



**THE CHICAGO CHAPTER
OF THE
FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION
PRESENTS
2018-2019 STATE OF THE COURT ADDRESS
BY
CHIEF JUDGE RUBÉN CASTILLO
JUNE 25, 2019**



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STATE OF THE COURT

AS OF JUNE 25, 2019

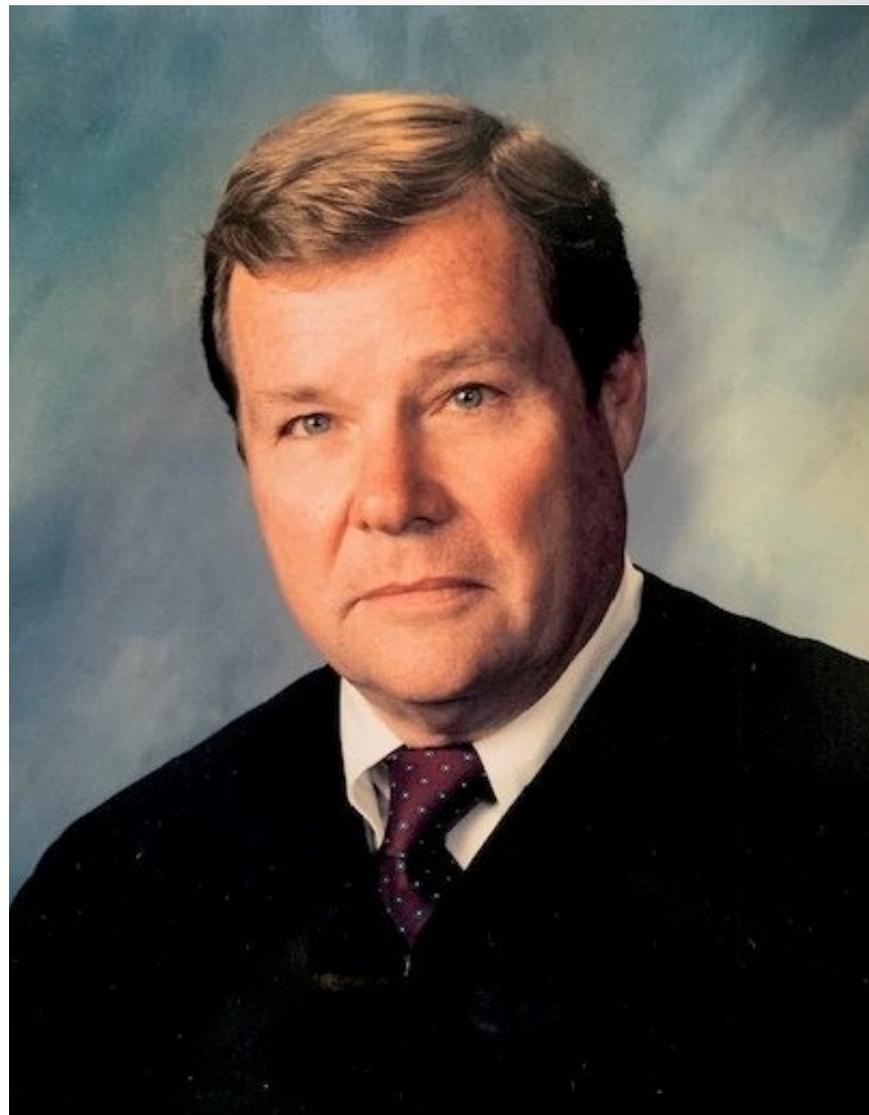
- Five Judicial Vacancies
 - Hardworking Court doing more with less judicial officers
- Compassionate
 - Reentry Court – Two Post-Conviction Courts
 - Pretrial SOAR Court Program graduated its second class
- Engaged
 - Community Outreach
 - Interactive
 - Court History Museum
 - 200th Anniversary – Video/Book
- Cost Cutting – Budget remains about the same so far
 - Continued emphasis on cost cutting supervision rather than prison
- Secure
 - Continued emphasis on court security
 - State Street Property Issues

KEY COURT PERSONNEL CHANGES DISTRICT JUDGES

- Five Vacancies
 - Losses
 - James B. Zagel – Assumed Senior Status October 21, 2016
 - John W. Darrah[†] – Assumed Senior Status March 1, 2017; Died, March 23, 2017
 - Samuel Der-Yeghiayan – Retired February 17, 2018
 - Amy St. Eve – Elevated to U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit May 23, 2018
 - Frederick J. Kapala assumed Senior Status May 10, 2019
 - 3 nominees awaiting confirmation by U.S. Senate – the process has taken too long!
 - U.S. Magistrate Judge Mary M. Rowland
 - Martha M. Pacold
 - Steven C. Seeger
 - Awaiting official nomination from the White House
 - John F. Kness
 - Rockford Vacancy – one year notice
- Senior Judges – Invaluable Assistance to Our Court



Hon. Daniel G. Martin
March 3, 1955 – October 11, 2018



Hon. George W. Lindberg
June 21, 1932 – March 19, 2019

KEY COURT PERSONNEL CHANGES

MAGISTRATE JUDGES

- Four New Magistrate Judges – how did we do this?
 - Sunil R. Harjani
 - Jeffrey L. Cummings
 - Lisa Jensen (Western Division)
 - Gabriel A. Fuentes
- 2019 Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel – Eastern Division
 - Patricia Brown Holmes (Chair) of Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila LLP; Ricardo Estrada*, President and CEO Metropolitan Family Services; Esther Franco-Payne*, Executive Director of Cabrini Green Legal Aid; Joseph M. Gagliardo of Laner Muchin, Ltd.; Marisel A. Hernandez of Jacobs, Burns, Orlove & Hernandez, Hon. Arlander Keys, Ret.; Spiridoula (Litza) Mavrothalasitis of City of Chicago - Department of Law, Employment Litigation Division; Samuel S. Park of Winston & Strawn; Stephen H. Pugh of Pugh Jones Johnson; Sergio F. Rodriguez of the Federal Defender Program; Zaldwaynaka (Z) Scott, President of Chicago State University; Natalie J. Spears of Dentons US LLP; and Nigel F. Telman of Proskauer
- 2019 Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel – Western Division
 - Hon. P. Michael Mahoney, Ret. (Chair) of Mahoney & Mahoney; Carlos S. Arevalo of SmithAmundsen LLC; Hon. Manuel Barbosa, Ret.; Charles Box; Wendy Crouch* of Prairie State Legal Services; Earl Dotson, Jr.* of Rockford Public Schools; Paul Gaziano of the Federal Defender's Office; Roberta "Bobbi" Holzwarth of Holmstrom Law; Ifeanyi Mogbana of the City of Rockford; Hon. Jack O'Malley, Ret.; Maggie Schnieder of the NDIL U.S. Attorney's Office

THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Member

District Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer

Committee Members

Circuit Judge Amy St. Eve

Committee on the Budget

District Judge Robert W. Gettleman

Committee on Audits and Administrative Office Accountability

District Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer

Committee on Court Administration and Case Managements

District Judge Edmond E. Chang

Committee on Criminal Law

District Judge Thomas M. Durkin

Committee on Federal-Status Jurisdiction

District Judge Elaine E. Bucklo

Committee on Financial Disclosure

District Judge Joan H. Lefkow and Magistrate Judge Sidney I. Schenkier

Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System

District Judge Robert M. Dow

Advisory Committee on Civil Rules (2013-2020)

District Judge Gary S. Feinerman

Advisory Committee on Criminal Rules (2014-2020)

Bankruptcy Judge A. Benjamin Goldgar

Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules (2014-2020)

Liaison to the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules

Magistrate Judge Sidney I. Schenkier

Advisory Committee on Protection of Cooperator

KEY COURT PERSONNEL CHANGES

NEW MAGISTRATE JUDGES



Magistrate Judge Sunil R. Harjani



Magistrate Judge Jeffrey L. Cummings

KEY COURT PERSONNEL CHANGES

NEW MAGISTRATE JUDGES



Magistrate Judge Lisa Jensen



Magistrate Judge Gabriel A. Fuentes

FEDERAL SHUTDOWN 2018-2019

- Partial federal shutdown began December 22– lasting 35 days until February 15.
- Judiciary operated on court fee balances and other “no year” funds
- Court delayed or deferred non-mission critical expenses, such as new hires, non-case related travel, and certain contracts. Judiciary employees reported for work duration of shutdown– no furloughs!
- Entered Amended General Order 18-0028, which held in abeyance all civil litigation involving as a party the United States of America, its agencies, its officers, employees, and/or any party represented by the Department of Justice or the U.S. Attorney’s Office

The New York Times ***Quotation of the Day: Federal Courts, Running Out of Money, Brace for Shutdown’s Pain***

Jan. 18, 2019



“It’s like you’re on the front lines and you’re being shot in the back by your own forces. That’s how it feels.”

[CHIEF JUDGE RUBÉN CASTILLO](#), of the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, on fears that veteran employees will decide to quit if federal courts run out of money during the government shutdown.

CASE FILINGS

Filings		
Type of Case	2018 Cases Filed	Pct. Change 2017-2018
CIVIL (TOTAL)	9227	- 7 %
Pro Se Civil	1082	- 8 %
Prisoner Petitions	1585	- 10 %
Intellectual Property (Patent, Copyright, Trademark)	830	+ 38 %
Qui Tam	29	- 9 %
CRIMINAL	891	+ 26 %

- MDL CASES
 - 11 Pending MDL Cases
 - 6,066 filings pending
 - 5,459 of those filings belong to Judge Kennelly's MDL case

CIVIL CASE FILINGS

Judicial Caseload Profile: Illinois Northern

Select district from drop-down menu below:

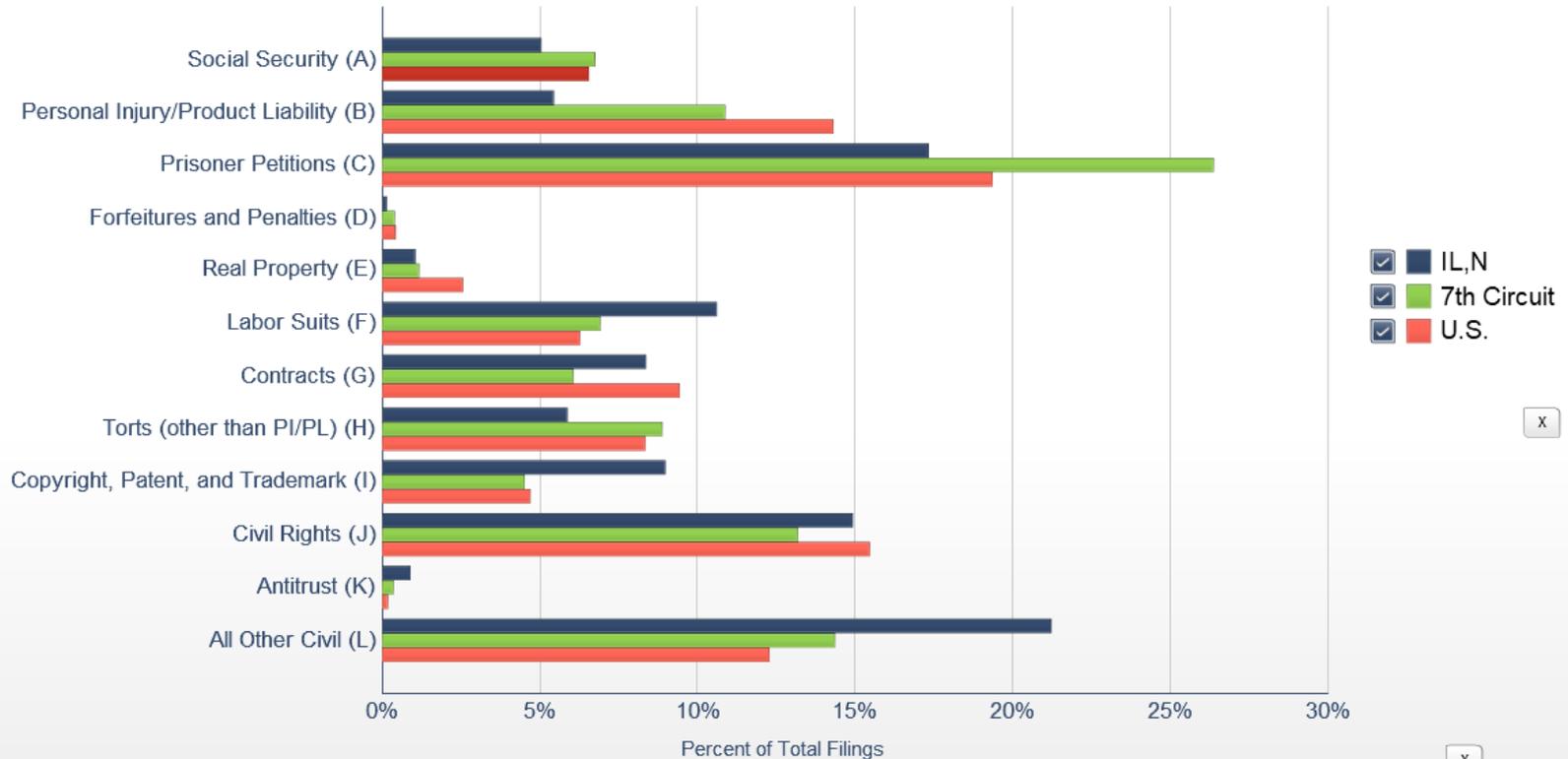
Illinois Northern

Caseload Data

Case Filing Breakdown

December 2018 Civil Filings, by Nature of Suit

December 2018 Criminal Filings*, by Nature of Offense

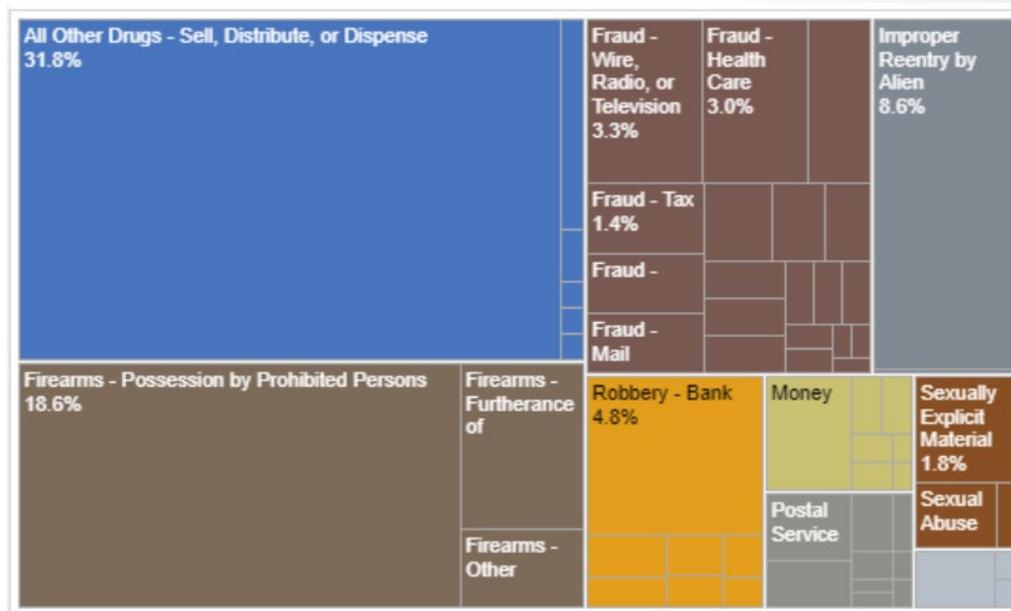
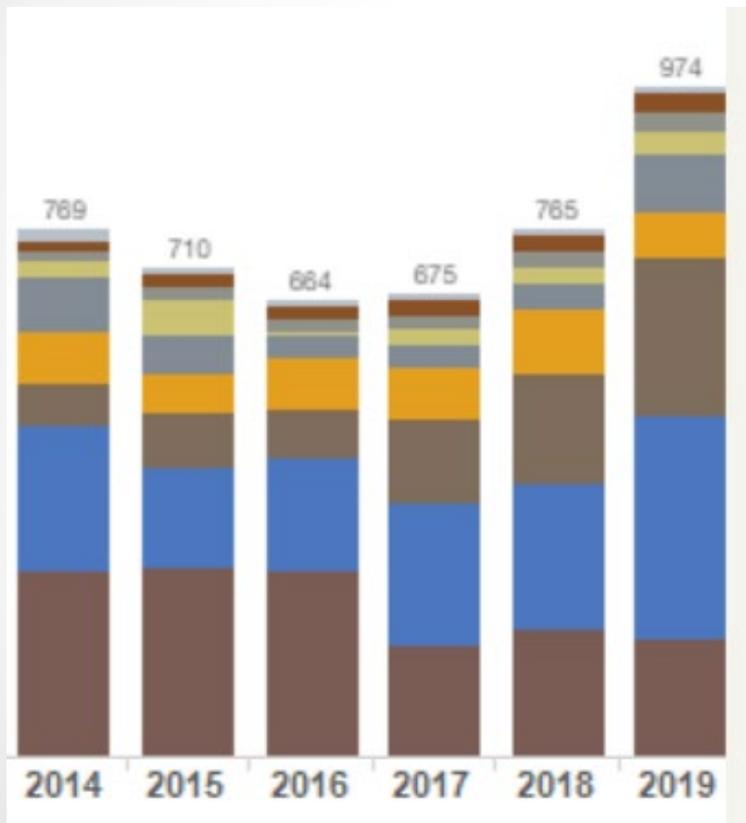


	TOTAL*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
IL,N	9,227	466	503	1,599	15	98	980	773	543	830	1,378	84	1,958
7th Circuit	23,324	1,578	2,540	6,151	95	277	1,616	1,419	2,074	1,056	3,077	89	3,352
U.S.	278,721	18,283	39,896	53,961	1,219	7,191	17,509	26,323	23,296	13,124	43,117	544	34,258

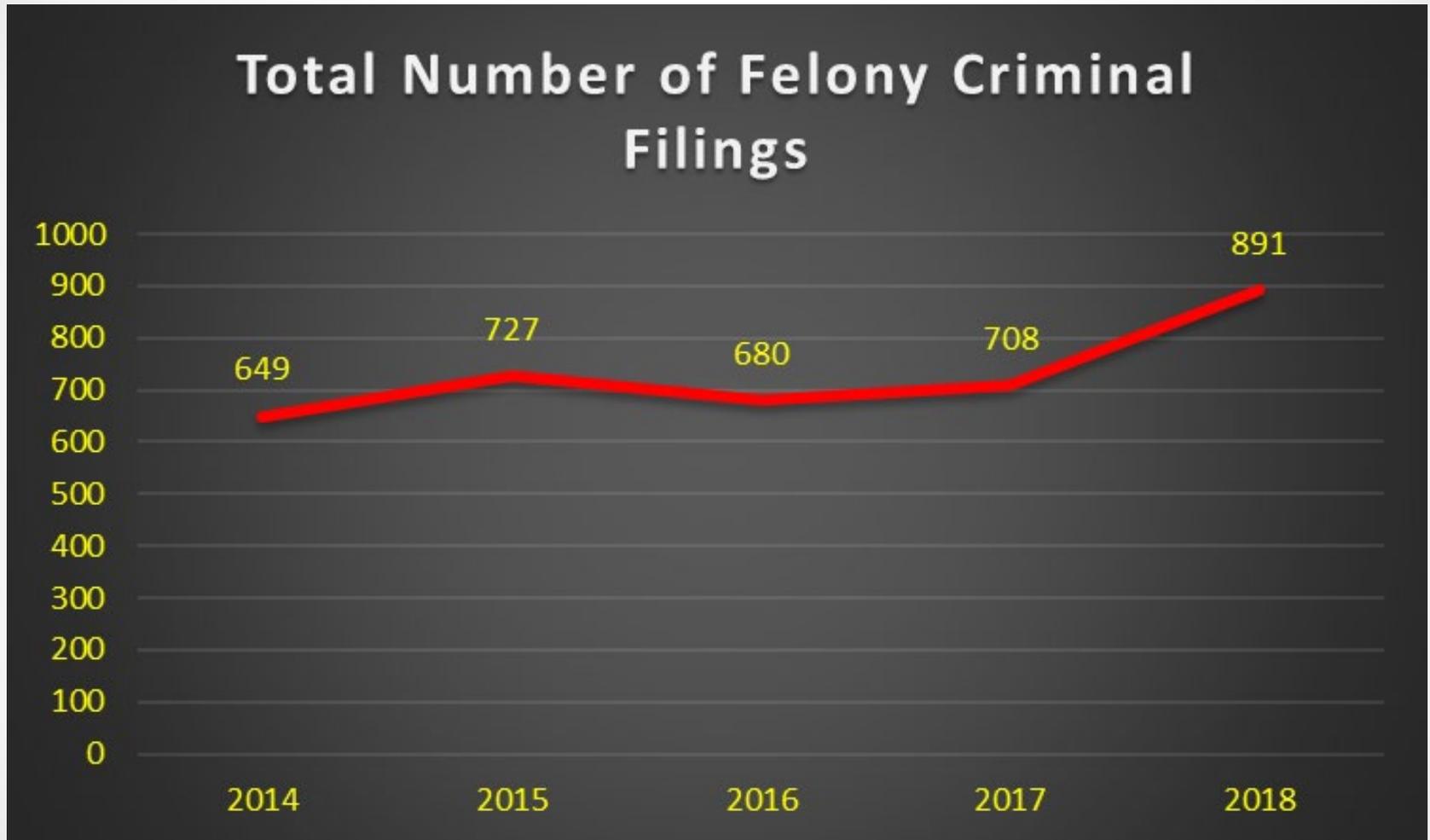
CRIMINAL CASE FILINGS

12 Month Period, Ending March 31, 2019

From 2018 to 2019: 27% Increase



FELONY CRIMINAL FILINGS



TRIALS

Trials (excludes Magistrate Judges)			
Type of Case	Type of Trial	Pct. Change 2017-2018	Total Trials 2017
Civil	Jury – 63	- 20%	78 (- 20%)
	Bench – 15	- 6%	
Criminal	Jury – 34	- 33%	37 (- 33%)
	Bench – 3	- 25%	

115 total Civil and Criminal Trials in 2018, down – 23% from 2017

NDIL PATENT CASES

- Patent Pilot Program – 09/19/2011 – 09/19/2021
 - 9 Current Designated Judges: Castillo, Bucklo, Durkin, Feinerman, Kendall, Kennelly, Lee, Lefkow, and Pallmeyer

Patent Cases Filed	2017	2018	Percentage Change
Total Cases	197	125	- 37%
Pilot Cases	65	43	- 34%

- Continue to improve the program by having a district known for fair and efficient case processing
- Local Patent Rules Committee
 - Led by Judge Matthew Kennelly
- Federal Circuit held Oral Arguments in Chicago on October 4, 2018

MANDATORY INITIAL DISCOVERY PILOT PROJECT

- Three Year Pilot Program (2017-2020)
- MIDP Committee
 - Hon. Robert M. Dow, Jr.
 - Hon. Amy St. Eve
 - Hon. Maria Valdez
- As of July 1, 2018
 - 15 District Judges and All Magistrate Judges in the Eastern Division
 - Compliance in all civil cases—except those categories of cases exempted by the Standing Order—is mandatory with no opt-out through consent of counsel
- January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018
 - 20,034 Cases filed in NDIL Eastern Division
 - 8,080 MIDP Filed (40.3%)
 - 2,853 MIDP Cases Pending
 - 5,227 MIDP Cases Closed
 - 11,954 MIDP Not Filed (59.7%)

MOTIONS – FIRST STEP ACT

- 174 Motions Filed
- 22 Motions Granted

CLERK'S OFFICE

- Continued Great Leadership by Tom Bruton
- Staffing Levels
 - Current Employee Count (as of June 12, 2019) 153
 - New Employees in the last 12 months 8
 - Percentage Change since June 22, 2018 - 7.27%
- Budget
 - .78% decrease to the FY19 budget
- Restitution
 - September 2017 request to improvements to reduce the Court's restitution balance and putting those funds in the hands of the victims
 - Clerk's Office has disbursed \$44,734,145.30 in restitution funds and made significant improvements in the processing of restitution matters
- The William J. Hibbler Memorial Pro Se Assistance Program
 - Assist pro se litigants at the Dirksen Federal Courthouse by reviewing documents, providing guidance on the discovery process, and assisting them through all phases of litigation.
 - Assisted 972 Clients in 2018 up from 957 in 2017 (1.5% increase)
 - <http://www.lafchicago.org/volunteer>

CLERK'S OFFICE – ACTIONS

- Prisoner Correspondence
 - Beginning in August 1, 2018, the Court went live in ten institutions with the electronic filing program for Prisoner Correspondence. The prison library staff scans the filings from the persons in custody (in pdf format) and attaches them to an email sent to the District Court. The original document will then be returned to the persons in custody.
 - This program has reduced the cost of processing civil rights, habeas, and any other types of cases filed in Federal Court by reducing costs for: supplies, paper, envelopes, and postage for the institutions and persons in custody. It has also reduced the time Clerk's Office staff spend scanning filings received from persons in custody. In addition, it reduces the paper mail received from persons in custody and time spent opening it by the Clerk's Office. The amount of postage that the Clerk's Office would have spent to mail copies, orders, and minute entries back to the persons in custody has been eliminated for these institutions as the persons in custody now receive those filings electronically with a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF).

CLERK'S OFFICE – ATTORNEYS

- General Bar
 - 58,019 Active General Bar Members
 - 1,224 new attorneys admitted
- Trial Bar Memberships
 - Total of 11,738 Active Trial Bar Members
 - Renewal every three years, by April 17, per new Local Rules
 - 8,216 Renewals
 - Fees are being used to reimburse Recruited Trial Bar member for assigned pro bono case related expenses
- Recruited Counsel
 - 481 Attorneys in 2018
 - Resources
 - offer multiple in person training sessions
 - audio and video recordings of trainings are available

COURT ADOPTS COMPREHENSIVE INTERNAL EEO PLAN

- Court enacted its own comprehensive employment plan to create a welcome environment to handle any sexual harassment issues, January 2019
- Appointment of both internal and external reporting officers

PRO BONO ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Continue to make recommendations
- Coordinated trainings
- Provide additional resources to recruited counsel
 - Updated handbooks and guides
- Trial Bar Program
- Trial Bar Lounge
 - 23rd Floor



TWENTIETH ANNUAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC INTEREST AND PRO BONO SERVICE



Ceremony co-sponsored by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois and the Federal Bar Association, Chicago Chapter

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COURT MARCH 2019



Our federal court, the Court at the Heart of America, has indelibly shaped our district and nation. It is where systems of patronage have been dismantled,

where discriminatory practices in the workplace and government have been challenged, and where major criminal enterprises have been taken down. On this bicentennial anniversary of federal courts in Illinois, we find inspiration and hope knowing that in our federal court everyday people can pursue the sacred ideals set forth in our constitution.

- Chief Judge Rubén Castillo

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COURT

Presentation of a special Bicentennial Cheesecake, created by Chicago-based Eli's Cheesecake, to the court community and courthouse public.



Chief Judge Castillo and members of the court's bench in front of the Bicentennial Cheesecake.

Photo by Ralph Greenslade.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COURT DOCUMENTARY VIDEO

A COURT  of
at the HEART AMERICA

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COURT SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

- 02/27/19 – Court Launches Inaugural “Reflections from the Court at the Heart of America: Judicial Oral History Project” with an Interview with Judge Aspen



Magistrate Judge Schenkier, Judge Aspen, Magistrate Judge Gilbert, Judge Chang

- 03/20/19 - Judicial Firsts: Trailblazers on the Federal Bench



Left to right: Willoughby Anderson, Judge Durkin, Judge Williams (Ret.), Judge Castillo, Judge Rovner, Judge Chang, Judge Sonderby (Ret.), Judge Brown (Ret.)

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COURT SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

- 04/09/19 - Lecture by Professor Alison LaCroix, “Rivers of Commerce: The Illinois Federal Courts as the Umpires of Antebellum Union”
- 06/13/19 - “Reflections from the Court at the Heart of America: Judicial Oral History Project” with an Interview with Judge Bauer



Chief Judge Castillo offers welcoming remarks

- 06/18/19 – Lecture by Professor Felice Batlan, “It Would Be Inhumane and Cruel:” A Brief History of Immigration Law and the Bold Decisions of Judges from the Northern District of Illinois, 1907-1940

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF COURT SPECIAL PROGRAMMING

COMING SOON

- “Reflections from the Court at the Heart of America: Judicial Oral History Project” with an Interview with Judge Flaum
- “Reflections from the Court at the Heart of America: Judicial Oral History Project” with an Interview with Judge Kocoras



STATE OF LATINOS IN THE LAW SYMPOSIUM

- First symposium of its kind
- October 12, 2018: 350+ Attorneys and Law Students
- Speakers and panels featuring 3 of the nation's 8 Hispanic chief federal judges; state judges; general counsels and firm partners, academics; law school administrators and advisors; high school teachers and administrators; recruiters and hiring directors; and non-profit leaders
- Addressed the root cause of challenges Latinx face in the legal profession, their educational journey, and their career cycles and explored strategies and recommendations to empower stakeholders to effectively address and resolve those underlying conditions
- Sponsored by the Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois (HLAI), Hispanic National Bar Association Region IX (HNBA), Illinois Latino Judges Association (ILJA), and Puerto Rican Bar Association of Illinois (PRBA)

STATE OF LATINOS IN THE LAW SYMPOSIUM (CONT'D)

Photographs by Zuno Photography



Above: Honorable Gustavo A. Gelpi, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico; Honorable Maria Valdez, Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois; Honorable Rubén Castillo, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois; Honorable Dora L. Irizarry, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York; Honorable Jesse G. Reyes, Presiding Justice of the Illinois Appellate Court, First District, Fifth Division

“TAKE OUR DAUGHTERS AND SONS TO WORK DAY 2019”



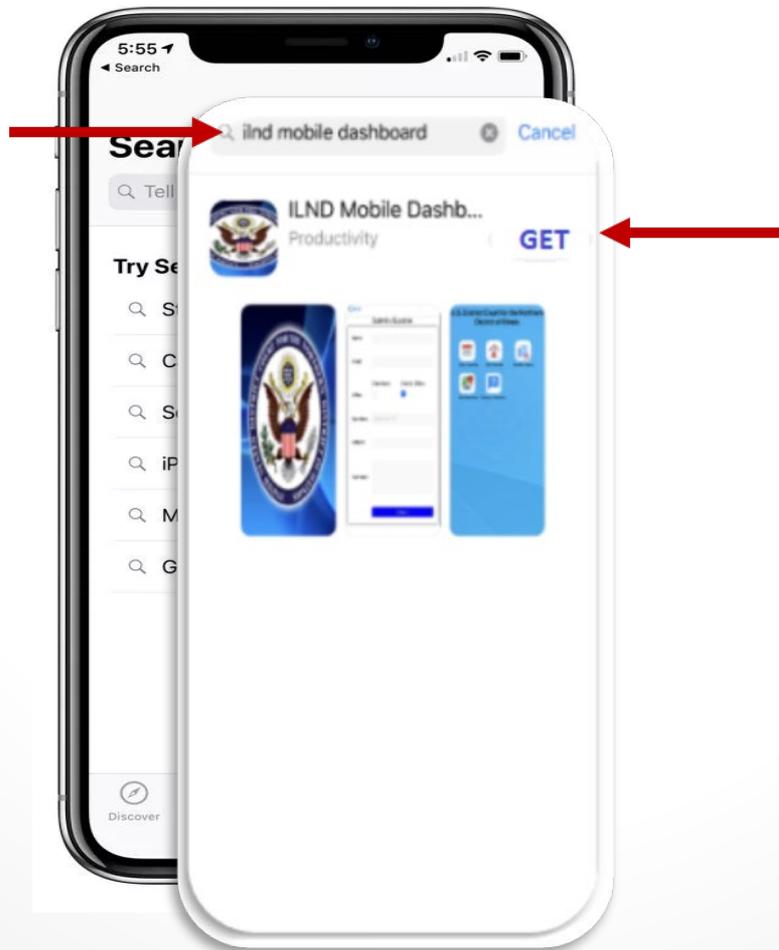
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- CM/ECF
 - 48,804 Electronic Filers
 - 490,786 Docket Entries
- Technology
 - Attorneys can now file sealed documents electronically when correctly following Local Rule 26 and newly amended Local Rule 5.8
 - Our Court was just approved by Apple to launch our Mobile App
 - Go the App Store

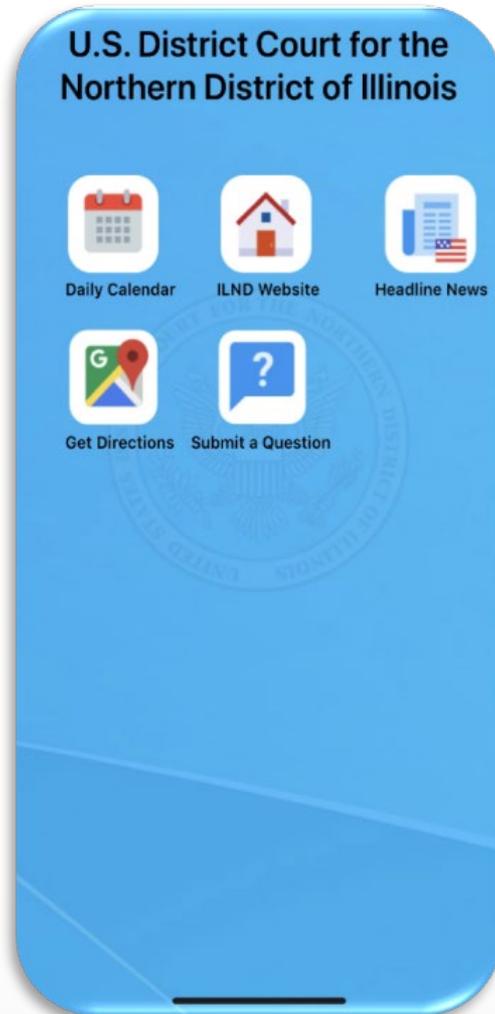


INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CONT'D)

- In the search field, type **ilnd mobile dashboard** and click GET



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CONT'D)



FEDERAL DEFENDER'S OFFICE

- Executive Director John Murphy
- Deputy Director Christina Farley Jackson
- Our CJA Panel is known as the finest in the country
- Second Chance Reentry Program
 - We continue to take great pride in actively participating in this Court's Second Chance Reentry Program through the participation of our Chief Trial Attorney Robert Seeder and Staff Attorneys Kimberly-Claire Seymour and Piyush Chandra. These attorneys also supervise our Social Work Graduate Interns.
- Social Work Graduate Student Intern Program
 - We continue to actively develop our intern program for Social Work graduate students. These students provide our Staff Attorneys with assistance with clients participating in both the Reentry Court and the SOAR court as well as aiding our mitigation specialists with developing sentencing mitigation reports. The students receive supervision from former Staff Attorney Helen Kim (JD, MSW). Over the course of a year, approximately ten students work with the Federal Defender Program.

FEDERAL DEFENDER'S OFFICE (CONT'D)

- Johnson cases

- The Johnson work continues. Under the leadership of our Chief Appellate Attorney William Theis, more than 150 petitions for relief under *Johnson* were filed. To date 22 of those persons have been released. There are presently 17 active cases of which 12 await ruling by the Supreme Court and the remainder await rulings by the Seventh Circuit.

- First Step Act Cases

- The First Step Act took effect in late December 2018. This law enacted a number of criminal justice reforms. Among these reforms was the authority for courts to retroactively reduce sentences for crack cocaine offenses that were not previously permitted under prior legislation. This required our office to identify and review hundreds of cases to identify eligibility. Once eligibility was verified, our office took responsibility for litigating the motions for reduction. Since the start of the calendar year, we have opened and continue litigating 239 cases in Chicago and 51 cases in Rockford. This work continues as more eligible cases are identified.

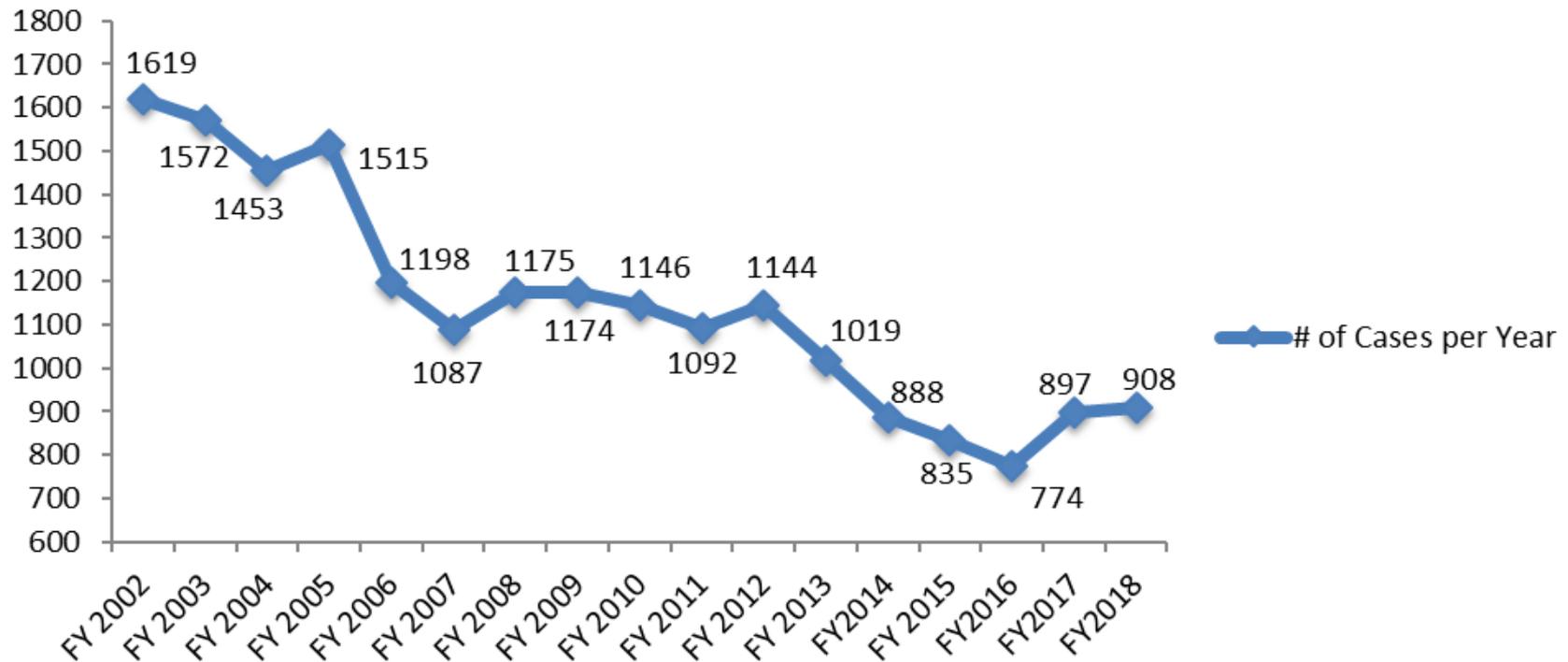
PRETRIAL SERVICES

- Chief Ann Marie Carey
 - 30 years of dedicated service
 - Last 12 years as Chief
 - Retire effective August 4, 2019
- New Chief, Amanda Garcia, District's first Hispanic Chief Pretrial Officer
- Critical Goals
 - Delivery of essential information to the Court
 - Reduction of risks (danger to the community and risk of non-appearance)
 - Supervision
 - Use of community resources
 - Provision of services to criminal defendants

PRETRIAL SERVICES (CONT'D)

- Services
 - 908 Criminal Defendants Case Activations;

Pretrial Services Case Activation



PRETRIAL SERVICES (CONT'D)

- 646 Defendants Supervised
 - Defendants receive mental health and substance abuse treatment through contract vendors with oversight by trained pretrial services offices
 - 66% of total number of defendants on bond received the above services in addition to location monitoring

Substance Abuse (SA); Location Monitoring (LM); Mental Health (MH)

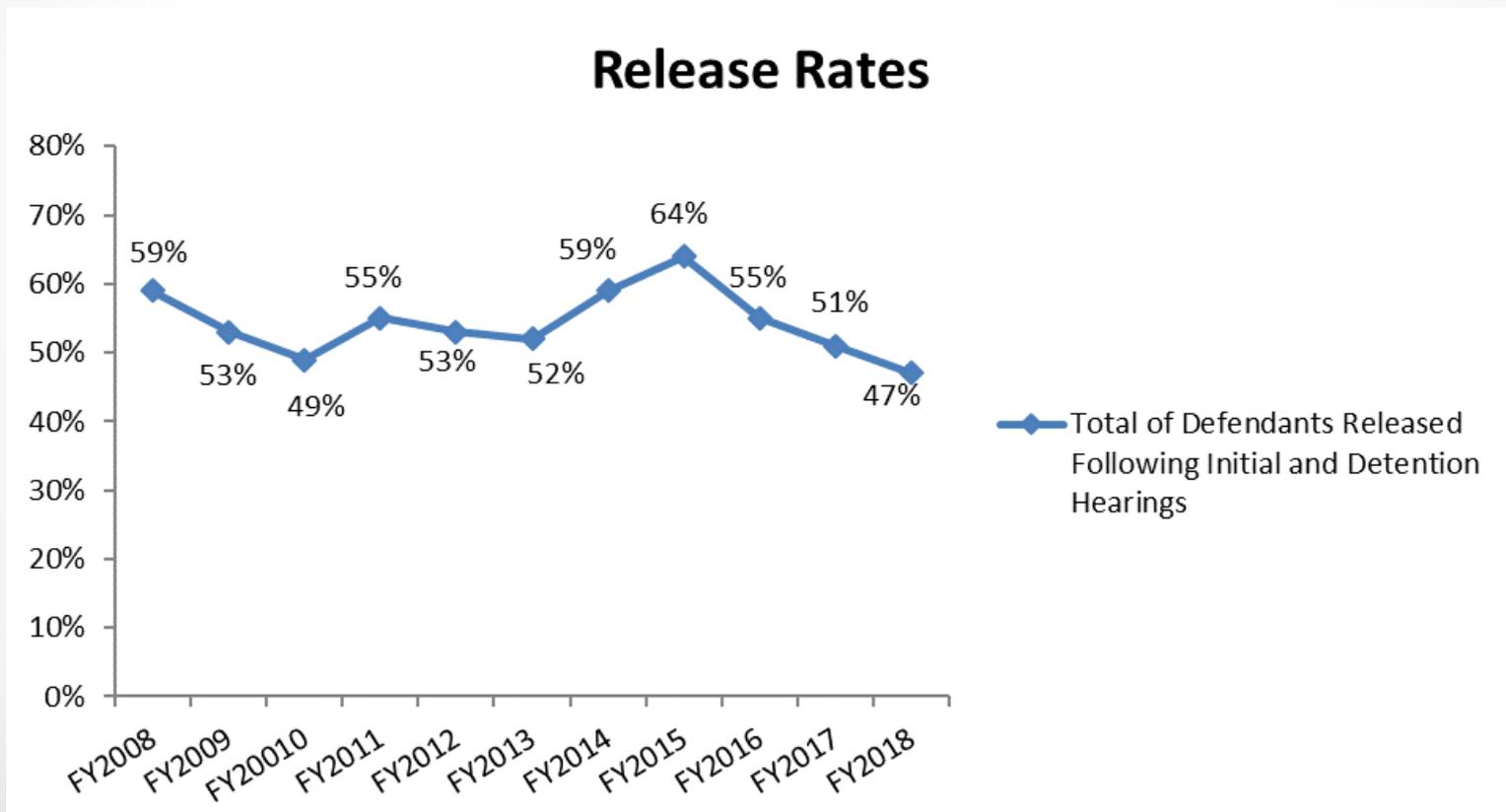
	Pretrial Supervision Cost	Pretrial Detention Cost	Defendants Released With Pretrial Services Supervision and/or SA testing/ treatment, LM, MH treatment	Cost of Pretrial Services Supervision for the 257 released vs Detention cost
Daily	\$11	\$89	257	\$2,827 vs \$22,873
Monthly	\$336	\$2,717	257	\$86,352 vs \$698,269
Annual	\$4,026	\$32,605	257	\$1,034,682 vs \$8,379,485

*Statistics on cost of pretrial supervision and detention provided by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts.

PRETRIAL SERVICES (CONT'D)

- Release Rates

- 10 year history of release rates in this district. The national release rate in FY 2018 was 25%. ILN has a release rate in the top quarter of the country – 47% release rate – and substantively higher than the circuit rate of 41%.



PRETRIAL SERVICES (CONT'D)

- Outreach program, “Planning for Tomorrow,” spans 10 years and 17 programs. The program has addressed concerns of 1000+ defendants, family members, and guests on issues related to consequences of felony conviction. Special focus is given to assisting families with children facing potential incarceration of their parent.
- On-going Programming
 - In-house drug laboratory provides testing for both U.S. Pretrial Services and U.S. Probation Offices with cost savings since FY 2014
 - 14,950 samples tested in FY 2018
 - District cost savings = \$22.25 per sample (reduced from \$25)
 - laboratory costs rounded = \$3.75 (reduced from \$4)
 - Alere national testing contractor cost rounded = \$26
 - Officers use skills to mitigate risk of danger through Staff Training Aimed at Reducing Re-Arrest (STARR)*
 - Second Chance Act funds provide emergency services to indigent defendants including clothing for homeless defendants, toiletries, transportation, emergency food supplies*
 - Paid Student Intern program in effect since 2013.
 - District Court Outreach Program and college job fairs

* NDIL Probation Office also participates in this program

PROBATION OFFICE

- Chief Marcus Holmes
 - Deputy Chief Aimee Callanan
 - Assistant Deputy Chief Gervacio Lopez (Post Conviction Division)
 - Assistant Deputy Chief Jason Christiansen (Presentence Division)
- Staffing
 - 109 Employees
 - 3 new employees
 - 6 officers, supervisors and support staff retired or resigned
 - 95% Staff Level
- Presentence Investigation Division
 - 701 total assignments
- Post Conviction Supervision Division
 - 3,217 total number of active supervision cases
 - Client Demographics
 - Gender: 88.4% Male and 11.6% Female
 - Race: 59.4% Black; 37.2% White (Non-Hispanic); 17.5% Hispanic; and 3% Other
 - Ages: .22% (Under 21); 11.6% (21-30); 30.7% (31-40); 29.75% (41-50); 16.92% (51-60); and 10.53% (Over 60)
 - Unemployed: 28.5% (NDIL) / 39.2% (Nationally)
 - Revoked or Closed Cases in 2018: 21.8% (NDIL) / 31.8% (Nationally)
 - Successful supervision completion rate: 87.3% (NDIL)/68.6% (Nationally)
 - Treatment Services
 - 1,299 Persons Received Treatment / \$878,082 treatment dollars spent in CY2018

PROBATION OFFICE (CONT'D)

- Search and Seizure
 - Along with U.S. Marshals have conducted 17 searches (residential and computer)
- Staff Training Aimed at Reducing Re-arrest (STARR)
 - All U.S. Post Conviction Officers in NDIL are STARR trained
 - Evidence-based skills used when meeting with clients
 - Increase prosocial thinking and behavior and enhance client's self-efficacy through structured coaching and skill building exercises
- Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team
 - Formed by representatives from the U.S. Probation and Pretrial staff to provide support to employees involved in a critical incident by providing individual and group crisis interventions, and follow-up after a critical incident
 - Available to any agency requesting the support of the team, with the authorization of the Chief U.S. Probation or their designee
 - Also provides all staff with resources to address daily life stressors and psychological distress.

PROBATION OFFICE (CONT'D)

Senior U.S. Probation Officer Bobbie Jo Pruitt (Illinois Northern) received the National Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association's (FPPOA) Richard F. Doyle and Great Lakes Region Line Officer of the Year Awards.

The Richard F. Doyle Award is presented to United States Probation and Pretrial Services officers who make the most significant achievement in, or contribution to, the United States Probation and Pretrial services system or the broader field of corrections. The Regional Line Officer of the Year Award is presented to officers who make a significant achievement in, or contribution to, the system or the broader field of corrections



From Left to Right: Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer Scott Porter, Sr U.S. Probation Officer Bobbie Jo Pruitt, Chief Probation Officer Marcus Holmes, and Chief U.S. District Judge Rubén Castillo

PROBATION OFFICE (CONT'D)

- Initiatives, Interventions and Outreach Programs
 - Two officers serving as national trainers for the Criminogenic Needs and Violence Curriculum
 - Bridging the Gap
 - Hosted regional Second Chance Act and First Step Act Training
 - Orientations conducted at Residential Reentry Center
 - Community Resource Lunch and Learns
 - Reentry Planning and Resource Fair
 - Workforce Development Program
 - Vocational Training Programs
 - Helpful Hanger and Emergency Clothing Closet
 - Community Meetings and Service
 - Internal Resource Website for Security Services for Clients
 - Refer client to treatment centers
 - Participate in area College Job Fairs and Career Fairs
 - Implemented Diversity Committee and Mentor Committee

JAMES B. MORAN SECOND CHANCE REENTRY PROGRAM



U.S. Attorneys' Office
Probation Office
Federal Defender's Office

- Expansion of Program
- Two Separate Sessions
- Volunteer Activities
- Currently 19 Participants

District Judges Castillo & Ellis
Magistrate Judges Schenkier & Cox



VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

- Assists veterans charged with federal misdemeanors in addressing underlying behaviors and illnesses that may benefit from treatment.
- Collaboration with the John Marshall Law School Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic - veterans honorably discharged and have been charged with a federal misdemeanor offense may enter into a diversion agreement with U.S. Attorney's Office.
- With assistance from the John Marshall Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic, charged veterans enter and complete programs focusing on PTSD, anger management, mental health, drug and alcohol addiction.
- Participating veterans meet with Magistrate Judge Susan E. Cox or Magistrate Judge Schenkier on a monthly basis to review their progress.
- Successful completion treatment + commit no new offenses = will not be prosecuted.

SOAR

SENTENCING OPTIONS THAT ACHIEVE RESULTS

- SOAR, an 18-24 month long alternative program, launched in September 2016
- SOAR Court Team:
 - Circuit Judge Amy St. Eve
 - Magistrate Judge Mary Rowland
 - Two Assistant U.S. Attorneys, Meghan Morrissey and Shoba Pillay
 - Federal Defender Deputy Director Christina Jackson Farley and Staff Attorney Geoffrey Meyer
 - U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Carrie Holberg and Deputy Chief Vicki Kindred Meredith
- Meet with team twice a month
- A total of 20 defendants have entered the program
 - Two graduations
 - May 2018
 - January 2019

SOAR (CONT'D)

- SOAR Court defendants receive intensive supervision as they focus on their sobriety, are involved in goal setting to increase their education levels, seek or maintain constructive employment and maintain a productive lifestyle
 - Successful completion of the program results in either the imposition of a non-custodial sentence, reduction to a misdemeanor conviction, or possible dismissal of the criminal charges.
 - A fourth class is in the process of being added to the program in the summer of 2019.
- Sentencing Options that Achieve Results
- Selected to participate in the Federal Judicial Center's *Coaching for New Federal Problem Solving Court's Program*

SOAR GRADUATION

Circuit Judge Amy St. Eve and U.S. Magistrate Judge Mary Rowland spoke about each of the six graduates. Christopher Mallette, Executive Director of the Chicago Violence Reduction Strategy, delivered a keynote address to the graduates.



BANKRUPTCY COURT

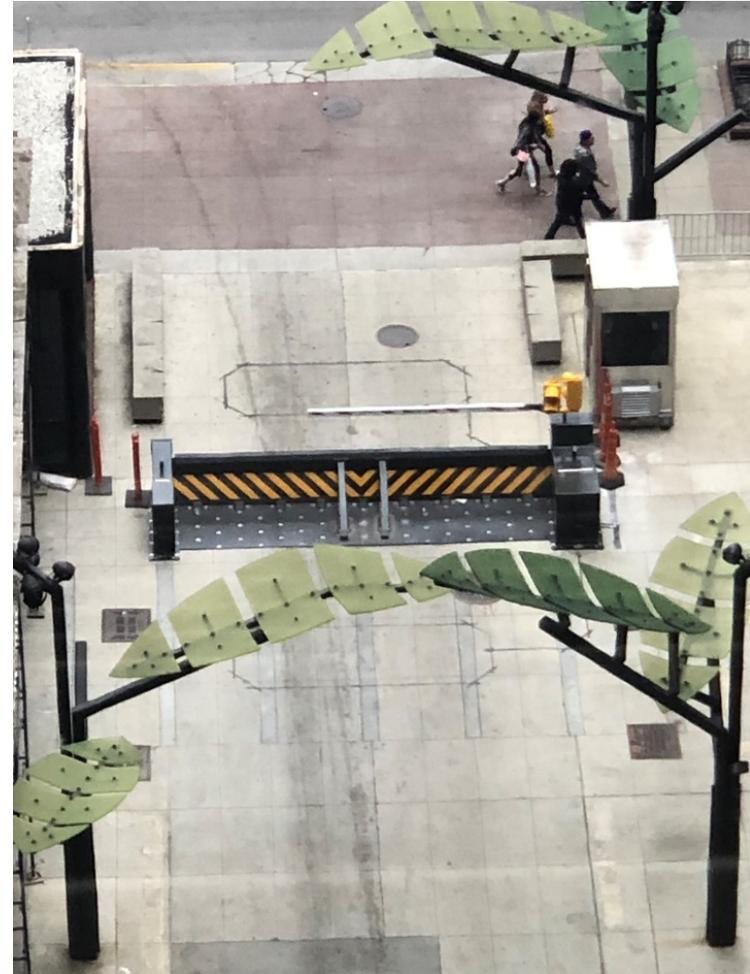
- Great Leadership
 - Chief Judge Pamela S. Hollis, who was appointed chief on January 6, 2017, has continued to lead the bankruptcy court. She will retire in January 2020. Judge A. Benjamin Goldgar will succeed her as Chief Judge.
- Recall Status
 - Jack Schmetterer continues to volunteer and handles a full case load
- Filings
 - Lead the nation with 41,448 pending bankruptcy cases as of March 31, 2019.
 - The second busiest bankruptcy court—the Central District of California—had 38,088. We have 11 judges and they have 26.

BANKRUPTCY COURT (CONT'D)

- Administration
 - Jeffrey P. Allsteadt, Clerk of Court
 - Hosting the National Conference for Bankruptcy Clerks (NCBC) Annual Conference in August 2019
 - The clerk's office helped Chicago retrieve almost \$100,000 owed to the City in unclaimed funds from bankruptcy cases
- Community Service
 - CARE – Credit Abuse Resistance Education
 - Judges and law clerks participate in this program, which provides financial education programs to Chicago area high schools and community groups
 - Bankruptcy employees raised over \$3,700 last year for a number of local charities and volunteered several times at the Greater Chicago Food Depository
 - Members of the bankruptcy bar formed the Chicago Bankruptcy Help Desk Foundation, a not-for profit that will raise money to pay for another staff attorney at the bankruptcy court's Help Desk

COURTHOUSE SECURITY

- Courthouse Security is Top Priority
- Active Shooter Trainings
- Security Enhancements
 - Quincy Court



COURTHOUSE SECURITY (CONT'D)

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

“For the past six years, I have committed to you that each day I would make your security my top priority. We have made significant progress over the past 16 months working with the United States Marshals Service.”

“As I conclude my term as Chief Judge, I want to pause and thank the men and woman of the United States Marshals Service and the Court Security Officers who every day keep us safe. Each day they come to work to secure not only the Courthouse, protect the judges, staff and jurors, but also to maintain order in the judiciary.”

— Chief Judge Rubén Castillo to court units and tenant agency employees of the Dirksen and Roszkowski U.S. Courthouses



OUTREACH BY THE COURT

- 60+ Chief Judge Presentations



Above: Chief Judge Castillo and Chief Judge Evans

Chief Judge Rubén Castillo, alongside Chief Judge Timothy Evans of the Circuit Court of Cook County, led a discussion with lawyers, judges, and Chicago faith leaders in a “Conversation About Criminal Justice Reform” at the New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church on Chicago’s South Side



Chicago State University panel addressing criminal law, justice, social equity

OUTREACH BY THE COURT (CONT'D)



“Pope and John Lecture” at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

OUTREACH BY THE COURT (CONT'D)

- Continuing Legal Education
 - 10/12/18 – State of Latinos in the Law Symposium
 - 11/14/18 – Anatomy of a Prisoner Civil Rights Case
 - 11/14/18 – Medical Claims
 - 12/06/18 – Labor & Employment Law Seminar
 - 01/17/19 – #MeToo in the Law Panel
 - 04/11/19 – Anatomy of a Prisoner Civil Rights Case
 - 04/11/19 – Medical Claims
 - 06/04/19 – Lighting the Way: Practical Mentoring Strategies
 - 06/19/19 - Helping Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Seek Justice
 - 06/26/19 – Changing the Landscape: Seminal Public Impact Decisions of the Northern District of Illinois

OUTREACH BY THE COURT (CONT'D)

- High School Programs
 - Opening the doors to the community, especially to young people
 - Illinois Center for Civic Education - 30th Annual Illinois State Finals of “We the People” State Hearings
 - Constitutional Rights Foundation Chicago - Equal Justice Under Law
 - Constitutional Rights Foundation Illinois Youth Summit
 - Jump Start Program
- Mock Trials
 - YMCA
 - Park Junior High
 - Maine East High School
 - Law and Public Safety
 - Chicago Public Schools Annual Freshman Competition
 - Legal Prep Academy Sophomore Competition
- Chicago Public Schools — over 200 students from 6 high schools
 - Jones College Preparatory; Mather High School; Al Raby High School; Wells Community Academy; Legal Prep Charter Academy; John H. Hamline Elementary School; Hinsdale Central High School; Francis Xavier Warde School; Evanston Township High School; Near North Montessori; Rockford Public School District 205; Naperville Central High School; Concord High School; Stevenson Elementary School; Simeon High School; Loy Norrix; Joliet Catholic Academy....+

OUTREACH BY THE COURT (CONT'D)



Cristo Rey St. Martin College
Prep in Waukegan



Law and Public Safety
Academy Sophomore Mock
Trial

OUTREACH BY THE COURT (CONT'D)



Constitution Day
Celebration



High School visit and tour of
Chief Judge's Courtroom



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

Honorable Rubén Castillo, Chief Judge | Thomas G. Bruton, Clerk of Court

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Community Outreach Program

Related Links

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- [Teachers and Organizations Visit](#)
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- [Judges Presentation](#)

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide the highest level of service to the Court and all people having business before the Court. We maintain the public record of court proceedings, provide access to the Court and administrative support to the Court's judicial officers. We earn the public's trust and confidence by carrying out our mission in a manner that is accurate, efficient, courteous, and easy to understand.

Welcome

On behalf of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, welcome to our Community Outreach website. The U.S. Courts are an independent national judiciary providing fair and impartial justice within the jurisdiction conferred by the Constitution and Congress. Our Founding Fathers understood the need for an independent Judiciary, which was created under Article III of the United States Constitution. The Judicial Branch is one of the three separate and distinct branches of the Federal Government.

The Community Outreach Program is designed to provide a better understanding of the federal courts. We are proud to offer field trips to the courthouse for both schools and community organizations. We have a Judicial Speakers Bureau where a Judge can come to your school or organization to lead an informative and educational program. Visits to the courthouse include an opportunity to observe courtroom proceedings, meet and speak with a judge, and learn more about careers within the Court and much more.

Learn More

Please click on a button below that best suits your interests. If you have any questions, please contact the Community Outreach Program at Community-Outreach@ilnd.uscourts.gov.

[Teachers/Organizations Visiting Court](#) >

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OUTREACH – JUDGES

SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES



Washington, D.C. – January 3, 2019, Chief Judge Castillo swore-in newly-elected Congressman Chuy Garcia

OUTREACH – JUDGES

SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES



Naperville, IL – January 12, 2019, Chief Judge Castillo swore-in newly-elected Congresswoman Lauren Underwood



Wheaton, IL – January 28, 2019, Judge Thomas Durkin swore-in newly-elected Congressman Sean Casten

OUTREACH – JUDGES

SWEARING-IN CEREMONIES



Chicago, IL – May 20, 2019, Magistrate Judge Susan Cox swore-in newly-elected Mayor Lori Lightfoot

OUTREACH - JUDGES

Educational Programs – University Events

DePaul University College of law

IIT Chicago Kent College of Law

John Marshall Law School

Loyola University Chicago School of Law

Northern Illinois University College of Law

Northwestern University School of Law

University of Chicago Law School

University of Illinois College of Law

Columbia Law School, University of New York City, NY

Cornell Law School

University of Notre Dame Law School

Valparaiso University School of Law

Yale Law School

OUTREACH - JUDGES

Educational Programs – Bar Associations

American Bar Association	Illinois State Bar Association
Asian-American Bar Association	International Bar Association
Black Women’s Lawyer Association	Lake County Bar Association
Chicago Bar Association	National Employment Lawyers Association
Chinese-American Bar Association	New York Intellectual Property Law Association
Federal Bar Association	National Asian Pacific American Bar Association
Federal Circuit Bar Association	Seventh Circuit Bar Association
Hispanic National Bar Association	Women’s Bar Association of Illinois
Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois	
Illinois Property Law Association of Chicago	

Educational Programs – Countries Visited

Argentina
Italy

Austria
Morocco
United Kingdom

Chile
Thailand

OUTREACH - JUDGES

Educational Programs - Organizations

Administrative Office Programs
Alliance for Women Mentoring Circles
American Bar Foundation
American Bankruptcy Institute
American Conference Institute
American Law Institute
American Inn of Court
Aspen Institute
Association of Corporate Counsel
Chicago Bar Foundation
Chicago Inn of Court
Chicago Public Schools' Mock Trial
Coalition of Women's Initiatives in the Law
Constitutional Rights Foundation of Chicago
Courtroom as Classroom Programs
Electronic Discovery Institute
Federal Circuit Bar Association
Federal Judges Association
Federal Judicial Center
Federal Magistrate Judges Association
Foley's Intellectual Property Conference
Forensic Expert Witness Association
George Mason University
Hispanic Lawyers Scholarship Fund of Illinois
Illinois Department of Human Rights
Illinois Humanities Council
Indiana CLE Foundation
International Women's Insolvency
& Restructuring Confederation
International Association of Defense Counsel
Jumpstart Program
Just the Beginning Foundation
Lawyers Club of Chicago
Lawyers for Puerto Rico
Leadership Greater Chicago
Leahy Institute of Advanced Patent Studies
Legal Assistance Foundation
Local Grammar and High Schools
National Advocacy Center, Department of Justice
National Immigrant Justice Center
National Institute for Trial Advocacy
Ninth Circuit
Practising Law Institute
Project Vision
Public Affairs Forum at Segal McCambridge
Public Affairs Roundtable at Miller, Shakman & Beem
Public Interest Law Initiative
Richard Linn Inn of Court
Salvation Army Correctional Services Advisory
Council
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seventh Circuit Bar Foundation
Illinois' 17th Judicial Circuit
Special Naturalization Ceremonies
United States Attorney's Office
United States Hispanic Leadership Institute
Various Moot Court Competitions
We the People Program

OUTREACH - JUDGES

- Judges as Adjunct Faculty
 - IIT Chicago Kent College of Law
 - Northwestern University School of Law
 - Loyola University School of Law
 - John Marshall Law School
 - University of Chicago Law School
 - University of Notre Dame Law School
 - Yale Law School
- Prisoners' Rights Project
 - NIU College of Law and FBA Rockford Chapter
 - Magistrate Judge Iain Johnston , President Mahoney Chapter of FBA, instrumental in establishing
 - 3rd year NIU law students, with supervision of attorney, represent prisoners in civil rights lawsuits in Western Division
 - FBA is funding court fees and salary of adjunct instructor

CHICAGO CHAPTER FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION EVENTS

- 08/15/18 – Negotiation Skills: Tips for Younger Lawyers in Mediations & Settlements
- 10/24/18 – Reception and Naming Ceremony Honoring The Honorable John W. Darrah
- 01/29/19 – Employment Law Seminar
- 03/20/19 – Bicentennial Anniversary Reception: 200 Years of Federal Courts in Illinois
- 03/20/19 – Judicial Firsts: Trailblazers on the Federal Bench
- 03/27/19 – Bankruptcy Basics for Non-bankruptcy Lawyers
- 04/24/19 – Younger Lawyer’s Division “Case Today” Program
- 05/01/19 – Annual Awards for Excellence in Pro Bono and Public Interest Service
- 06/13/19 – An Interview with Judge William J. Bauer
- Chambers Lunches with Judges Tharp and Leinenweber and Magistrate Judges Schenkier, Mason and Finnegan
- Fiona M. Whelan is the current President of the P. Michael Mahoney (Rockford, Illinois) Chapter of the Federal Bar Association

CHICAGO CHAPTER FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

07/08/19 – Reception Honoring Judge Rebecca R. Pallmeyer's Investiture as Chief Judge at the Standard Club, Grand Ballroom

10/02/19 – Annual Installation Luncheon at the Standard Club - Congratulations to President Elect Barry Fields