKLIN</b>	Civil	87	97	110	83	92	123	112	114	100	97	11.5%	-3.0%
	URES	37	45	18	27	22	18	1	9	3	11	-70.3%	266.7%
	Criminal	526	484	569	564	653	592	451	334	396	364	-30.8%	-8.1%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>768</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>-27.4%</b>	<b>-5.4%</b>
<b>HANCOCK</b>	Civil	191	201	169	196	188	219	226	217	180	157	-17.8%	-12.8%
	URES	62	42	28	42	27	25	4	25	10	2	-96.8%	-80.0%
	Criminal	236	221	390	413	390	425	452	370	385	368	55.9%	-4.4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>7.8%</b>	<b>-8.3%</b>
<b>KENNEBEC</b>	Civil	625	573	475	496	545	639	635	635	641	570	-8.8%	-11.1%
	URES	147	104	48	84	75	63	16	26	30	46	-68.7%	53.3%
	Criminal	887	788	696	752	740	857	885	896	845	781	-12.0%	-7.6%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>1,462</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>1,357</b>	<b>1,559</b>	<b>1,536</b>	<b>1,557</b>	<b>1,516</b>	<b>1,397</b>	<b>-15.8%</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>
<b>KNOX</b>	Civil	152	152	167	192	199	171	187	205	183	128	-15.8%	-30.1%
	URES	63	22	18	31	25	21	13	5	9	9	-85.7%	0.0%
	Criminal	649	577	502	664	704	718	815	563	593	596	-8.2%	0.5%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>1,015</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>785</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>-15.1%</b>	<b>-6.6%</b>
<b>LINCOLN</b>	Civil	119	181	129	146	150	167	153	161	111	114	-4.2%	2.7%
	URES	44	19	15	21	18	14	5	9	13	8	-81.8%	-38.5%
	Criminal	355	614	562	428	425	489	398	336	270	300	-15.5%	11.1%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>701</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>-18.5%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>
<b>OXFORD</b>	Civil	186	189	152	177	193	209	216	195	173	169	-9.1%	-2.3%
	URES	92	55	41	50	36	20	7	14	15	16	-82.6%	6.7%
	Criminal	467	424	404	390	340	398	487	585	540	486	4.1%	-10.0%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>617</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>
<b>PENOBSCOT</b>	Civil	608	505	503	497	518	590	567	590	499	596	-2.0%	19.4%
	URES	213	159	92	135	104	63	23	29	39	38	-82.2%	-2.6%
	Criminal	855	950	1,104	1,172	1,226	1,357	1,330	1,243	1,094	1,152	34.7%	5.3%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,676</b>	<b>1,614</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>1,804</b>	<b>1,843</b>	<b>2,010</b>	<b>1,920</b>	<b>1,862</b>	<b>1,632</b>	<b>1,786</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>9.4%</b>
<b>PISCATAQUIS</b>	Civil	37	25	31	55	64	49	53	49	42	40	8.1%	-4.8%
	URES	30	12	14	22	20	6	2	6	4	8	-73.3%	100.0%
	Criminal	127	144	150	155	146	158	122	125	163	107	-15.7%	-34.4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>-20.1%</b>	<b>-25.8%</b>
<b>SAGADAHOC</b>	Civil	144	130	92	187	177	134	134	135	108	94	-34.7%	-13.0%
	URES	39	38	23	38	24	12	8	11	7	7	-82.1%	0.0%
	Criminal	387	407	369	390	337	560	586	477	397	415	7.2%	4.5%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>-9.5%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>SOMERSET</b>	Civil	233	219	219	211	234	248	230	232	197	186	-20.2%	-5.6%
	URES	106	57	37	72	51	28	10	12	9	16	-84.9%	77.8%
	Criminal	829	882	937	942	1,058	1,108	740	671	683	694	-16.3%	1.6%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,168</b>	<b>1,157</b>	<b>1,194</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>1,384</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>-23.3%</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>WALDO</b>	Civil	99	99	74	116	154	121	100	97	87	94	-5.1%	8.0%
	URES	43	45	25	40	29	24	6	14	11	8	-81.4%	-27.3%
	Criminal	247	321	265	238	269	286	335	385	381	372	50.6%	-2.4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>
<b>WASHINGTON</b>	Civil	114	100	137	159	173	144	122	111	133	133	16.7%	0.0%
	URES	73	60	41	47	31	23	5	14	12	8	-89.0%	-33.3%
	Criminal	273	269	354	360	363	444	518	425	435	527	93.0%	21.1%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>45.2%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>
<b>YORK</b>	Civil	698	694	767	827	858	977	1,007	926	881	733	5.0%	-16.8%
	URES	215	190	114	168	114	98	43	42	36	44	-79.5%	22.2%
	Criminal	1,249	1,589	1,590	1,553	1,625	1,847	1,656	2,094	2,118	1,855	48.5%	-12.4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,163</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>2,463</b>	<b>2,548</b>	<b>2,579</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>2,706</b>	<b>3,062</b>	<b>3,035</b>	<b>2,632</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>-13.3%</b>
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	Civil	5,520	5,349	5,216	5,696	6,045	6,315	6,434	6,092	5,510	5,149	-6.7%	-6.6%
	URES	1,692	1,303	801	1,142	842	596	228	296	299	338	-80.0%	13.0%
	Criminal	10,525	11,121	11,686	11,324	11,918	13,727	13,131	12,802	12,521	12,094	14.9%	-3.4%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,737</b>	<b>17,773</b>	<b>17,703</b>	<b>18,162</b>	<b>18,805</b>	<b>20,638</b>	<b>19,793</b>	<b>19,190</b>	<b>18,330</b>	<b>17,581</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>-4.1%</b>

\* All cases counted by docket number. Includes cases filed and refilled.

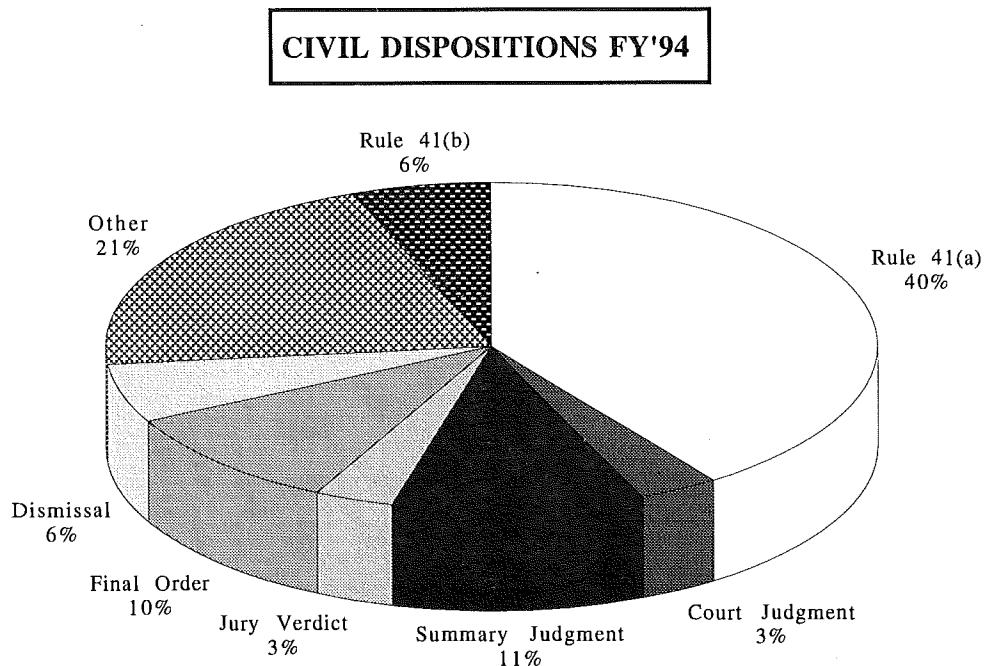
# CIVIL FILINGS: CASE TYPE DISTRIBUTION

Graph SC-5 shows the distribution of civil case types filed during FY'94. Changes in composition of Superior Court civil caseload include a reduction in the percentage of URESA cases (from 19% in 1985 to 6% in FY'94), and a significant increase in real property action cases (from 5% in 1987 to 16% in FY'94).



# TYPES OF CIVIL DISPOSITIONS

Graph SC-6 illustrates the types of case dispositions during FY'94. The most frequent type of disposition occurs under Rule 41(a), when a case is withdrawn by the complainant, 40% of the 5,979 civil cases disposed in FY'94. Disposition types included in the "other" category include: default judgment, Rule 41(b), divorce decree, appeal sustained/denied, judgment as a matter of law (formerly directed verdict), multiple judgments, venue change and miscellaneous.



## TRIALS IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

Tables SC-7 and SC-8 list the numbers of civil and criminal trials, jury and non-jury, and the numbers of trial days for each. Overall, FY'94 trial activity increased in comparison to FY'93, with more total jury (549 in FY'93, 650 in FY'94) and total non-jury trials (251 in FY'93, 296 in FY'94). Considerably more courts days were devoted to trials (163 additional jury trial days, 75 more non-jury trial days).

### Superior Court: Civil Trials

Table SC-7

Year	# of Non- Jury Trials	Total # Days in Non- Jury Trials	# of Jury Trials	# Days in Jury Trials
1984	179	173	194	465
1985	173	206	220	522
1986	211	215	220	576
1987	215	231	241	603
1988	189	213	256	603
FY'89	167	156	231	575
FY'90	143	155	219	503
FY'91	158	197	202	498
FY'92	252	297	123	384
FY'93	193	233	141	440
FY'94	237	310	212	512

### Superior Court: Criminal Trials

Table SC-8

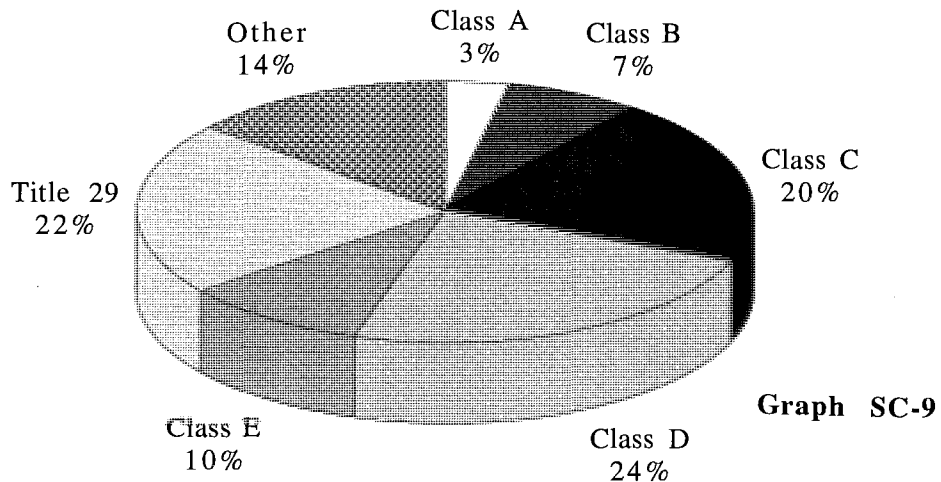
Year	# of Jury Waived Trials	Total # Days in Jury- Waived Trials	# of Jury Trials	# Days in Jury Trials
1984	142	118	420	692
1985	162	133	490	732
1986	145	117	485	779
1987	126	101	537	829
1988	112	125	514	797
FY'89	102	107	580	841
FY'90	100	86	563	868
FY'91	70	55	556	796
FY'92	80	64	511	823
FY'93	58	57	408	657
FY'94	59	55	438	748



## CRIMINAL: Filings by Class of Charge

Graph SC-9 illustrates criminal case filings by the class of charge at time of filing. Class A, Class B, and Class C (formerly classified as felonies) comprised 30% of all criminal cases filed.

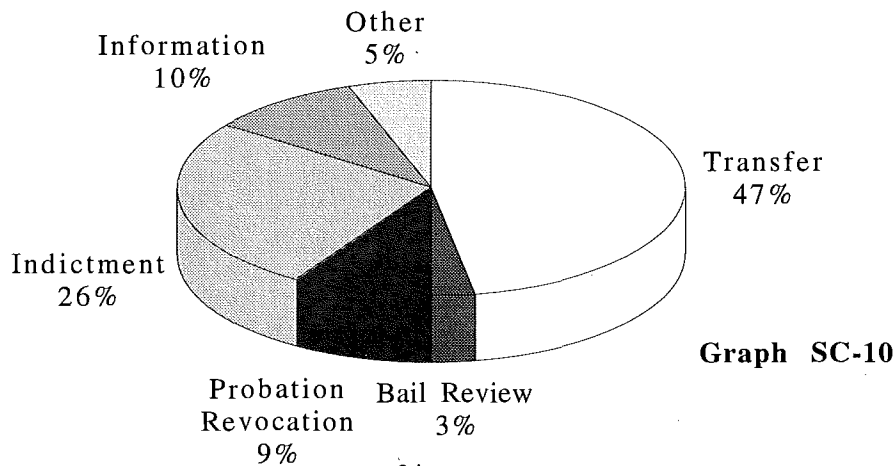
### FY '94 CRIMINAL FILINGS BY CLASS



## CRIMINAL: Filings By Type Of Case

Graph SC-10 shows criminal case filings in FY'94, as defined by the type of case as it entered the Superior Court. Definitions of case types are as follows: **Bail review:** Review and hearing of bail set in the District Court; **Transfer:** criminal matter removed from the District Court after defendant has been arraigned and entered a plea of not guilty in the District Court; **Indictment:** action brought to the Superior Court after Grand Jury finding; **Information:** action brought to the Superior Court after defendant has waived his right to be indicted; **Other:** types of cases listed in this category include - boundover, appeal, refile for new trial, and appeals.

### FY'94 CRIMINAL FILINGS BY TYPE



## CRIMINAL DISPOSITION TYPES BY CLASS

Table SC-11 lists the disposition results of cases by the original class of charge. Case counts are by defendant. The most prevalent disposition of criminal cases in the Superior Court was conviction by a guilty plea (52.9% of all criminal dispositions). Nearly a quarter of all criminal cases were dismissed at the request of local district attorneys.

**Criminal Dispositions by Class of Charge: FY'94**

Table SC-11

CLASS	Convicted: Plea		Convicted: Trial		Acquitted: Trial		Dismissed by D.A.		Filed		Other *		TOTAL
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
A	201	53.5	45	12.0	23	6.1	79	21.0	1	0.3	27	7.2	376
B	623	74.4	22	2.6	12	1.4	161	19.2	2	0.2	17	2.0	837
C	1,814	76.5	63	2.7	35	1.5	406	17.1	17	0.7	35	1.5	2,370
D	1,466	51.7	60	2.1	43	1.5	951	33.5	177	6.2	140	4.9	2,837
E	568	49.6	18	1.6	18	1.6	398	34.7	83	7.2	61	5.3	1,146
<b>TITLE 29</b>	1,593	58.6	73	2.7	28	1.0	837	30.8	74	2.7	114	4.2	2,719
<b>OTHER*</b>	60	3.6	13	0.8	2	0.1	83	4.9	4	0.2	1,518	90.4	1,680
<b>TOTAL</b>	6,325	52.9	294	2.5	161	1.3	2,915	24.4	358	3.0	1,912	16.0	11,965

\* Of the 33 Bail Review Cases included in the "Other" class of charge category, bail was revised in 201 cases, affirmed in 84 cases, and 48 cases were otherwise disposed. Of the 991 petitions for probation revocation included in the "Other" category, probation was revoked in 766 cases.

## REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COURT - FISCAL YEAR 1994

During Fiscal Year 1994 the District Court had its full complement of judges throughout the year. The same judges who began the fiscal year were with us at the end of the fiscal year. The two judges of the Administrative Court contributed a large number of days to the District Court. However, Active Retired Judges Batherson and Pease retired fully from the bench, and the District Court also lost the services of Active Retired Administrative Court Judge Rogers through illness for much of the year. The combined time that these three retired judges had given to the bench was equal to or greater than that of a full-time judge.

Meetings of the District Court judges were held in January and June. The judges also met in October, 1993, with all other judges and with personnel from the Department of Human Services at a three day educational conference on domestic violence. All District Court judges attended a one day session on juvenile justice in May with others who work with juveniles. The clerks attended a meeting in January dealing primarily with child support issues.

Planning was started for two new courthouses, one in Skowhegan and the other in Biddeford. The Legislature authorized the funding of these courthouses through the Maine Court Facilities Authority. Architects were hired, and site selection was begun. Plans were also made to move the Waterville District Court into a new facility which is under construction and will be leased from a private landlord.

The York County Coordination Project continued its work. The three district courts in York County have shared personnel, developed uniform procedures, and coordinated schedules to enhance the service to the litigants in York County. A similar program has been underway in Somerset and Franklin Counties.

A team composed primarily of District Court personnel began a project to review procedures in pro se divorces and to recommend methods of providing better services to pro se litigants. Other judges and employees have contributed significant time on teams reviewing various court and clerical procedures such as court fees, alternative dispute resolution, management of mail, court technology and video arraignments, to name just a few of the many topics.

Judges of the Superior, District and Administrative Courts began participating in cross-assignments whereby the judges of one court presided in another court. This project has been met with enthusiasm by all who have participated.



Susan W. Calkins  
Chief Judge, District Court

### District Court Judiciary



**Front Row** (left to right): Bernard C. Staples, Thomas E. Humphrey, Ronald A. Daigle, Rae Ann French, Ellen A. Gorman, Susan W. Calkins, John V. Romei, Jessie B. Gunther, Andre G. Janelle, John C. Sheldon

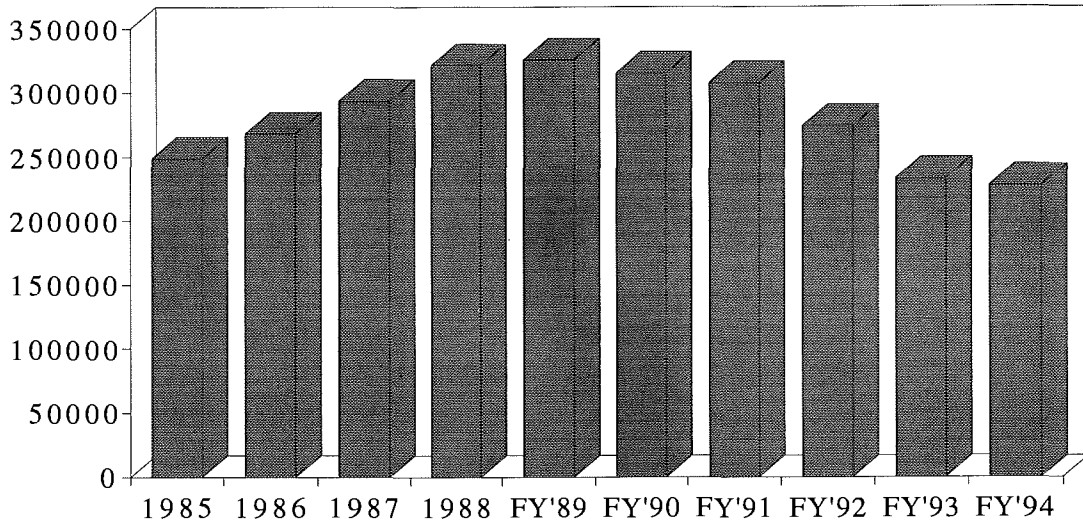
**Back Row** (left to right): Paul C. Cote, Jr., William R. Anderson, Michael N. Westcott, Douglas A. Clapp, Peter J. Goranites, Ronald D. Russell, Courtland D. Perry, II, S. Kirk Studstrup, David B. Griffiths, Edward F. Gaulin, Joseph H. Field, Jeffrey L. Hjelm, Alexander A. MacNichol, John B. Beliveau

**Absent from photo:** Jane S. Bradley

## FILINGS IN THE DISTRICT COURT

Since 1985, total filings in the District Court steadily increased from 248,869 in 1985 to a peak of 325,560 cases filed in FY'89. Since FY'89, however, filings have decreased each year to a total of 227,600 filings in FY'94. **Graph DC-1** includes all filings in the District Court, including civil violations and traffic infractions.

### DISTRICT COURT TOTAL CASE FILINGS

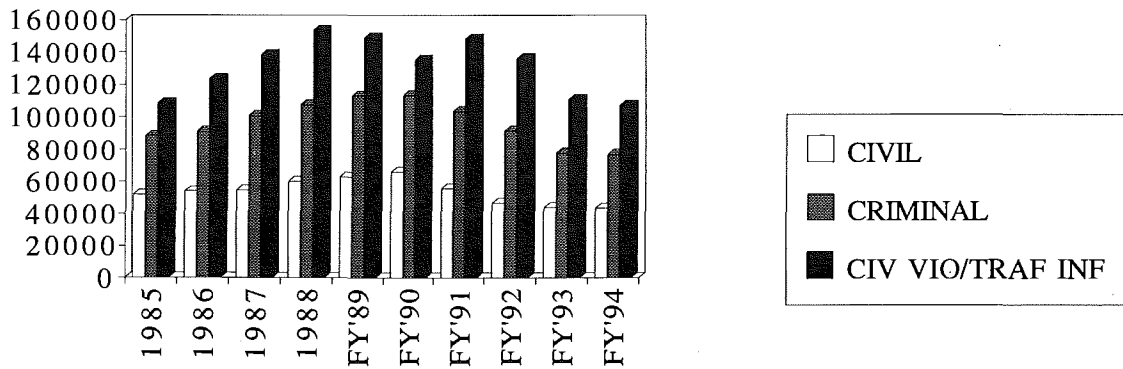


**GRAPH DC-1**

## DISTRICT COURT FILINGS BY TYPE

**Graph DC-2** illustrates total filings by general case type. Each general case type reached a peak during the years 1988 through 1990. Civil violations and traffic infractions, which comprise nearly half of the Court's case count, are processed primarily through the District Court Violations Bureau, located in Lewiston.

### DISTRICT COURT FILINGS BY TYPE



**GRAPH DC-2**

## DISTRICT COURT: CASELOAD BY TYPE

**Table DC-3** details caseload in the District Court over the past five years, from FY'90 through FY'94. When viewed by particular case type, a variety of changes have occurred. When filings of **civil** cases are examined, the most significant change has occurred in the number of **small claims** filings, which totaled 10,071 cases in FY'94, compared to a peak of 29,740 in FY'90. Changes in rules and procedures regarding small claims cases contributed significantly to this decline in filings. **Domestic** case types that have shown growth since FY'90 included protection from abuse, protective custody, and other family matters, each reaching record-high levels in FY'94. **Criminal** filings, have decreased since FY'90, primarily due to a decrease in criminal traffic cases. Disposition data from the District Court Violations Bureau are unavailable.

### District Court Caseload: By Type of Case

Table DC-3

	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
	Filings	Dispos.	Filings	Dispos.	Filings	Dispos.	Filings	Dispos.	Filings	Dispos.
<b><u>CIVIL CASES</u></b>										
<b>DOMESTIC CASES:</b>										
Divorce	7,320	6,354	7,207	6,873	7,139	6,940	7,037	6,771	6,966	6,856
Protection from Abuse	3,978	3,498	4,891	4,321	5,319	4,800	5,404	4,992	5,718	5,468
Protective Custody	506	392	557	380	647	431	665	480	628	527
Other Family Matters	1,377	768	1,305	842	1,342	888	1,633	1,188	2,067	1,796
<b>Domestic: Sub Total</b>	<b>13,181</b>	<b>11,012</b>	<b>13,960</b>	<b>12,416</b>	<b>14,447</b>	<b>13,059</b>	<b>14,739</b>	<b>13,431</b>	<b>15,379</b>	<b>14,647</b>
General Civil	19,896	17,012	19,987	17,206	17,936	16,360	15,997	15,687	14,328	15,539
Small Claims	29,740	27,090	18,558	21,770	11,033	11,571	9,997	10,717	10,071	10,187
Protection From Harassment	2,217	2,003	2,274	2,053	2,550	2,356	2,665	2,453	2,895	2,808
Mental Health	1,071	1,006	934	939	862	810	696	702	734	706
<b>Civil: Total</b>	<b>66,105</b>	<b>58,123</b>	<b>55,713</b>	<b>54,384</b>	<b>46,828</b>	<b>44,156</b>	<b>44,094</b>	<b>42,990</b>	<b>43,407</b>	<b>43,887</b>
<b><u>CRIMINAL CASES</u></b>										
Juvenile	5,082	4,544	4,619	3,998	4,757	4,364	5,219	4,937	5,691	5,285
Criminal A,B,C	5,520	4,786	5,522	4,996	4,756	4,469	3,705	3,503	3,898	3,640
Criminal D,E	34,588	33,521	36,077	33,210	35,856	34,821	33,225	32,516	32,327	30,551
Traffic Criminal	68,373	66,772	57,591	58,524	45,972	48,240	35,699	35,947	35,104	35,129
<b>Criminal: Total</b>	<b>113,563</b>	<b>109,623</b>	<b>103,809</b>	<b>100,728</b>	<b>91,341</b>	<b>91,894</b>	<b>77,848</b>	<b>76,903</b>	<b>77,020</b>	<b>74,605</b>
<b>TOTAL: Civil &amp; Criminal</b>	<b>179,668</b>	<b>167,746</b>	<b>159,522</b>	<b>155,112</b>	<b>138,169</b>	<b>136,050</b>	<b>121,942</b>	<b>119,893</b>	<b>120,427</b>	<b>118,492</b>
Civ. Vio./Traffic Inf.	135,455	137,658	148,254	145,147	136,079	not avail.	110,964	not avail.	107,173	not avail.
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>315,123</b>	<b>305,404</b>	<b>307,776</b>	<b>300,259</b>	<b>274,248</b>	not avail.	<b>232,906</b>	not avail.	227,600	not avail.

# DISTRICT COURT: FILINGS BY LOCATION

Table DC-4 (pages 39 through 41) lists each District Court location and the numbers of case filings and dispositions FY'90-FY'94. Changes in civil and criminal case filings have varied throughout the state. It should be noted that **traffic infractions and civil violations are not included on this table**. Effective January 1, 1992, the processing of traffic infraction cases was removed from local District Court locations and centralized at a new "District Court Violations Bureau" location. While the majority of traffic infractions are processed completely at the DCVB, some are transferred for hearing at the local court locations. Count of these transferred cases is unavailable.

District Court Civil & Criminal Filings & Dispositions FY'90-FY'94

Table DC-4

<u>DISTRICT I</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CARIBOU</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL	1,244	1,302	1,184	1,287	1,019	1,019	862	929	748	803
CRIMINAL	1,165	1,054	1,251	1,226	1,047	1,018	993	1,032	964	921
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,409</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>2,435</b>	<b>2,513</b>	<b>2,066</b>	<b>2,037</b>	<b>1,855</b>	<b>1,961</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>1,724</b>
<u>FORT KENT</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CARIBOU</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL					289	193	212	198	207	186
CRIMINAL	508	462	451	440	525	481	397	316	473	474
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>514</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>660</b>
<u>MADAWASKA</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CARIBOU</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL	752	707	675	842	368	571	297	310	223	463
CRIMINAL	286	240	346	338	324	314	265	257	217	206
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,038</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>1,180</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>562</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>669</b>
<u>VAN BUREN</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CARIBOU</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL										
CRIMINAL	117	94	169	168	186	156	134	128	139	107
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>107</b>
<u>DISTRICT II</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>HOULTON</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL	1,077	979	787	737	727	623	716	661	589	563
CRIMINAL	1,766	1,609	1,804	1,802	1,258	1,214	1,115	1,124	1,061	1,047
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,843</b>	<b>2,588</b>	<b>2,591</b>	<b>2,539</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>1,831</b>	<b>1,785</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,610</b>
<u>PRESQUE ISLE</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CARIBOU</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL	1,807	1,531	1,211	1,164	1,097	1,042	1,090	1,032	866	987
CRIMINAL	1,827	1,687	2,165	2,060	1,866	1,805	1,630	1,553	1,606	1,402
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,634</b>	<b>3,218</b>	<b>3,376</b>	<b>3,224</b>	<b>2,963</b>	<b>2,847</b>	<b>2,720</b>	<b>2,585</b>	<b>2,472</b>	<b>2,389</b>
<u>DISTRICT III</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>BANGOR</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL	5,881	5,745	5,158	5,552	4,059	4,454	3,909	4,001	3,830	3,568
CRIMINAL	8,275	8,185	6,814	6,723	6,244	6,194	5,528	5,436	5,997	5,651
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,156</b>	<b>13,930</b>	<b>11,972</b>	<b>12,275</b>	<b>10,303</b>	<b>10,648</b>	<b>9,437</b>	<b>9,437</b>	<b>9,827</b>	<b>9,219</b>
<u>NEWPORT</u>	FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CARIBOU</u>	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL	1,090	1,100	836	878	739	881	787	872	716	807
CRIMINAL	2,012	2,002	2,119	2,056	1,477	1,415	1,329	1,211	1,376	1,327
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>2,955</b>	<b>2,934</b>	<b>2,216</b>	<b>2,296</b>	<b>2,116</b>	<b>2,083</b>	<b>2,092</b>	<b>2,134</b>

<u>DISTRICT IV</u>		FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>CALAIS</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		1,000	971	764	680	682	606	588	633	619	529
CRIMINAL		1,600	1,532	1,537	1,252	1,473	1,520	1,379	1,415	1,302	1,228
TOTAL		2,600	2,503	2,301	1,932	2,155	2,126	1,967	2,048	1,921	1,757
<u>MACHIAS</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		826	745	623	648	483	393	529	530	528	490
CRIMINAL		1,217	1,141	1,308	1,186	1,268	1,244	1,160	1,131	1,153	669
TOTAL		2,043	1,886	1,931	1,834	1,751	1,637	1,689	1,661	1,681	1,159
<u>DISTRICT V</u>		FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>BAR HARBOR</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		552	307	446	326	394	284	390	341	392	287
CRIMINAL		883	844	1,026	976	854	791	697	710	729	669
TOTAL		1,435	1,151	1,472	1,302	1,248	1,075	1,087	1,051	1,121	956
<u>BELFAST</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		1,613	1,377	1,350	1,244	1,008	930	1,038	925	976	919
CRIMINAL		1,955	2,002	1,959	2,004	1,992	1,967	1,894	1,889	1,437	1,678
TOTAL		3,568	3,379	3,309	3,248	3,000	2,897	2,932	2,814	2,413	2,597
<u>ELLSWORTH</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		1,745	1,120	1,629	844	1,404	1,262	1,462	1,138	1,328	1,054
CRIMINAL		3,224	2,902	3,276	3,199	2,356	2,368	2,077	1,974	1,861	1,779
TOTAL		4,969	4,022	4,905	4,043	3,760	3,630	3,539	3,112	3,189	2,833
<u>DISTRICT VI</u>		FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>WEST BATH</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		2,967	2,694	2,400	2,379	2,127	1,928	1,934	1,915	1,982	1,787
CRIMINAL		5,313	4,960	5,299	4,496	4,125	4,035	3,742	3,375	3,808	3,534
TOTAL		8,280	7,654	7,699	6,875	6,252	5,963	5,676	5,290	5,790	5,321
<u>ROCKLAND</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		1,948	1,652	1,674	1,665	1,346	1,132	1,311	1,314	1,354	1,173
CRIMINAL		2,782	2,654	2,577	2,603	2,229	2,100	2,273	2,166	2,647	2,422
TOTAL		4,730	4,306	4,251	4,268	3,575	3,232	3,584	3,480	4,001	3,595
<u>WISCASSET</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		1,395	1,146	1,130	943	973	842	968	801	1,020	958
CRIMINAL		1,690	1,948	1,705	1,708	1,550	1,581	1,576	1,606	1,866	1,777
TOTAL		3,085	3,094	2,835	2,651	2,523	2,423	2,544	2,407	2,886	2,735
<u>DISTRICT VII</u>		FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>AUGUSTA</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		4,178	3,581	3,390	4,472	2,924	2,860	2,750	2,950	2,620	2,733
CRIMINAL		6,140	5,755	5,867	5,469	4,689	4,751	3,900	3,892	3,986	3,783
TOTAL		10,318	9,336	9,257	9,941	7,613	7,611	6,650	6,842	6,606	6,516
<u>WATERVILLE</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		3,006	2,976	2,354	2,840	1,907	2,093	1,587	1,532	1,541	1,560
CRIMINAL		5,013	4,572	4,217	3,920	3,837	3,349	3,399	3,590	3,105	2,719
TOTAL		8,019	7,548	6,571	6,760	5,744	5,442	4,986	5,122	4,646	4,279
<u>DISTRICT VIII</u>		FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>LEWISTON</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		5,204	4,598	4,663	4,257	4,000	4,045	3,508	3,257	3,626	3,978
CRIMINAL		8,365	10,168	7,556	7,749	6,969	7,993	6,206	6,515	6,098	5,586
TOTAL		13,569	14,766	12,219	12,006	10,969	12,038	9,714	9,772	9,724	9,564
<u>DISTRICT IX</u>		FY'90		FY'91		FY'92		FY'93		FY'94	
<u>BRIDGTON</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		1,001	959	937	915	888	799	755	702	788	816
CRIMINAL		2,613	2,213	2,427	2,347	2,162	2,173	1,844	1,870	2,024	1,930
TOTAL		3,614	3,172	3,364	3,262	3,050	2,972	2,599	2,572	2,812	2,746
<u>PORTLAND</u>		FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.	FILE	DISP.
CIVIL		10,590	8,934	9,015	8,035	8,256	6,789	7,666	7,658	7,756	8,802
CRIMINAL		20,523	19,475	15,650	14,959	13,854	13,483	12,723	11,955	11,837	11,387
TOTAL		31,113	28,409	24,665	22,994	22,110	20,272	20,389	19,613	19,593	20,189

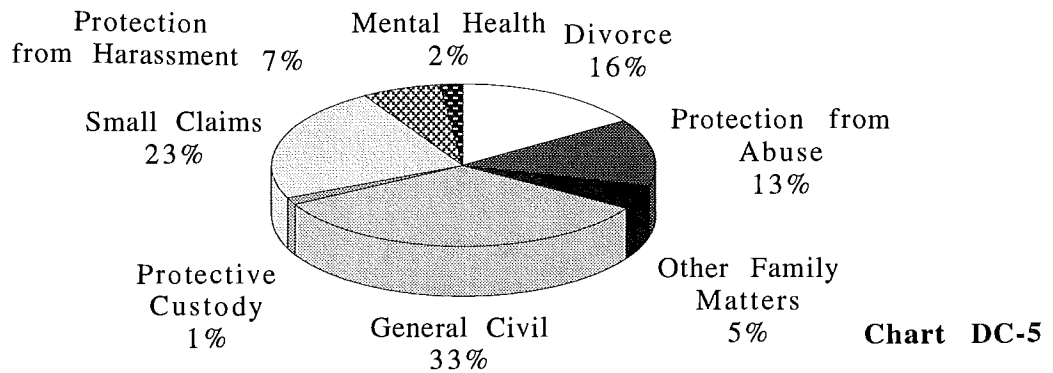
<u>DISTRICT X</u>	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>BIDDEFORD</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	3,977	2,845	3,446	2,682	2,742	2,275	2,614	2,105	2,619	2,451
CRIMINAL	8,747	8,228	7,238	6,135	6,245	5,130	4,829	4,969	4,178	4,646
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,724</b>	<b>11,073</b>	<b>10,684</b>	<b>8,817</b>	<b>8,987</b>	<b>7,405</b>	<b>7,443</b>	<b>7,074</b>	<b>6,797</b>	<b>7,097</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>SPRINGVALE</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	2,179	1,690	1,950	1,734	1,547	1,224	1,440	1,500	1,560	1,632
CRIMINAL	4,542	4,348	4,581	4,438	4,115	4,059	3,127	3,147	2,967	3,204
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,721</b>	<b>6,038</b>	<b>6,531</b>	<b>6,172</b>	<b>5,662</b>	<b>5,283</b>	<b>4,567</b>	<b>4,647</b>	<b>4,527</b>	<b>4,836</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>YORK</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	1,195	927	1,345	1,116	1,054	941	989	966	1,044	1,119
CRIMINAL	8,095	7,823	8,316	10,096	7,071	9,046	3,962	4,167	4,572	4,564
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,290</b>	<b>8,750</b>	<b>9,661</b>	<b>11,212</b>	<b>8,125</b>	<b>9,987</b>	<b>4,951</b>	<b>5,133</b>	<b>5,616</b>	<b>5,683</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>DISTRICT XI</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
<b>LIVERMORE FALLS</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	525	523	361	388	279	348	296	265	303	353
CRIMINAL	908	897	812	872	749	756	757	712	650	725
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,433</b>	<b>1,420</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>1,053</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>1,078</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>RUMFORD</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	1,188	1,218	967	985	878	822	773	791	643	661
CRIMINAL	1,890	1,662	1,680	1,753	1,531	1,534	1,375	1,362	1,525	1,441
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,078</b>	<b>2,880</b>	<b>2,647</b>	<b>2,738</b>	<b>2,409</b>	<b>2,356</b>	<b>2,148</b>	<b>2,153</b>	<b>2,168</b>	<b>2,102</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>DISTRICT XI (con't.)</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
<b>SOUTH PARIS</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	2,318	1,951	1,726	1,933	1,368	1,472	1,465	1,503	1,354	1,388
CRIMINAL	1,399	1,297	1,383	1,294	1,536	1,538	1,491	1,400	1,147	1,173
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,717</b>	<b>3,248</b>	<b>3,109</b>	<b>3,227</b>	<b>2,904</b>	<b>3,010</b>	<b>2,956</b>	<b>2,903</b>	<b>2,501</b>	<b>2,561</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>DISTRICT XII</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
<b>FARMINGTON</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	1,517	1,421	1,303	1,311	892	930	883	884	778	705
CRIMINAL	1,920	1,879	1,841	1,681	1,677	1,836	1,454	1,363	1,548	1,516
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>2,606</b>	<b>2,622</b>	<b>1,784</b>	<b>1,860</b>	<b>1,766</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>1,556</b>	<b>1,410</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>SKOWHEGAN</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	2,806	2,743	2,337	2,256	1,794	1,714	1,755	1,629	1,836	1,491
CRIMINAL	4,984	4,410	4,757	4,431	4,701	4,699	3,504	3,688	3,405	3,303
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,790</b>	<b>7,153</b>	<b>7,094</b>	<b>6,687</b>	<b>6,495</b>	<b>6,413</b>	<b>5,259</b>	<b>5,317</b>	<b>5,241</b>	<b>4,794</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>DISTRICT XIII</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
<b>DOVER-FOXCROFT</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	1,043	1,049	836	981	623	727	619	630	561	613
CRIMINAL	1,719	1,578	1,470	1,332	1,538	1,413	1,285	1,182	1,435	1,406
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,762</b>	<b>2,627</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>2,313</b>	<b>2,161</b>	<b>2,140</b>	<b>1,904</b>	<b>1,812</b>	<b>1,996</b>	<b>2,019</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>LINCOLN</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	678	600	641	672	504	556	510	534	600	605
CRIMINAL	1,097	1,031	1,062	955	954	982	967	904	1,129	1,125
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,775</b>	<b>1,631</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>1,627</b>	<b>1,458</b>	<b>1,538</b>	<b>1,477</b>	<b>1,438</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>1,730</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>MILLINOCKET</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	803	732	575	618	438	419	391	484	400	406
CRIMINAL	988	971	1,146	1,060	939	949	836	864	778	758
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,791</b>	<b>1,703</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>1,377</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>1,227</b>	<b>1,348</b>	<b>1,178</b>	<b>1,164</b>
	<u>FY'90</u>		<u>FY'91</u>		<u>FY'92</u>		<u>FY'93</u>		<u>FY'94</u>	
<b>STATE TOTAL</b>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>	<u>FILE</u>	<u>DISP.</u>
CIVIL	66,105	58,123	55,713	54,384	46,828	44,156	44,094	42,990	43,407	43,887
CRIMINAL	113,563	109,623	103,809	100,728	91,341	91,894	77,848	76,903	77,020	74,605
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>179,668</b>	<b>167,746</b>	<b>159,522</b>	<b>155,112</b>	<b>138,169</b>	<b>136,050</b>	<b>121,942</b>	<b>119,893</b>	<b>120,427</b>	<b>118,492</b>



## CIVIL FILINGS BY TYPE

**Chart DC-5** illustrates the distribution of various civil case types filed during FY'94. Included in the general civil category are forcible entry, land use, money judgments, and other general civil litigation cases.

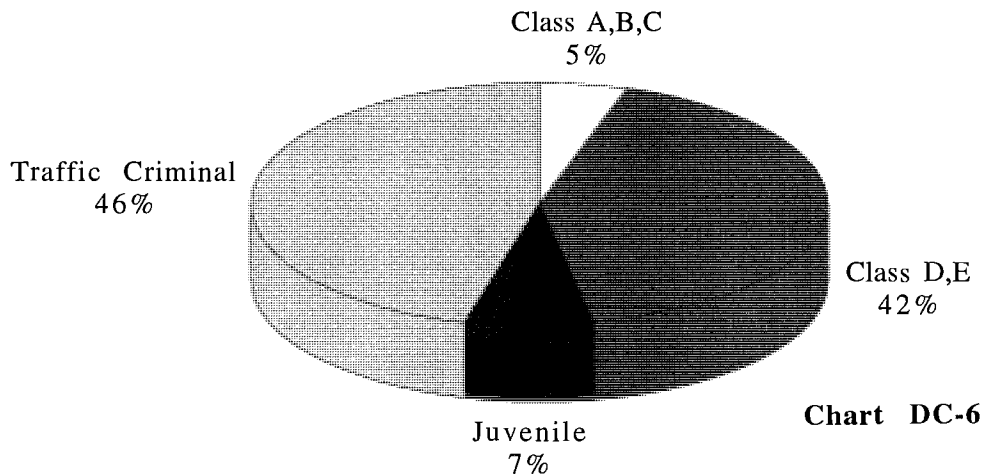
### FY'94 DISTRICT COURT CIVIL FILINGS



## CRIMINAL FILINGS BY TYPE

**Chart DC-6** shows the distribution of various criminal case types filed during FY'94. The majority of the criminal caseload (88%) involved classes D E, or traffic criminal cases.

### FY'94 DISTRICT COURT CRIMINAL FILINGS



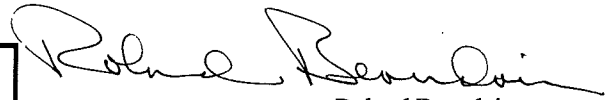
## REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COURT - FISCAL YEAR 1994

For Fiscal Year 1994, the primary caseload for the Administrative Court relating to its statutory jurisdiction continued to involve Bureau of Liquor Enforcement petitions (342 of 358 filings). The docket also included cases involving various administrative agencies such as the Real Estate Commission, the Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration, and the Department of Human Services. This statutory jurisdiction included both trial and appellate dockets.

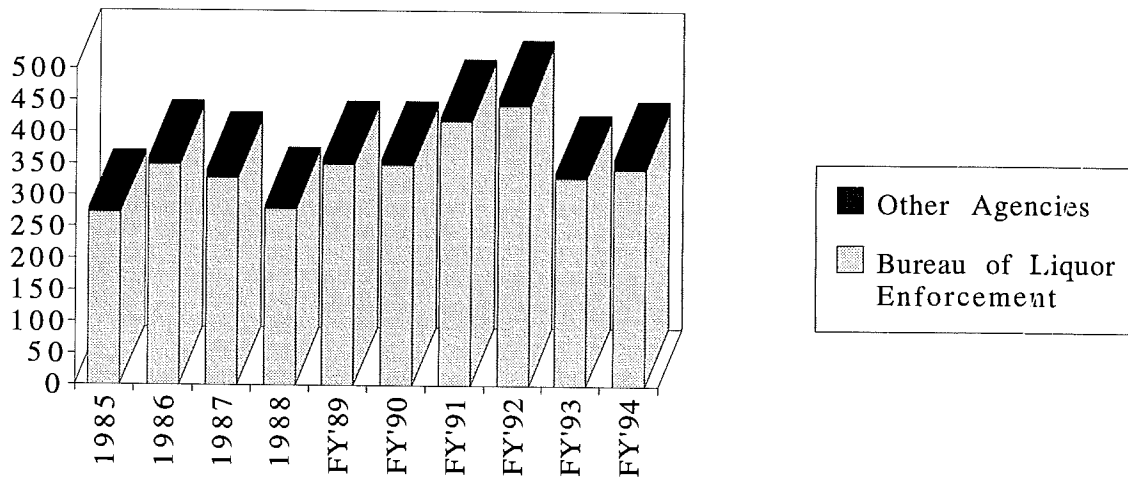
The judges and staff of the Administrative Court provided major support for the Family Court Pilot Project in FY'94. This pilot project was created by the Legislature, implemented in 1991, and continued in full operation in 1994. Both judges of the Administrative Court expended a majority of their time managing, hearing and disposing of family law cases from both the District and Superior Courts in Cumberland County, and the clerical staff from the Administrative Court provided substantial direction and support for the project. Some cases from other counties were also involved in the project.

The Administrative Court judges and staff were also involved in providing time and resources to the non-family law District Court dockets. The judges heard matters on the full District Court dockets on a regular basis.

### **FILINGS IN ADMINISTRATIVE COURT**



Roland Beaudoin  
Chief Judge, Administrative Court



### Judges of the Administrative Court



(Left to Right): Roland Beaudoin, Joyce Wheeler