

United States Courts for the First Circuit

2019 Annual Report

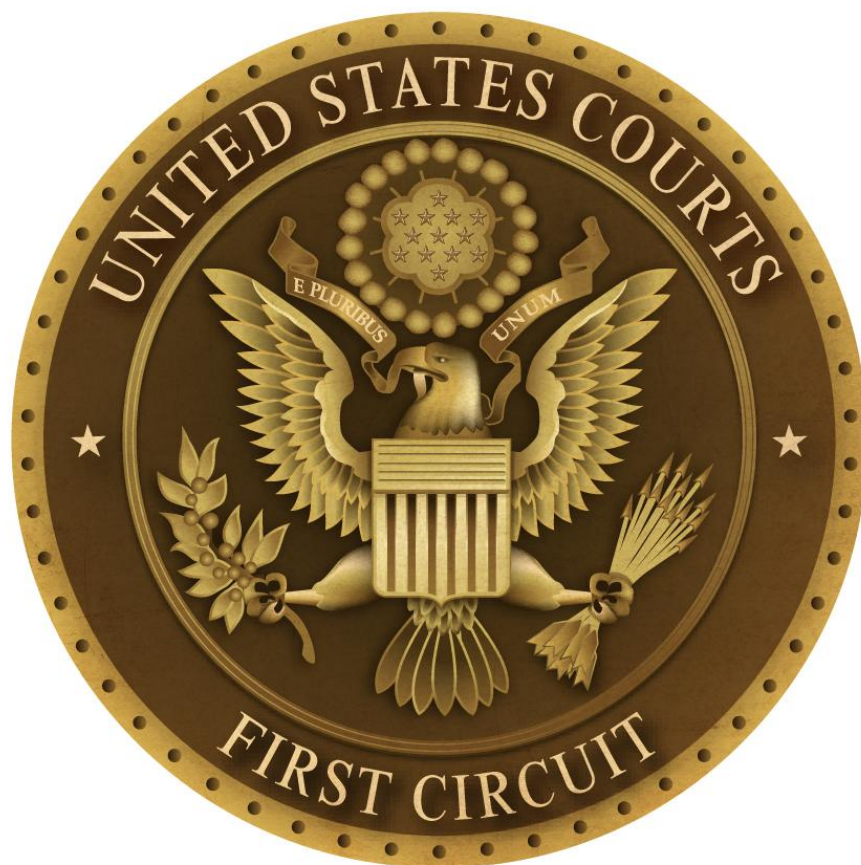


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Foreword

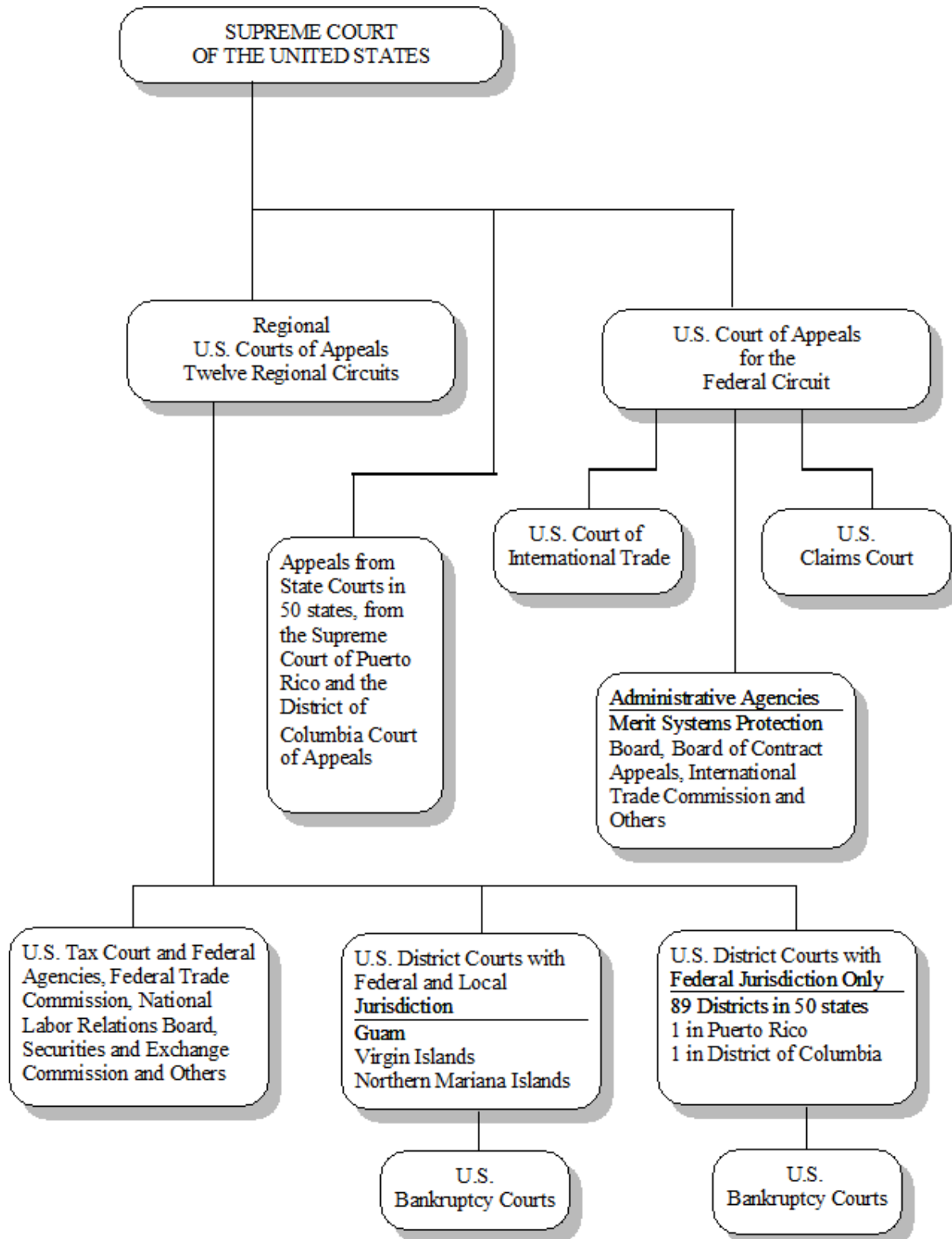
Susan J. Goldberg
Circuit Executive

Federal law requires each judicial circuit to compile an Annual Report of the work of its courts and administrative offices. In doing so, the depth and breadth of the courts' productivity and commitment to the efficient and effective administration of justice becomes evident. I am greatly indebted to all First Circuit judges and court staff who continue to carry on the courts' mission with the highest levels of dedication and integrity.

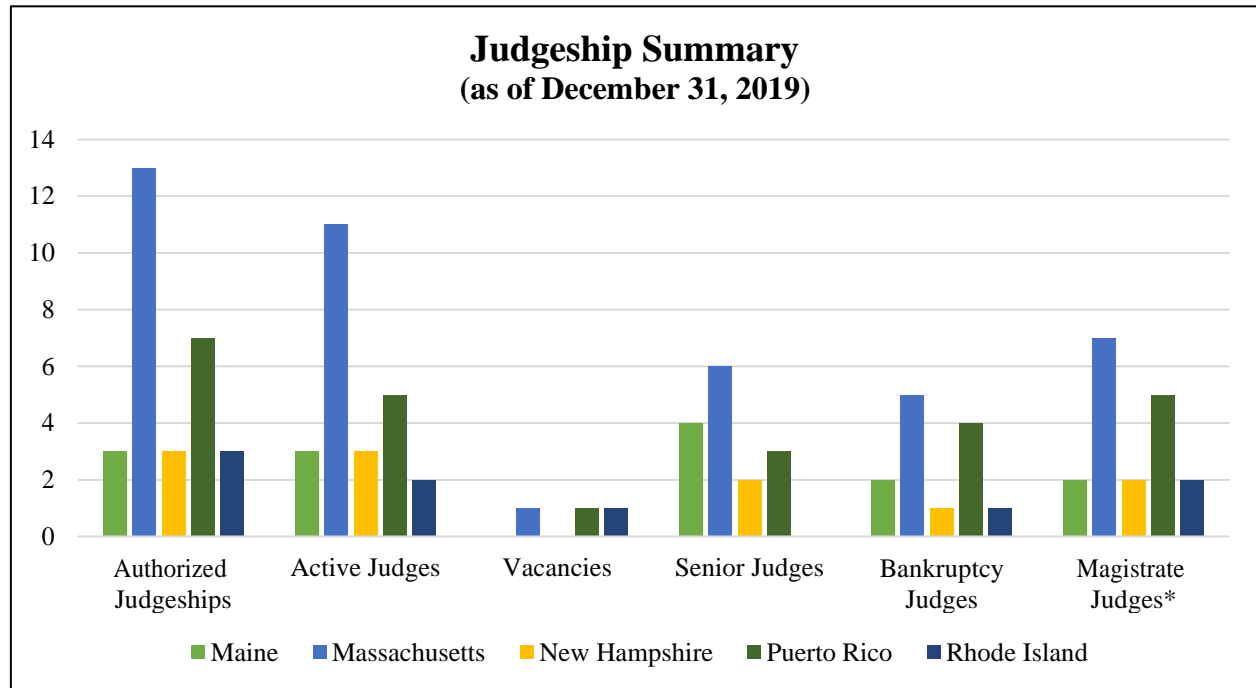
Many thanks to all of the unit executives throughout the circuit who provided the information presented here. I wish also to express my deep appreciation to those who compiled and presented the material, including Emily Balzano, Amy Campbell, Sierra Dennison, Julia Franklin, Jessica Pace, Florence Pagano, Valerie Qian, and Gina Riccio.

Thank you for your interest in the courts of the First Circuit.

Structure of the Federal Judiciary



Judges and Judicial Milestones



Judgeship Summary (as of December 31, 2019)						
Districts	Authorized Judgeships	Active Judges	Vacancies	Senior Judges	Bankruptcy Judges	Magistrate Judges*
Maine	3	3	0	4	2	2
Massachusetts	13	11	2	6	5	7
New Hampshire	3	3	0	2	1	2**
Puerto Rico	7	6	1	3	4	4
Rhode Island	3	3	0	1	1	2
Total Dist. Ct.	29	26	3	16	13	17
Total Court of Appeals	6	6	0	4	-	-
Total 1st Cir.	35	32	3	20	13	17

* Does not include recalled judges.

** Includes one part-time magistrate judge.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT

Honorable Jeffrey R. Howard, Chief

Honorable Juan R. Torruella
Honorable Bruce M. Selya
Honorable Michael Boudin
Honorable Norman H. Stahl
Honorable Sandra L. Lynch

Honorable Kermit V. Lipez
Honorable O. Rogerie Thompson
Honorable William J. Kayatta, Jr.
Honorable David J. Barron

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

Honorable Jon D. Levy, Chief
Honorable Nancy Torresen
Honorable Lance E. Walker
Honorable Gene Carter

Honorable D. Brock Hornby
Honorable George Z. Singal
Honorable John A. Woodcock, Jr.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

Honorable Peter G. Cary, Chief
Honorable Michael A. Fagone

**MAGISTRATE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE**

Honorable John H. Rich, III
Honorable John C. Nivison
Honorable David M. Cohen (recalled)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Honorable F. Dennis Saylor, IV, Chief	Honorable Leo T. Sorokin
Honorable William G. Young	Honorable Allison D. Burroughs
Honorable Nathaniel M. Gorton	Honorable Rya W. Zobel
Honorable Richard G. Stearns	Honorable Mark L. Wolf
Honorable Patti B. Saris	Honorable Douglas P. Woodlock
Honorable Denise J. Casper	Honorable Edward F. Harrington
Honorable Timothy S. Hillman	Honorable Michael A. Ponsor
Honorable Indira Talwani	Honorable George A. O'Toole, Jr.
Honorable Mark G. Mastroianni	

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Honorable Christopher J. Panos, Chief	Honorable Melvin S. Hoffman
Honorable Joan N. Feeney	Honorable Elizabeth D. Katz
Honorable Frank J. Bailey	Honorable Janet Bostwick

**MAGISTRATE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Honorable David H. Hennessy, Chief	Honorable Katherine Robertson
Honorable Marianne B. Bowler	Honorable Donald L. Cabell
Honorable Judith G. Dein	Honorable Robert B. Collings (recalled)
Honorable Jennifer C. Boal	Honorable Kenneth P. Neiman (recalled)
Honorable M. Page Kelley	Honorable Jerome J. Niedermeier (recalled)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Honorable Landya B. McCafferty, Chief Honorable Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr.
Honorable Paul J. Barbadoro Honorable Steven J. McAuliffe
Honorable Joseph N. Laplante

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Honorable Bruce A. Harwood, Chief

**MAGISTRATE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Honorable Andrea K. Johnstone
Honorable Daniel Lynch

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

Honorable Gustavo A. Gelpí, Chief Honorable Raul Arias-Marxuach
Honorable Carmen Consuelo Cerezo Honorable Juan M. Pérez-Giménez
Honorable Aida M. Delgado-Colón Honorable Daniel R. Domínguez
Honorable Francisco A. Besosa Honorable Jay A. Garcia-Gregory
Honorable Pedro A. Delgado-Hernández

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

Honorable Mildred Cabán, Chief Honorable Brian K. Tester
Honorable Enrique S. Lamoutte Honorable Edward A. Godoy

**MAGISTRATE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

Honorable Camille Vélez-Rivé
Honorable Bruce J. McGiverin
Honorable Marcos E. Lopez

Honorable Silvia Carreño-Coll
Honorable Marshal D. Morgan

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

Honorable John J. McConnell, Jr., Chief
Honorable William E. Smith
Honorable Mary S. McElroy
Honorable Mary M. Lisi

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

Honorable Diane Finkle

**MAGISTRATE JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

Honorable Lincoln D. Almond
Honorable Patricia A. Sullivan
Honorable Robert W. Lovegreen (recalled)

Judicial Milestones and Other Highlights

Bankruptcy Appellate Panel

In 2019, the Bankruptcy Appellate Panel (BAP) celebrated Chief Judge Feeney's retirement from the bench. Judge Godoy, of the District of Puerto Rico, was appointed to serve as the BAP's new chief judge for a four-year term beginning on May 17, 2019.

In January and February of 2019, the BAP coached Suffolk University Law School's Duberstein Moot Court Competition students.

District of Maine

Chief Judge Levy became chief judge on January 1, 2019. He served on the First Circuit Judicial Council and the board of the Federal Judges Association. He also chaired and moderated a POWER Act event in May 2019, presented a Continuing Legal Education (CLE), entitled "Sexual Harassment and the Legal Profession," and spoke on professional responsibility at the University of Maine School of Law. The Chief Judge was also a member of the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council.

Judge Torresen continued to serve as a member of the Judicial Conference of the United States (JCUS). She also chaired the District of Maine Court Security Committee; served on the First Circuit Judicial Council Workplace Conduct Committee; oversaw the District's rehabilitative drug court program, Success with the Court's Help (SWiTCH); and attended the New England Problem-Solving Court Symposium.

Judge Walker received the 2019 University of Maine School of Law L. Kinvin Wroth Alumni Award. He chaired the District's Criminal Law Committee, served on the Court's POWER Act Committee, presided at five naturalization ceremonies, and spoke at the annual meeting of the Cumberland County

Bar Association, the Gignoux Inn of Court, and the Ballou Inn of Court. He also spoke at the Research Integrity Symposium and attended the Federal Judicial Center's (FJC) orientation for new federal judges, a federal sentencing seminar, New York University's Federal Jury Innovations Conference, a forum at George Mason University, the Legal Services Corporation's Forum on Access to Justice, and the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council meetings.

Judge Hornby presented a lecture at a Maine Historical Society Volunteer Appreciation Event titled "Early History of the Federal Court in the District of Maine," prepared an annotated version of the District of Maine Local Rules, and authored several publications, including Chapters 12, 13, and 14 of his "Fables in Law" series in *The Green Bag*, and "Can Federal Sentencing Remain Transparent?" and "Emails to a Federal Judge" in *Judicature*. He was also a member of the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council.

Judge Singal served on the United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Committee, the Board of Directors for the FJC, the FJC Planning Committee, the FJC District Judge Education Advisory Committee, the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council, and as a faculty member of the FJC annual training seminar for new chief judges. On October 25, 2019, Judge Singal received the President Abram W. Harris Honors College Award from the University of Maine Foundation, awarded to recipients who demonstrate exemplary and extraordinary leadership, contributions to their community, and service to the University of Maine.

Judge Woodcock was a member of the John Ballou Inn of Court, the District of Maine's Naturalization Ceremonies Committee, the University of Maine School of Law Board of Visitors, the Merit Selection Committee for

the Chief Probation Officer in the District of Puerto Rico, and the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council.

Magistrate Judge Rich served on the JCUS Committee on the Administration of Magistrate Judges System and Strategic Planning Group, the Maine Justice Action Group (as Vice-Chair), J.A.G.'s standing Pro Bono Committee (as Co-Chair), the Federal Courts Law Review (as Articles Editor), the District's standing Local Rules Advisory Committee (Judicial Liaison), and the American Law Institute. He also assisted Judge Torresen with the Court's SWiTCH re-entry program court.

Magistrate Judge Nivison served on the District's Criminal Law Committee and the First Circuit Jury Plan Committee, and chaired a committee to develop a social media policy for the District. He also served on the faculties of the Maine College of Trial Advocacy and Thomas College in Waterville.

District of Massachusetts

The District of Massachusetts judges served on a number of committees in 2019. Judge Gorton served on the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Judge Stearns served on the JCUS Committee on International Judicial Relations. Judge Casper served on the JCUS Committee on Judicial Security. Judge Hillman served on the JCUS Committee on Federal and State Jurisdiction and the First Circuit Judicial Council. Judge Talwani served on the JCUS Committee on Criminal Law and the First Circuit Judicial Council. Judge Mastroianni served on the JCUS Committee on the Administration of the Magistrate Judges System. Judge Sorokin served on the JCUS Committee on Court Administration and Case Management. Judge Zobel served on the JCUS Committee on Financial Disclosure. Magistrate Judge Boal

served on the Civil Rules Advisory Committee.

District of New Hampshire

Chief Judge McCafferty continued to oversee the District's educational outreach program, which provides monthly educational programming for middle school students, an interactive "You Be the Judge" program for high school students, and naturalization ceremonies at high schools. She also spoke at Portsmouth High School. She served on the JCUS Committee on Defender Services and the First Circuit Judicial Council Workplace Conduct Committee and chaired the Facility Security Committee.

Judge Laplante served on the First Circuit Judicial Council, the New Hampshire Rules of Evidence Update Committee, the Daniel Webster-Batchelder Inn of Court, and the New Hampshire Bar Association Kirby Award Selection Committee. He also co-chaired the New Hampshire Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission, and taught statutory interpretation at Boston College Law School, Georgetown Law School, and University of New Hampshire (UNH) Franklin Peirce School of Law.

Judge DiClerico chaired the District's Security Committee, and Judge McAuliffe served on the District's Security Committee.

Magistrate Judge Johnstone began a two-year term as an observer-member of the First Circuit Judicial Council and continued to serve on the New Hampshire Bar Association (NHBA)'s Committee on Cooperation with the Courts and the Daniel Webster-Batchelder Inn of Court. She also served as a trustee on the Proctor Academy board.

Clerk/Magistrate Judge Lynch served on the District Clerks Advisory Group, the IT Advisory Group, the IT Infrastructure Formula Working Group, the Common Support Staffing Formula Development Steering Group, the National Forms Working Group, the First Circuit Judicial Council Jury Plan Committee, the New Hampshire Committee on the Judiciary and the Media, and the NHBA's Committee on Cooperation with the Courts.

District of Puerto Rico

On May 16, 2019, Judge Arias-Marxuach was sworn in as a district judge of the Court.

On September 12, 2019, Magistrate Judge Carreño-Coll was reappointed to serve a second term as magistrate judge.

District of Rhode Island

Chief Judge McConnell became chief judge on December 1, 2019. He served on the JCUS Code of Conduct Committee, the First Circuit Judicial Council, and the First Circuit Jury Plan Committee.

Judge Smith stepped down as chief judge after six years of service on November 30, 2019. He served on the JCUS Judicial Resources Committee and chaired the FJC's District Judge Education Advisory Committee. Judge Smith also served as faculty and mentor in the FJC's Phase I, II, and III (mid-career) programs and taught at Roger Williams University School of Law and chaired its Board of Directors.

Judge McElroy was sworn in as district judge on October 3, 2019.

Magistrate Judge Sullivan served on the Next Generation Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) Project Steering Group and

the Board of Trustees of the Rhode Island Bar Foundation.

Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine

Chief Judge Cary continued to serve as a presenter on several judicial education panels for the Federal Judicial Center (FJC) and as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Maine School of Law. Chief Judge Cary remained active in the bankruptcy section of the Maine State Bar Association (MSBA), as a presenter on behalf of the Credit Abuse Resistance Education (CARE) program in high schools and colleges throughout Maine, as an Advisory Director of the Cleaves Law Library, Treasurer of the Maine State-Federal Judicial Council, and as a member of the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI), the Gignoux Inn of Court, and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges (NCBJ). Chief Judge Cary was also a member and/or involved in the following groups/committees: FJC 2020 Consumer Programs Committee, First Circuit Judicial Council Workplace Conduct Committee, Cleaves Law Library Oral History Committee, Local Rules Committee, NCBJ Endowment Committee, Civil Discourse Program, and MSBA Workplace Harassment Committee.

Judge Fagone served on the Executive Committee of the ABI, as the Co-Judicial Chair for the 2019 ABI Northeast Conference, and as a presenter for several ABI committees. He was the Judicial Advisor for the John Waldo Ballou Inn of Court in Penobscot County and Chair of the Maine Judicial Conference 2020, which met in 2019. He was also a member of the Endowment for Education Committee of the NCBJ and the Maine State-Federal Judicial Council. Judge Fagone wrote an article for the National Association of Chapter 13 Trustees Academy

for Consumer Bankruptcy Education, titled “Postpetition Borrowing by a Consumer Debtor in Chapter 13” and presented to Husson University students. Judge Fagone was also a member and/or involved in the following groups/committees or events: First Circuit Judicial Council IT Committee, NCBJ Education Committee, Duberstein Competition, MSBA Annual Conference, a citizenship ceremony at the United States District Court for the District of Maine, NCBJ on Evidence Presentation, FJC Electronic Discovery Seminar, and an attorney admissions ceremony in the District of Maine.

***Bankruptcy Court
for the District of Massachusetts***

On September 27, 2019, Judge Bostwick was sworn in. She replaced Judge Feeney who retired effective May 17, 2019.

Chief Judge Panos served as Co-Chair of the Local Rules Advisory Committee and the Diversity Initiative Task Force, and as Judicial Chair of the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program, a collaboration between the Boston Bar Association (BBA) and the District of Massachusetts Bankruptcy Court. He was also a member of a number of committees, including the Court's Technology and Pro Bono Committees, the Complex Commercial Litigation Section Council of the Massachusetts Bar Association, and the District Court's Central Division Courthouse Security Committee. Chief Judge Panos served as the non-voting Bankruptcy Court representative of the Technology Committee and Budget Committee of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts and as a member of the Judicial Outreach Committee of the American College of Bankruptcy.

In 2019, Judge Feeney served as Co-Chair of the Court's Pro Bono Committee and the M.

Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program, as Vice-President of the American College of Bankruptcy, and as Business Manager of the American Bankruptcy Law Journal. Judge Feeney was also a member of the Elections Committee of the NCBJ. Judge Feeney co-authored the Bankruptcy Law Manual.

Judge Bailey served as President Elect of the NCBJ; Co-Chair of the Diversity Initiative Task Force, the Judicial Division of the Committee on the Diversity of the American Judiciary of the American Bar Association (ABA), and the Committee on Bankruptcy Appeals, Business Law Section of the ABA; Chair of the Profession of the Public Service and Diversity Committee of the ABA Board; Judicial Member at Large of the Board of Governors of the ABA; and Chair of the Immigrant Learning Center School. Judge Bailey was also a member of a number of committees, including the Executive Committee of the ABA Board of Governors, the JCUS OSCAR Working Group Committee, the Minority Student Judicial Clerkship Program of the ABA, and the Finance Committee of the NCBJ. Judge Bailey also served as Board Liaison to the ABA's National Conference of Federal Trial Judges and Forums on Affordable Housing and Franchising Law.

In 2019, Judge Hoffman served as Co-Chair of the Local Rules Advisory Committee and Chair of the Subcommittees on CARES Act Emergency Rule Drafting and on Forms. Judge Hoffman was also a member of the Automation Committee, the JCUS Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules, and the NCBJ Finance Committee.

Judge Katz served as Co-Chair of the Pro Bono Committee, Chair of the Building Security Committee of the Springfield Courthouse, and as a member of the Public Outreach Committee of the NCBJ.

Judge Bostwick served as Chair of the Pro Bono Committee of the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation, Director of the American College of Bankruptcy Foundation, and Co-chair of the Closely Held and Small Business Subcommittee of the Business Bankruptcy Committee of the ABA. She also served as a member of the Local Rules Advisory Committee.

***Bankruptcy Court
for the District of New Hampshire***

Chief Judge Harwood was named Secretary of the ABI in April, serving on its Board of Directors and its Executive Committee. He also spoke on two panels at the ABI's Annual Spring Meeting in April, as well as on a panel at its Northeast Conference in July.

***Bankruptcy Court
for the District of Puerto Rico***

Chief Judge Cabán served as a member of the FJC Education Committee for Bankruptcy Judges, the Committee on the Federal Bar Examination for the District of Puerto Rico, the NCBJ Education Committee, and the Advisory Board for CARE. Chief Judge Cabán and CARE volunteers provided educational programs on financial literacy for the Puerto Rico Department of Education's celebration of Financial Literacy Month. Chief Judge Cabán was also a moderator and panelist for two sessions at the FJC National Bankruptcy Judges Workshop, and a speaker for the newly appointed bankruptcy judges at the FJC Phase II training, at the New Jersey State Bar's conference, and at Law Day in Old San Juan. She also served as Co-Chair of the NCBJ Diversity and Security Committees. She attended a number of conferences, including but not limited to, the FJC Climate Judiciary Project Seminar, the Hispanic National Bar Association's Annual

Conference, and the Bankruptcy Bar Association of South Florida's retreat.

Judge Lamoutte attended the 2019 First Circuit Judges Workshop, and the National Workshop of Bankruptcy Judges.

Judge Tester served on the Electronic Public Access Working Group and was a participant in a number of FJC programs. He was also an adjunct professor at the InterAmerican University School of Law, an advisor with the Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Program, and a volunteer for the Puerto Rico Trial Advocacy Competition of the InterAmerican University. Judge Tester was also a guest speaker at the ABI's Caribbean Insolvency Symposium, the Northeast Bankruptcy Conference, and at the InterAmerican University School of Aeronautics.

Judge Godoy served on a panel at the New Jersey State Bar's 2019 Mid-Year Meeting and as an officiant at a naturalization ceremony in San Juan. Judge Godoy attended the Insolvency International 2019 Regional Annual Conference, the NCBJ, and the 2019 Electronic Discovery Institute Leadership Summit.

***Bankruptcy Court
for the District of Rhode Island***

Judge Finkle served as a member of the NCBJ and on its Diversity and On-Line Learning Committees. She recorded a podcast with Judge Norton (Bk. W.D.Mo.). In 2019, she was also a member of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AO) Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group, an observer member on the First Circuit Judicial Council, and the Judicial Chair of the ABI's Advisory Board for the ABI Annual Northeast Bankruptcy Conferences for 2019 through 2021.

Judge Finkle served as a speaker or panelist at the following programs: a panel discussing the intersection of consumer protection laws with bankruptcy matters at the 2019 ABI Annual Northeast Bankruptcy Conference, a panel discussing the challenges facing women lawyers for the Rhode Island Women's Bar Association, and a bankruptcy panel for new federal bar admittees. In September 2019, Judge Finkle together with two bankruptcy attorneys and two trustees, presented a free seminar on behalf of the Rhode Island Bar Association Volunteer Lawyer Program, called "After the Filing: Chapter 7 & 13," which provided participants with instruction on post-bankruptcy filing issues in chapter 7 and 13 cases. Judge Finkle also attended a number of seminars and educational events, including but not limited to the 2019 NCBJ and the 2019 FJC Bankruptcy Judges Workshop.

Work of the Courts

Statistical Report for the Court of Appeals

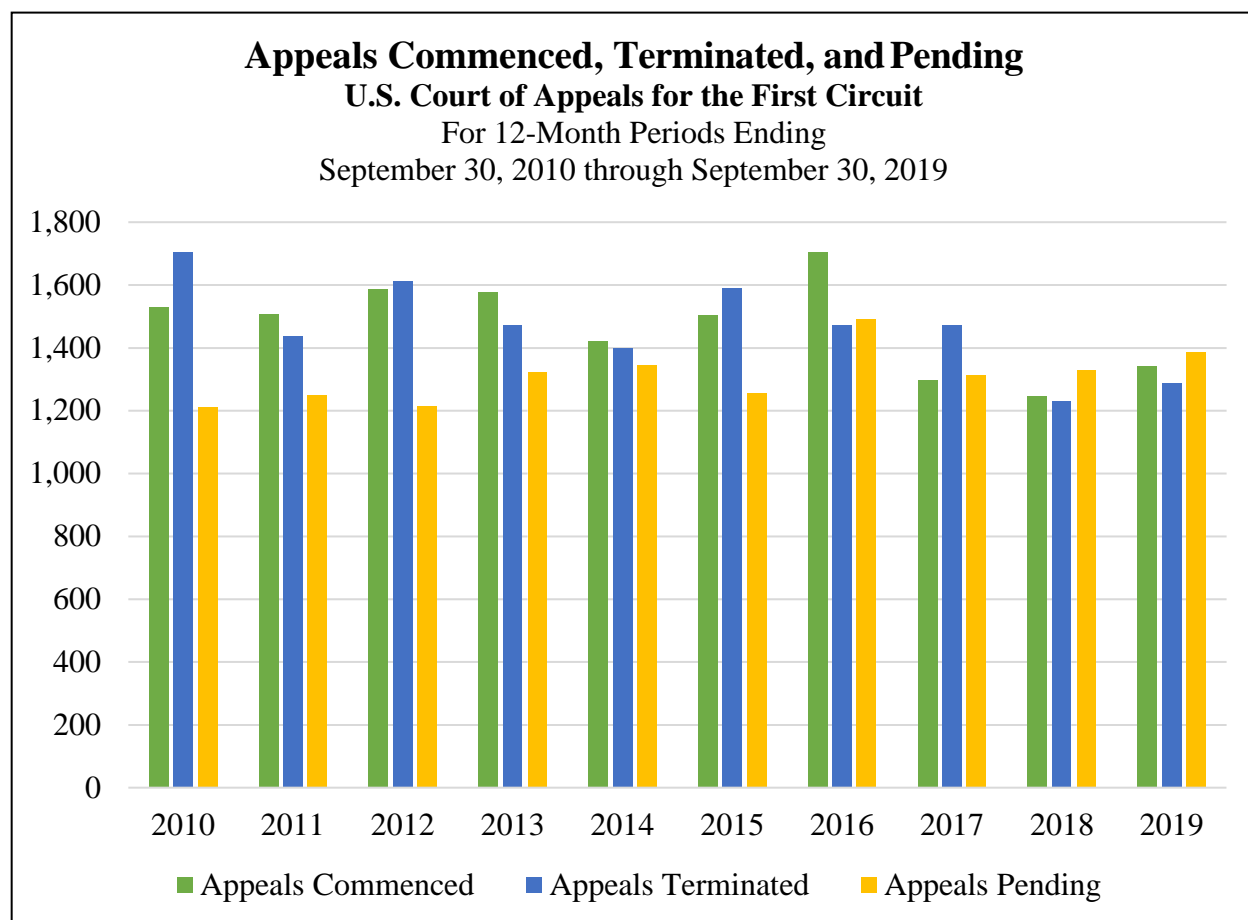
Courts of Appeals Caseload Summary									
Appeals Commenced, Terminated, and Pending, by Circuit									
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2018 and September 30, 2019									
Circuit	<u>Commenced</u>			<u>Terminated</u>			<u>Pending*</u>		
	2018	2019	% Change	2018	2019	% Change	2018	2019	% Change
Total	49,276	48,486	-1.6	50,428	47,889	-5.0	38,240	38,837	1.6
D.C.	1,034	908	-12.2	1,138	1,023	-10.1	1,215	1,100	-9.5
First	1,245	1,342	7.8	1,232	1,288	4.5	1,333	1,387	4.1
Second	4,062	4,260	4.9	3,879	3,890	0.3	3,723	4,093	9.9
Third	2,941	3,503	19.1	2,742	3,018	10.1	2,321	2,806	20.9
Fourth	4,261	4,517	6.0	4,294	4,233	-1.4	2,445	2,729	11.6
Fifth	7,566	7,020	-7.2	7,584	7,109	-6.3	4,725	4,636	-1.9
Sixth	4,221	4,423	0.5	4,525	4,101	-9.4	2,614	2,756	5.4
Seventh	2,814	2,622	-6.8	2,643	2,713	2.6	1,804	1,713	-5.0
Eighth	2,844	2,812	-1.1	2,914	2,849	-2.2	1,805	1,768	-2.0
Ninth	10,566	10,106	-4.4	11,753	10,210	-13.1	11,374	11,270	-0.9
Tenth	1,830	1,757	-4.0	1,813	1,737	-4.2	1,233	1,253	1.6
Eleventh	5,892	5,396	-8.4	5,911	5,718	-3.3	3,648	3,326	-8.8

* Pending caseloads for 2018 as revised by the AO.

Source of Appeals and Original Proceedings								
U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit								
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2012 through September 30, 2019								
Source	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
First Circuit Totals*	1,587	1,578	1,421	1,504	1,704	1,296	1,245	1,342
Maine	140	118	113	206	117	116	102	103
Massachusetts	516	497	418	506	499	377	464	486
New Hampshire	86	95	74	74	86	90	82	78
Puerto Rico	431	501	425	399	461	372	284	376
Rhode Island	98	89	94	61	45	87	71	66
Bankruptcy	27	35	29	34	28	33	39	40
U.S. Tax Court	5	4	4	3	4	2	3	0
National Labor Relations Board	10	4	5	11	8	6	3	3
Board of Immigration Appeals	186	153	144	113	83	68	84	76
Administrative Agencies (Total)	216	165	161	139	105	88	100	88
Original Proceedings**	73	78	107	85	363	133	103	105

*Totals include reopened, remanded, and reinstated appeals, as well as original appeals.

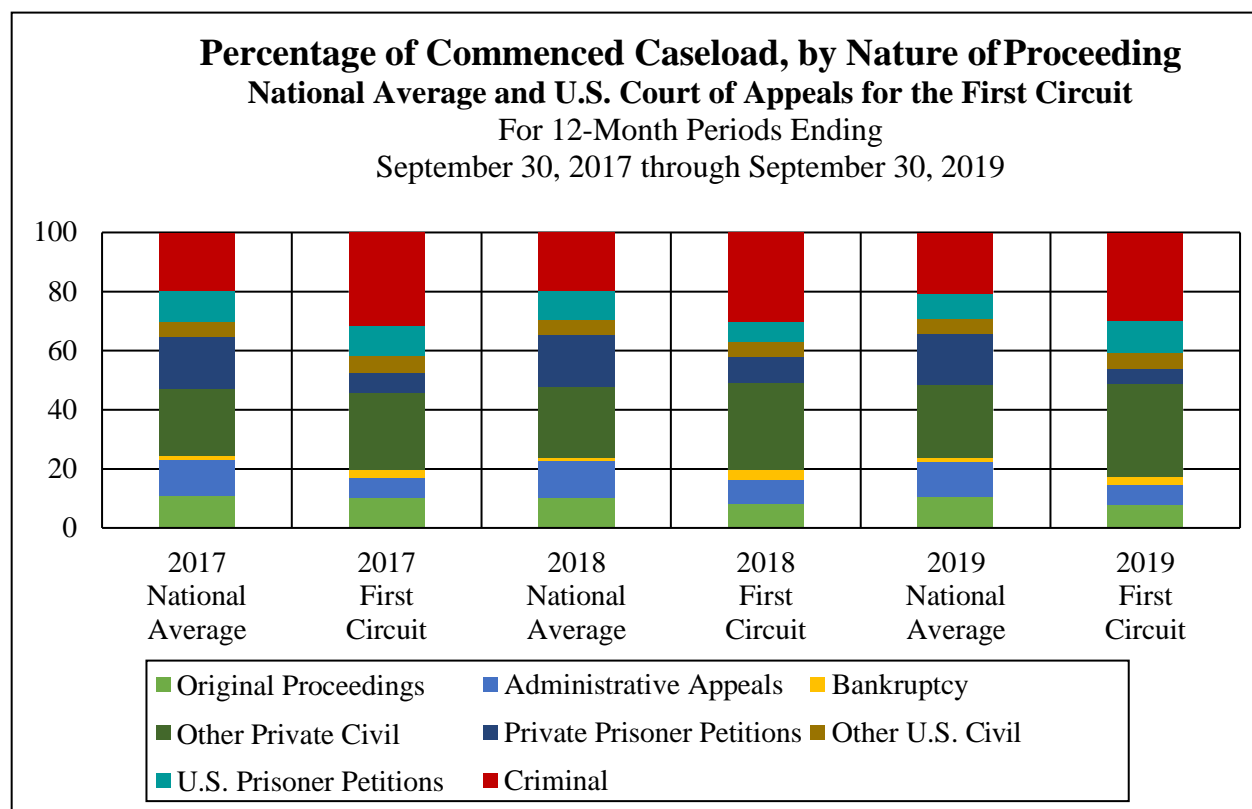
**Beginning in 2014, miscellaneous applications are included in this category.



Appeals Commenced, Terminated, and Pending
U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2010 through September 30, 2019

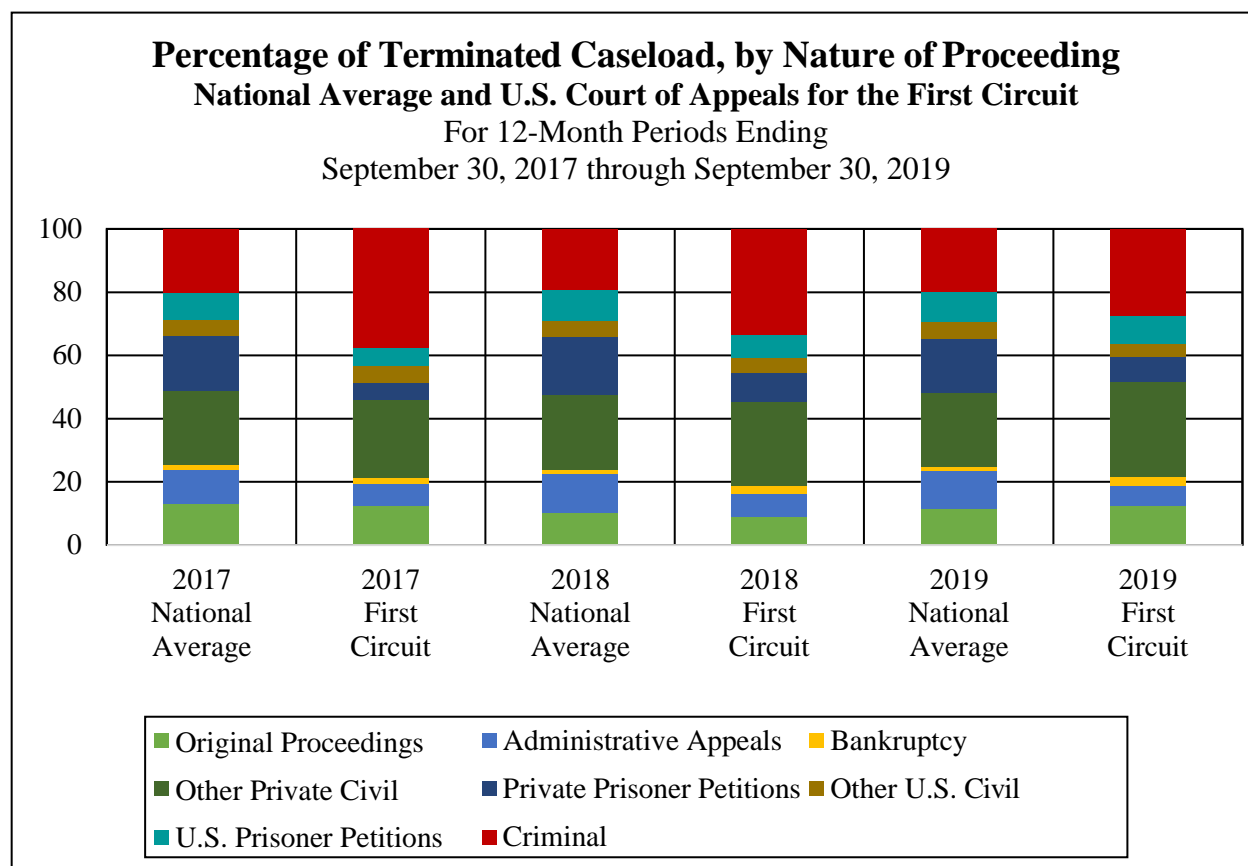
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Appeals Commenced	1,530	1,507	1,587	1,578	1,421	1,504	1,704	1,296	1,245	1,342
Appeals Terminated	1,706	1,437	1,612	1,472	1,401	1,589	1,472	1,472	1,232	1,288
Appeals Pending*	1,212	1,250	1,215	1,324	1,343	1,256	1,490	1,317	1,333	1,387

*Pending caseloads for 2010 - 2018 as revised by the AO.



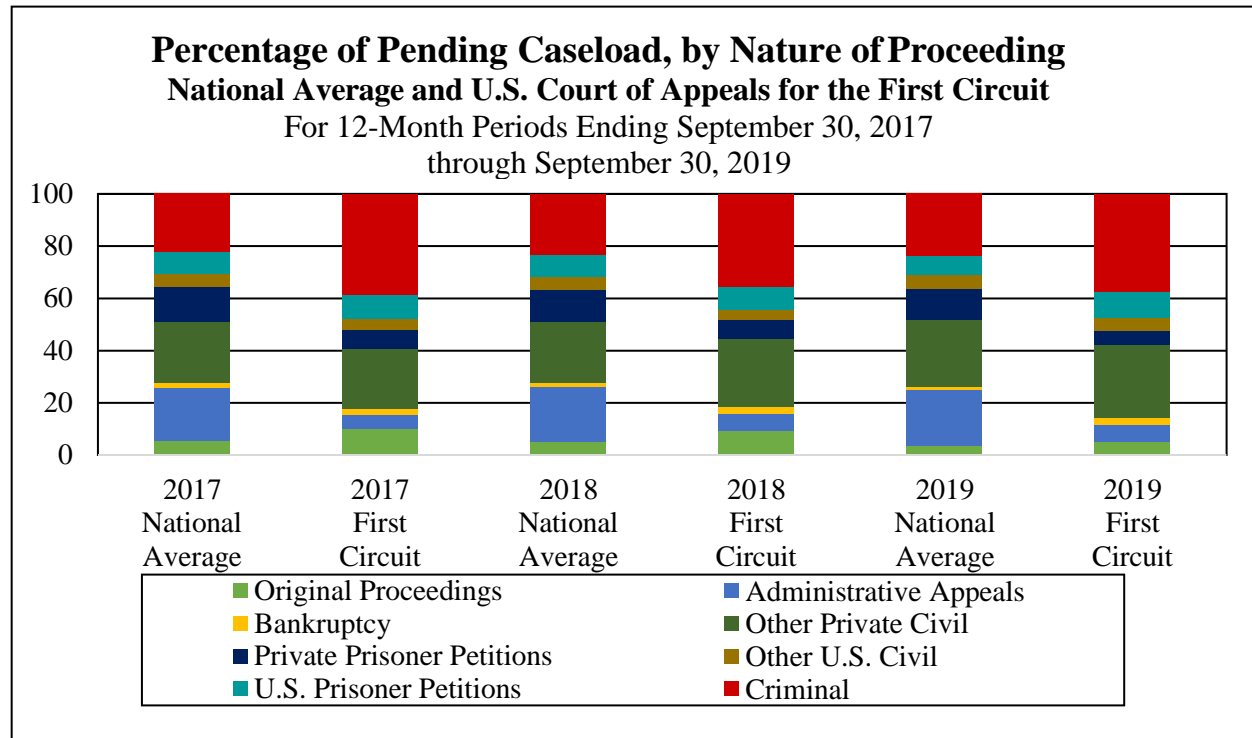
Percentage of Commenced Caseload, by Nature of Proceeding
National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2019

	2017		2018		2019	
	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit
Criminal	19.6	31.6	19.9	30.4	20.6	29.5
U.S. Prisoner Petitions	10.6	9.9	9.8	6.6	8.5	10.5
Other U.S. Civil	4.9	6.1	5.1	4.9	5.1	5.5
Private Prisoner Petitions	17.7	6.6	17.6	8.9	17.0	5.7
Other Private Civil	22.6	26.2	23.8	29.8	24.9	31.4
Bankruptcy	1.4	2.5	1.3	3.1	1.3	3.0
Administrative Appeals	12.2	6.8	12.4	8.0	12.2	6.6
Original Proceedings and Miscellaneous Applications	10.9	10.3	10.2	8.3	10.3	7.8



Percentage of Terminated Caseload, by Nature of Proceeding
National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2019

	2017		2018		2019	
	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit
Criminal	20.1	37.8	19.2	33.4	20.1	27.3
U.S. Prisoner Petitions	8.7	5.4	9.7	7.3	9.5	8.9
Other U.S. Civil	4.9	5.4	5.2	5.0	5.1	4.3
Private Prisoner Petitions	17.6	5.4	18.1	9.0	17.3	7.9
Other Private Civil	23.3	24.7	23.8	26.6	23.3	29.9
Bankruptcy	1.6	2.0	1.4	2.3	1.4	3.1
Administrative Appeals	10.8	7.0	12.3	7.4	11.8	6.1
Original Proceedings and Miscellaneous Applications	13.0	12.4	10.2	9.0	11.6	12.5



Percentage of Pending Caseload,* by Nature of Proceeding
National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2018

	2017		2018		2019	
	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit
Criminal	22.3	38.3	23.2	35.5	23.9	37.3
U.S. Prisoner Petitions	8.3	9.4	8.5	8.7	7.2	10.2
Other U.S. Civil	5.3	4.3	5.2	4.0	5.2	4.8
Private Prisoner Petitions	13.1	7.2	12.2	7.3	12.0	5.4
Other Private Civil	23.5	23.0	23.3	26.0	25.4	27.9
Bankruptcy	1.7	2.1	1.6	2.9	1.4	2.7
Administrative Appeals	20.6	5.6	20.9	6.3	21.3	6.7
Original Proceedings and Miscellaneous Applications	5.3	10.0	5.1	9.3	3.6	4.9

*Pending caseloads for 2017 and 2018 as revised by the AO.

U.S. Courts of Appeals Median Time Intervals in Months, by Circuit, For Cases Terminated After Hearing or Submission For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2019 (From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition)		
Circuit	No. of Cases	Interval
National Average	29,738	8.8
D.C.	468	9.8
First	930	13.1
Second	2,177	11.7
Third	2,064	9.6
Fourth	2,897	5.6
Fifth	3,872	9.2
Sixth	2,660	7.7
Seventh	1,517	8.7
Eighth	2,133	7.6
Ninth	6,604	10.8
Tenth	1,140	8.9
Eleventh	3,276	7.7

Percentage of Terminations on the Merits National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019						
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
After Oral Hearing	1st Cir.	29.1%	26.1%	25.5%	24.5%	20.3%
	Nat'l	19.0%	16.3%	18.7%	18.7%	18.9%
After Submission	1st Cir.	62.9%	68.2%	68.2%	69.1%	74.0%
	Nat'l	73.4%	76.8%	74.7%	74.6%	73.8%
By Consolidation	1st Cir.	8.0%	5.7%	6.3%	6.4%	5.7%
	Nat'l	7.7%	6.9%	6.6%	6.7%	7.3%

Clerk’s Office

Federal and Local Rules Amendments

In December, numerous changes to the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure went into effect, including the rules concerning disclosure statements and proofs of service. The Local Rules were amended in accordance with the updated Federal Rules. Those amendments and some additional amendments, to bring the Local Rules in conformity with updated citation formats and changing fees, were proposed in 2019.

Statistics

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, the Court of Appeals reported 1,342 filings, compared with 1,245 filings in FY 2018, a 7.8% increase in filings. Case terminations increased by 4.5%, from 1,232 terminations in FY 2018 to 1,288 in FY 2019. During the same period, pending cases increased by 4.1%, with 1,387 cases pending at the end of FY 2019 compared with 1,333 cases pending at the beginning of FY 2019. See supra p. 16.

For this time period, the largest sources of appeals were the Districts of Massachusetts (486) and Puerto Rico (376). The number of appeals from the Districts of Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island were 103, 78, and 66, respectively. There were 88 appeals from administrative agencies, most of which were from the Board of Immigration Appeals (76). The remaining cases were bankruptcy appeals (40), and original proceedings and miscellaneous applications (105). See supra p. 15.

In FY 2019, civil cases (including prisoner petitions) represented 53.1% of the appeals commenced in the First Circuit, and criminal appeals represented 29.5% of appeals commenced. The remaining 17.4% consisted

of agency appeals, bankruptcy appeals, original proceedings, and miscellaneous applications. See supra p. 17.

Office of the Staff Attorneys

The Office of the Staff Attorneys (Staff Attorneys' Office) performs research for the judges of the Court of Appeals. During calendar year 2019, the office consisted of one senior staff attorney, one supervisory staff attorney, approximately 17 staff attorneys, and one support staff.

The following numbers of matters were referred by the Clerk’s Office to the Staff Attorneys’ Office for processing in 2019 (128 more matters than in 2018).

January	209
February	195
March	203
April	149
May	150
June	196
July	193
August	205
September	210
October	202
November	169
December	183
Total	2,264

In addition, there were 86 pro se or social security submitted cases (26 fewer than in 2018) and 26 sua sponte summary dispositions assigned in counseled, briefed cases (two fewer than in 2018).

Types of matters referred to the Staff Attorneys' Office included: applications for certificate of appealability; applications for leave to file second or successive habeas petitions; motions for summary affirmance or dismissal; mandamus petitions; Anders briefs; motions for stay or bail; § 1292(b) petitions;

applications to file an interlocutory appeal under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(f); and other miscellaneous matters.

Civil Appeals Management Program

The First Circuit's Civil Appeals Management Program (CAMP) is governed by Local Rule 33.0. After a notice of appeal is filed in the Clerk's Office, the Court notifies the appellant of the program. The Clerk also notifies settlement counsel of all civil appeals considered eligible for the program.

Pursuant to the Local Rule, settlement counsel may direct counsel to attend a conference to consider settlement, the simplification of issues, and any other matters that may facilitate disposition of the proceeding. The Local Rule applies to civil appeals, except habeas corpus, prisoner petitions, pro se cases, National Labor Relations Board appeals, enforcement petitions, and original proceedings. Generally, settlement counsel requires pre-argument conferences in eligible cases, unless settlement counsel determines that there is no reasonable likelihood of settlement.

Appellants are required to submit electronically copies of the orders, memoranda, or opinions from which the appeal has been taken. If the parties choose, they may also file a confidential memorandum containing, inter alia, the history of any settlement negotiations, the major points of error on appeal, factors which may affect a party's chances of prevailing upon appeal, and the terms and conditions upon which the case may reasonably be settled. The attorneys are also informed that their clients are required to attend the conference unless excused.

Conferences can last from a few hours to a full day or more. In special circumstances, a conference may be conducted by telephone, but in-person conferences, which are much

more likely to produce positive results, are preferred. After the initial conference, settlement counsel may conduct follow-up conferences by telephone or in person.

When the process is complete, a report is filed with the Clerk's Office indicating whether the case settled. The substance of any conference discussions or other information is confidential.

Honorable Patrick J. King (ret.) mediates cases appealed from the Districts of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maine, and New Hampshire. Honorable Charles A. Cordero (ret.) mediates cases appealed from the District of Puerto Rico.

In FY 2019, of the 337 cases that were opened, one or more conferences were held in 154 cases, which produced 63 settlements (approximately 41% of mediated cases).

Library

Overview

The First Circuit Library system provides services to the judges and court staff of the First Circuit Court of Appeals, and the district and bankruptcy courts in the Circuit. There are four libraries in the system: the headquarters Library, located in the Moakley U.S. Courthouse in Boston, Massachusetts; and satellite libraries in the district courthouses in Concord, New Hampshire; Hato Rey, Puerto Rico; and Providence, Rhode Island. There is no satellite library in Maine. The Satellite Librarian in Concord, New Hampshire provides services to the Maine District and Bankruptcy Courts.

Personnel

On-board staff at the end of FY 2019 was distributed among the libraries as follows: five full-time and one part-time staff in Boston

(including the Circuit Librarian), two full-time staff in Hato Rey, and one full-time staff each in Concord and Providence. The Boston library has a larger staff because of centralized budget and financial responsibilities, a larger collection, and the need to provide services to the public. The Administrative Specialist in the Boston Library will be retiring in early FY 2020.

Legal Research Resources

The Library's FY 2019 legal research resources allotment decreased 3.5% from FY 2018, while prices for both print and electronic resources continued to rise from 3% to over 15% among legal resource vendors. Spending in electronic resources was approximately 17% of the legal resources budget. No new electronic print and electronic resources were added to the collections in the four libraries, and few new print titles were authorized for chambers collections.

A rigorous review of print titles in libraries focused on vendors whose print price increases were high. Reliance on online version of titles was required in order to reduce multiple copies of titles in the four libraries. The Circuit Librarian used data from the 2018 study, "Analysis of Legal Research Resource Spending FY 2011-2016" in order to identify print titles that could be canceled in favor of utilization of the electronic version.

Statistics

In FY 2019, staff responded to 6,370 reference questions. There were 3,316 in-library visits and 306 uses of the public terminals in Boston. The Library circulated 1,046 print materials and processed 116 requests for translations of Puerto Rico Supreme Court and Puerto Rico Court of Appeals decisions. The Library also distributed news and opinion

summaries as follows: *Today's News* (310 recipients); *Today's U.S. Supreme Court* (310); *U.S. First Circuit Court of Appeals Summaries* (228); *U.S. Supreme Court Opinions Summaries* (228); *Weekly Watch* (215); and the *First Circuit Sentencing Guide* (180). One-hundred-and-fifty-nine law clerks and staff attended legal research training sessions offered by the Library. Staff processed 104 interlibrary loan requests.

Bankruptcy Appellate Panel

Overview

The BAP, which employs a clerk, a law clerk, and a part-time case manager, is located at the John Joseph Moakley U.S. Courthouse. The BAP generally conducts oral arguments in Boston, Massachusetts and travels to San Juan, Puerto Rico for hearings about once a year, as the caseload requires. In 2019, the BAP held hearings in Puerto Rico in February.

Conferences/Training

During 2019, BAP Clerk Leslie Storm served as a member of the Appellate and BAP Clerks Advisory Committee, attending the committee's meetings in Washington, D.C. In addition, the BAP hired and mentored two interns, both of whom were students at Suffolk University Law School.

In March 2019, Leslie Storm participated in the BBA M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program, teaching a class in financial literacy at a local high school, and, in October, she assisted with the new law clerk training program coordinated by Judge Bailey at the District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

In 2019, BAP staff also attended: the First Circuit Judicial Conference; the BBA's 29th Annual Bankruptcy Bench Meets Bar

Conference in May; the AO's Court Unit Executive Training Conference in Indianapolis in September; and the 21st Annual New England Bankruptcy Law Conference presented by MCLE in December.

Statistics

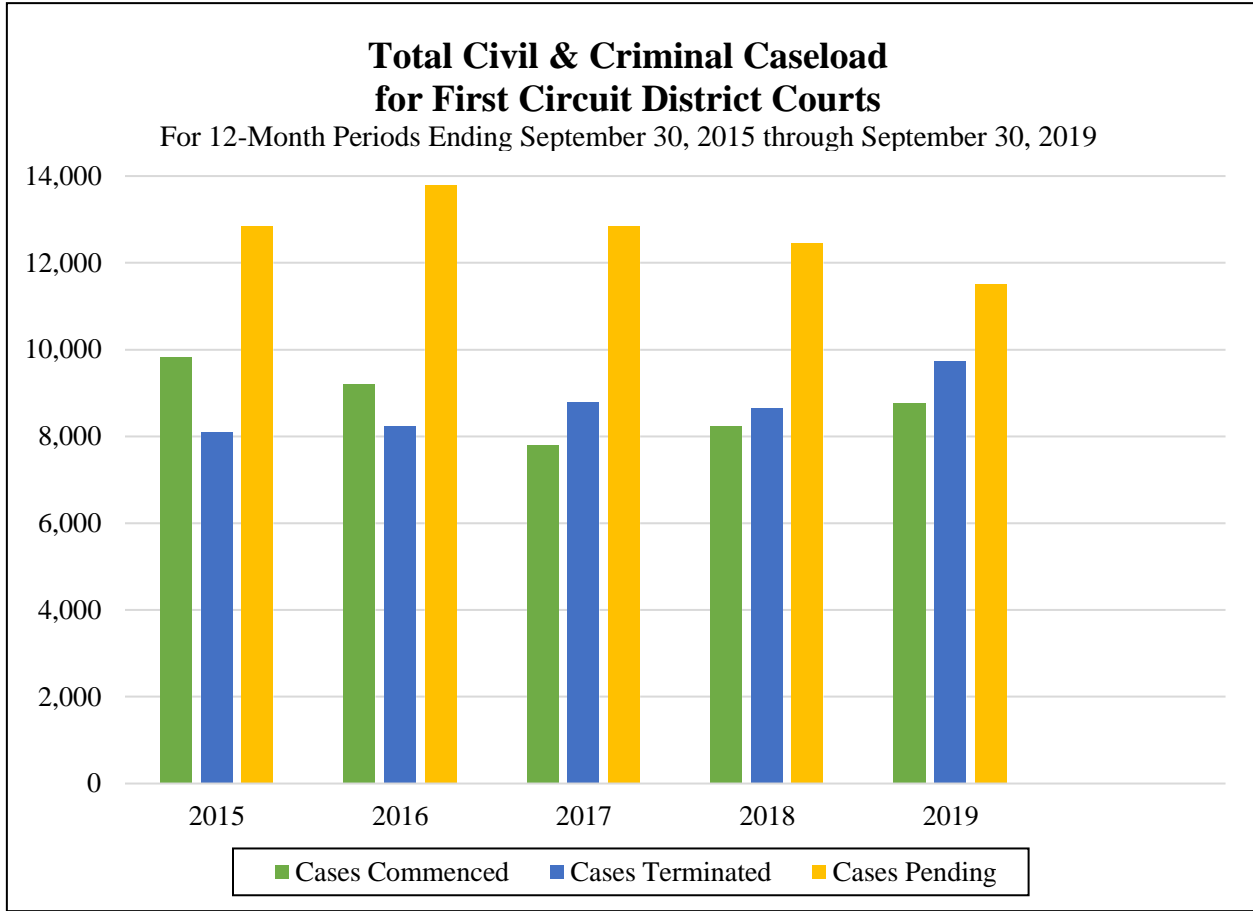
The BAP saw a slight uptick in cases between 2018 and 2019. During 2019, the BAP

handled 62% of First Circuit bankruptcy appeals. As has been the trend in past years, a significant portion of the BAP's appeals in 2019 originated from the bankruptcy courts for the Districts of Massachusetts (55%) and Puerto Rico (21%). Pro se litigants continued to file appeals to the BAP with regularity, accounting for 57% of the total cases filed during this reporting period.

U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panels									
Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending, by Circuit									
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2018 and September 30, 2019									
Circuit	Filed			Terminated			Pending*		
	2018	2019	% Change	2018	2019	% Change	2018	2019	% Change
First	59	65	10.2	47	69	46.8	26	22	-15.4
Sixth	46	24	-26.1	47	46	-2.1	32	20	-37.5
Eighth	34	36	5.9	30	33	10.0	12	15	25.0
Ninth	374	330	-11.8	389	350	-10.0	171	151	-11.7
Tenth	104	60	-42.3	107	65	-39.3	19	14	-26.3
Total	617	525	-14.9	620	563	-9.2	260	222	-14.6

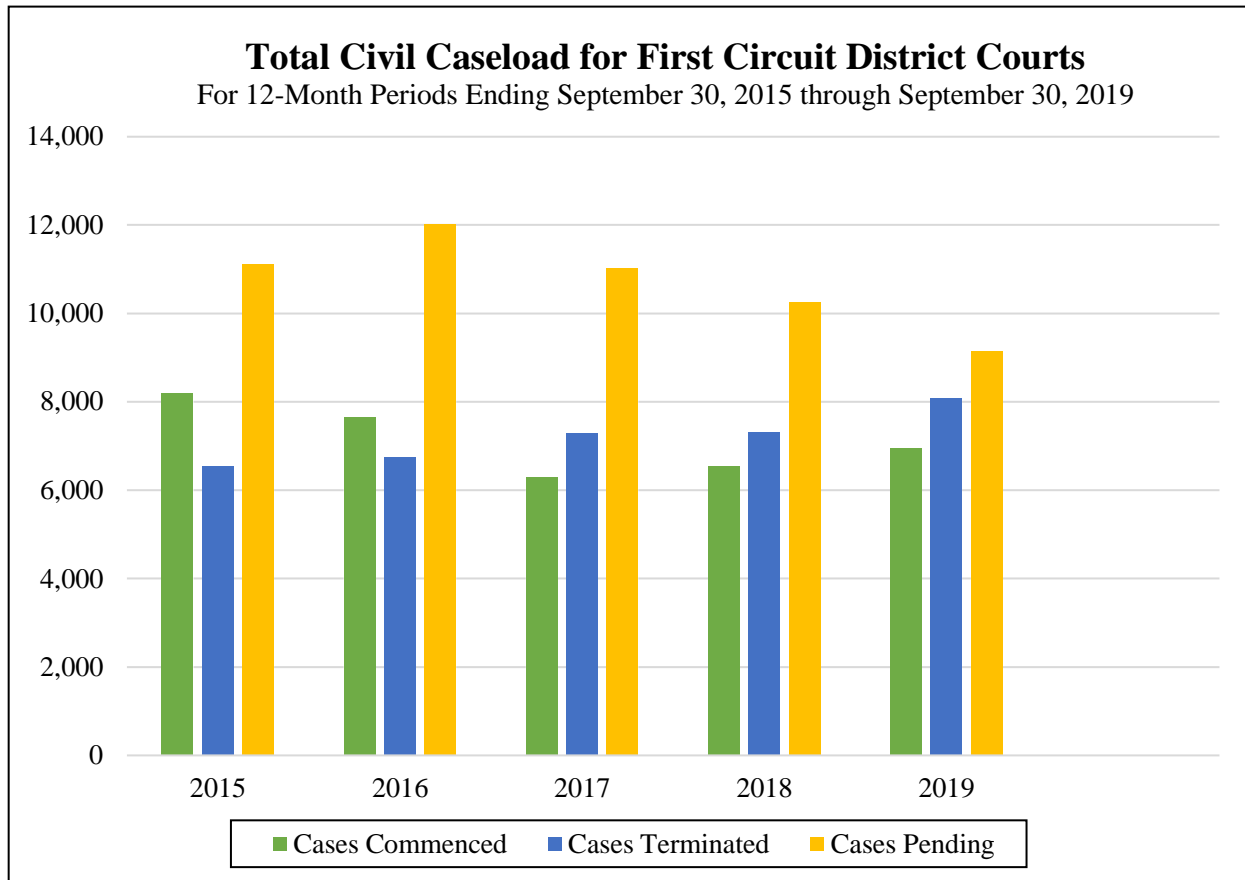
* Pending caseloads for 2018 as revised by the AO.

Statistical Report for District Courts in the First Circuit



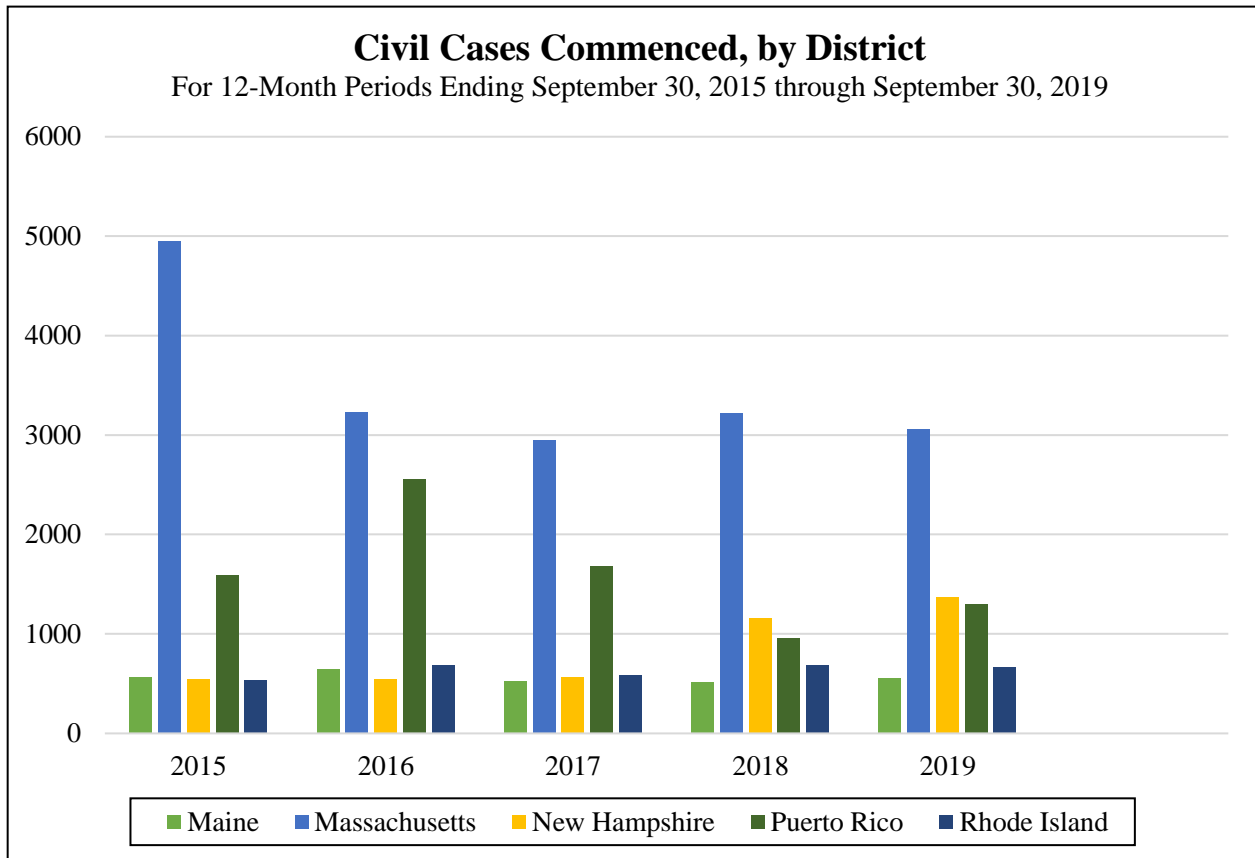
Total Civil & Criminal Caseload for First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	9,825	9,198	7,794	8,246	8,766
Cases Terminated	8,109	8,246	8,781	8,652	9,737
Cases Pending*	12,848	13,803	12,848	12,451	11,509

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

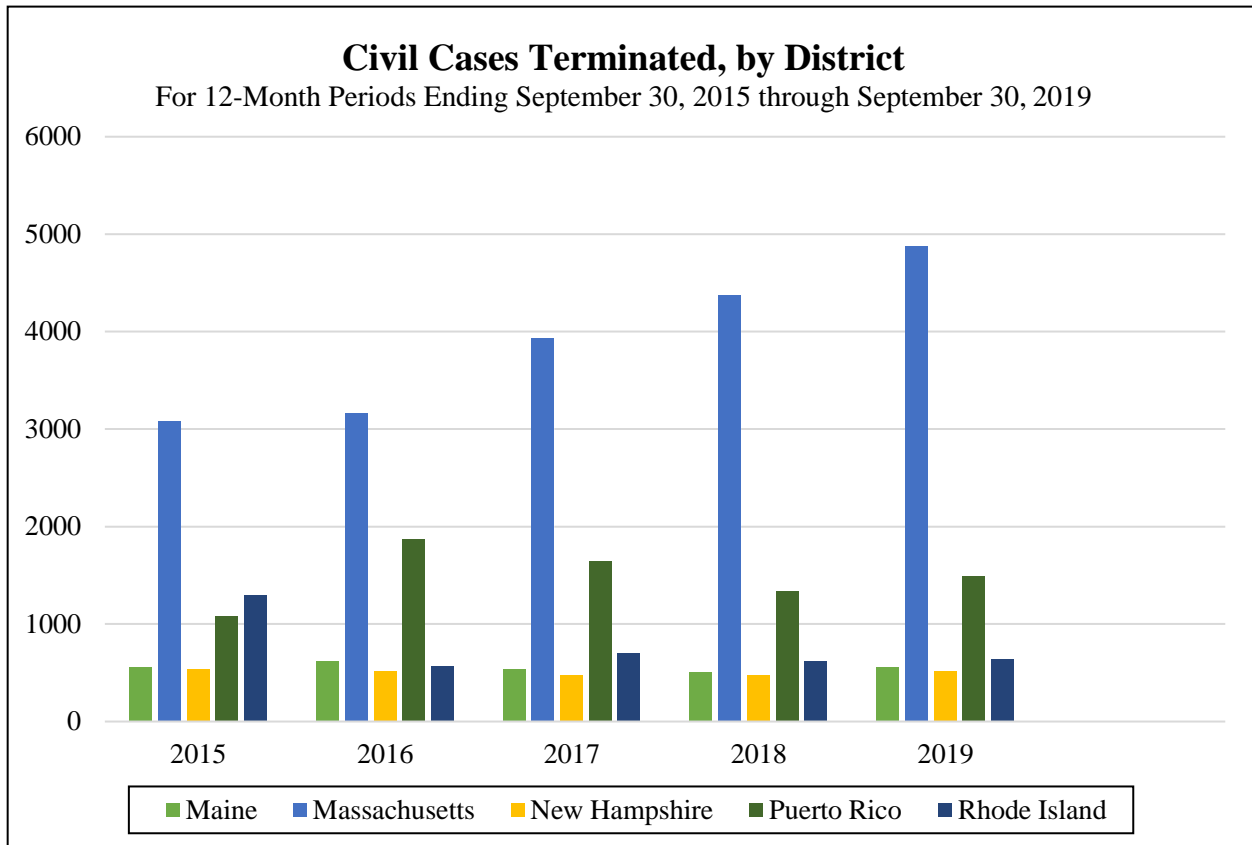


Total Civil Caseload for First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	8,184	7,652	6,297	6,543	6,960
Cases Terminated	6,546	6,744	7,296	7,316	8,083
Cases Pending*	11,110	12,022	11,023	10,250	9,143

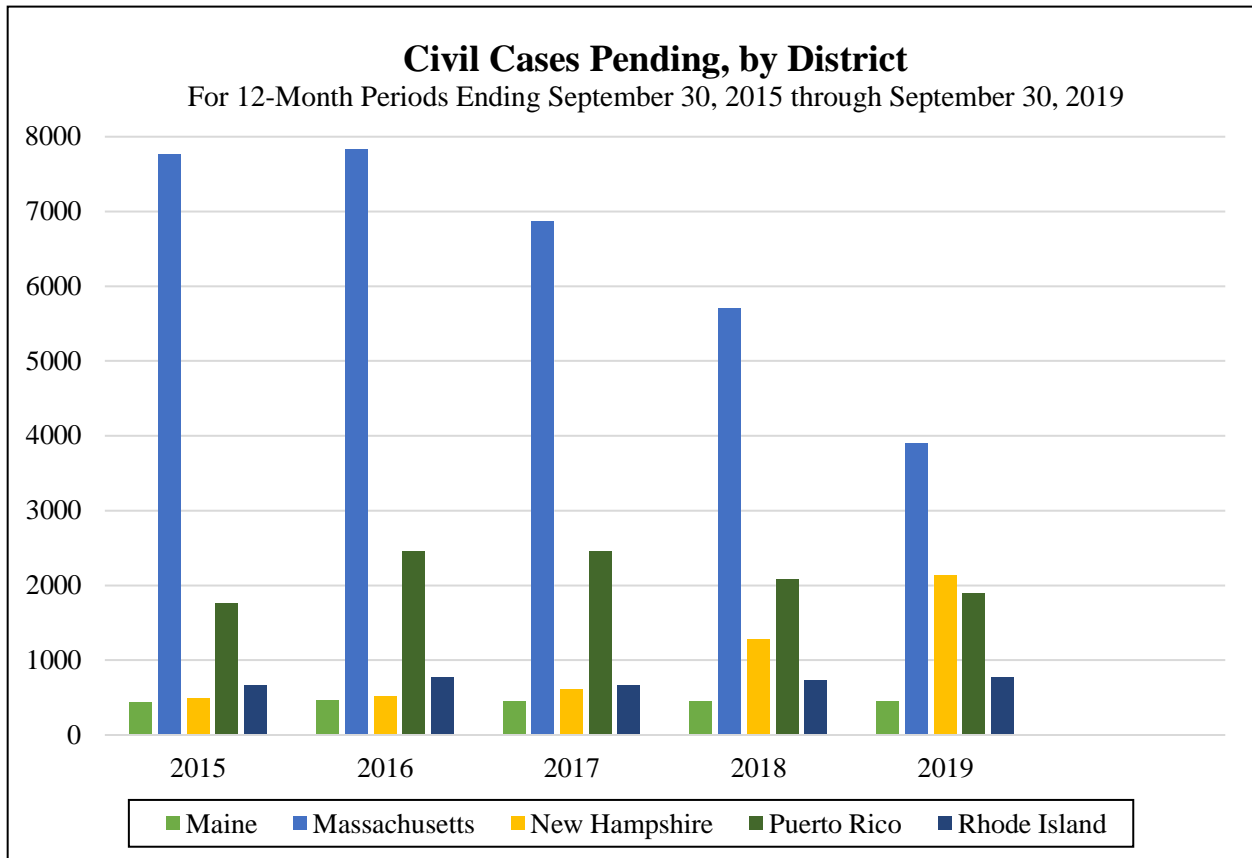
* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.



Civil Cases Commenced, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	566	645	524	519	554
Massachusetts	4,947	3,226	2,949	3,219	3,063
New Hampshire	547	541	563	1,154	1,370
Puerto Rico	1,585	2,556	1,676	961	1,303
Rhode Island	539	684	585	690	670

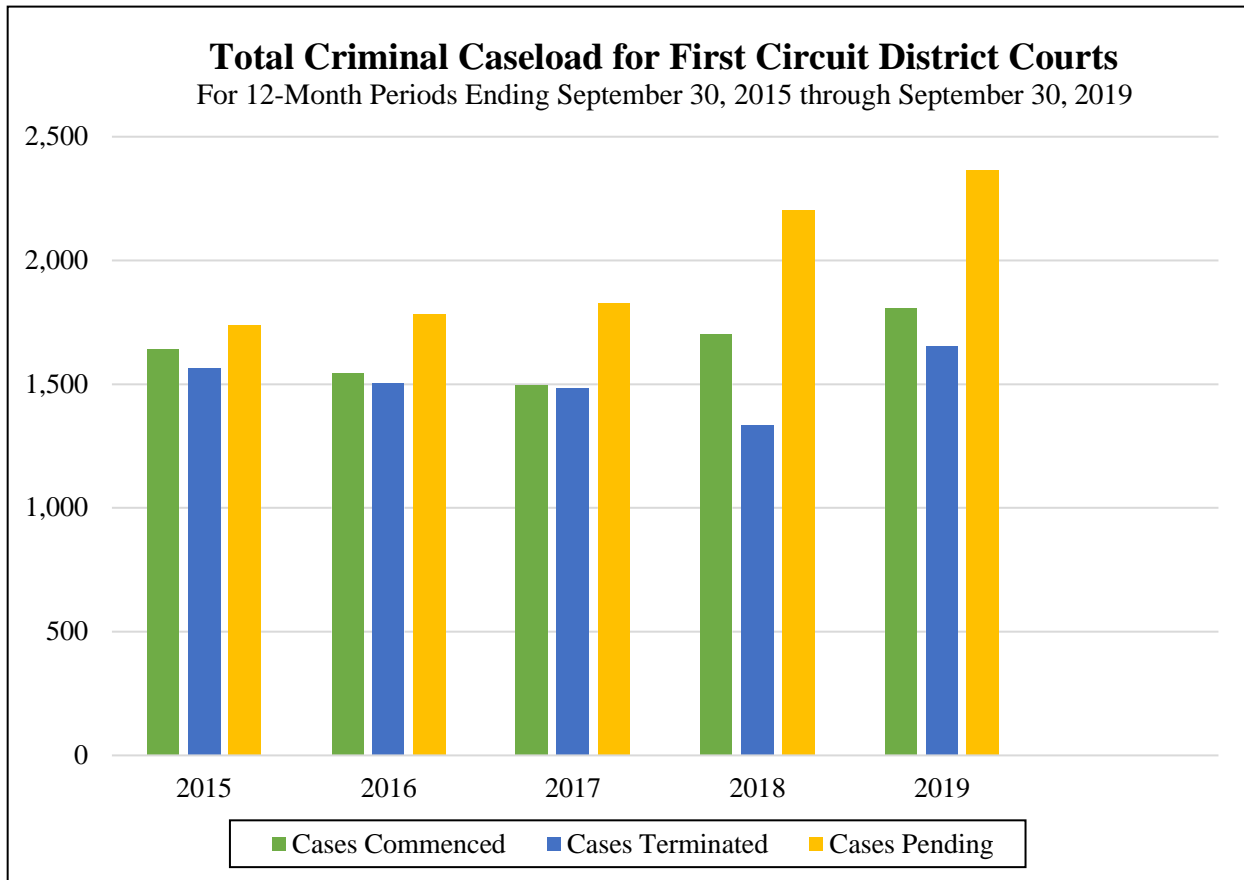


Civil Cases Terminated, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	557	620	543	505	558
Massachusetts	3,081	3,163	3,928	4,375	4,882
New Hampshire	538	517	478	478	519
Puerto Rico	1,077	1,871	1,649	1,337	1,487
Rhode Island	1,293	573	698	621	637

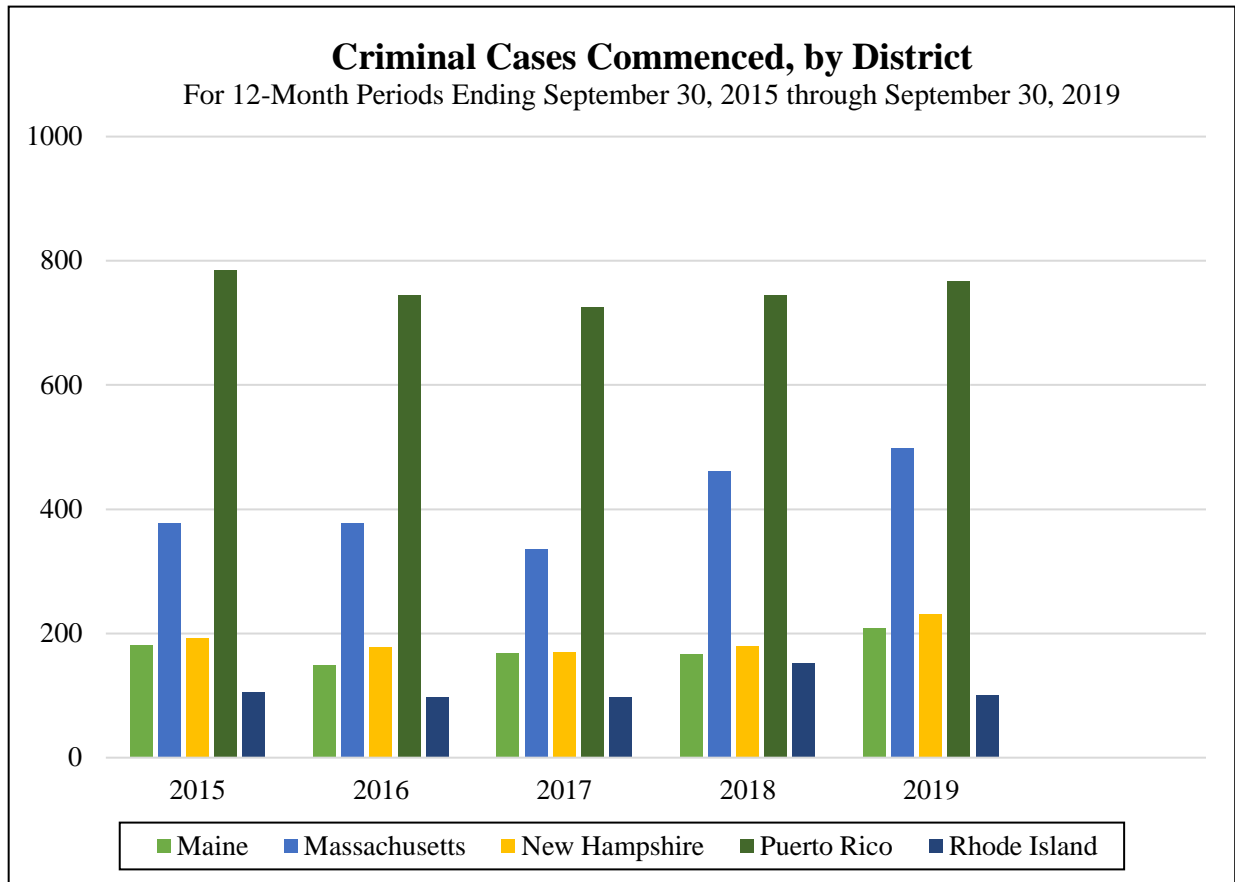


Civil Cases Pending,* by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	437	463	441	455	452
Massachusetts	7,758	7,821	6,859	5,703	3,902
New Hampshire	490	516	605	1,281	2,133
Puerto Rico	1,764	2,448	2,456	2,080	1,891
Rhode Island	661	774	662	731	765

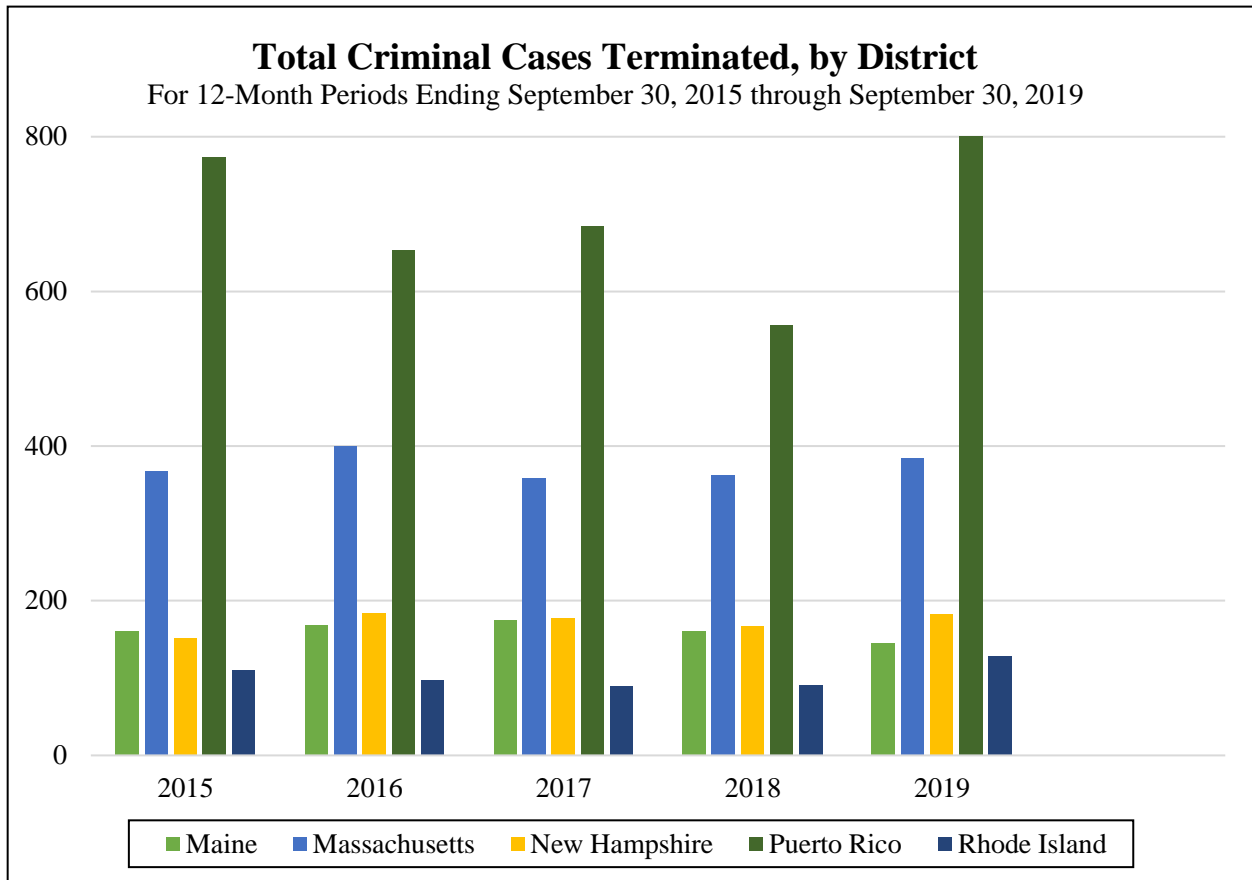
* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.



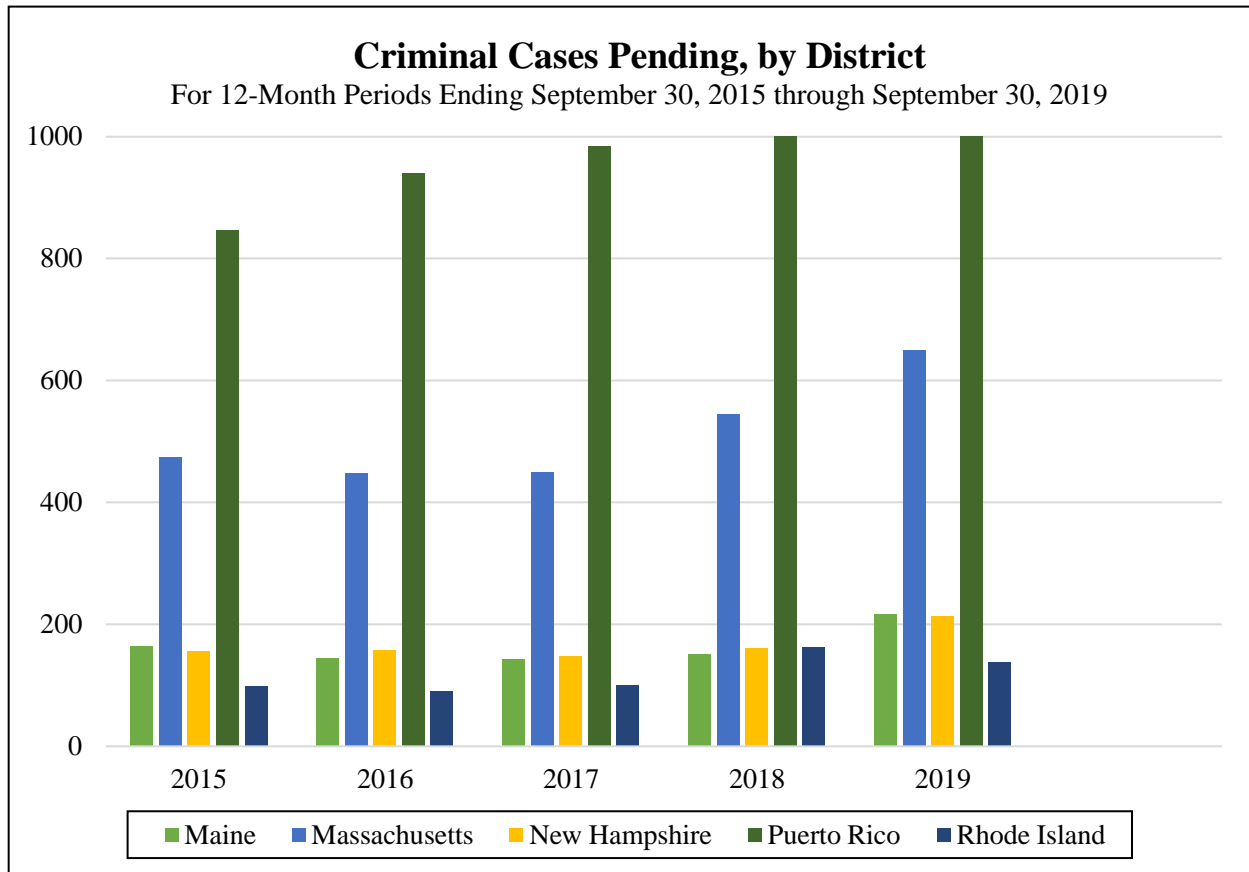
Total Criminal Caseload for First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	1,641	1,546	1,497	1,703	1,806
Cases Terminated	1,563	1,502	1,485	1,336	1,654
Cases Pending	1,738	1,781	1,825	2,201	2,366



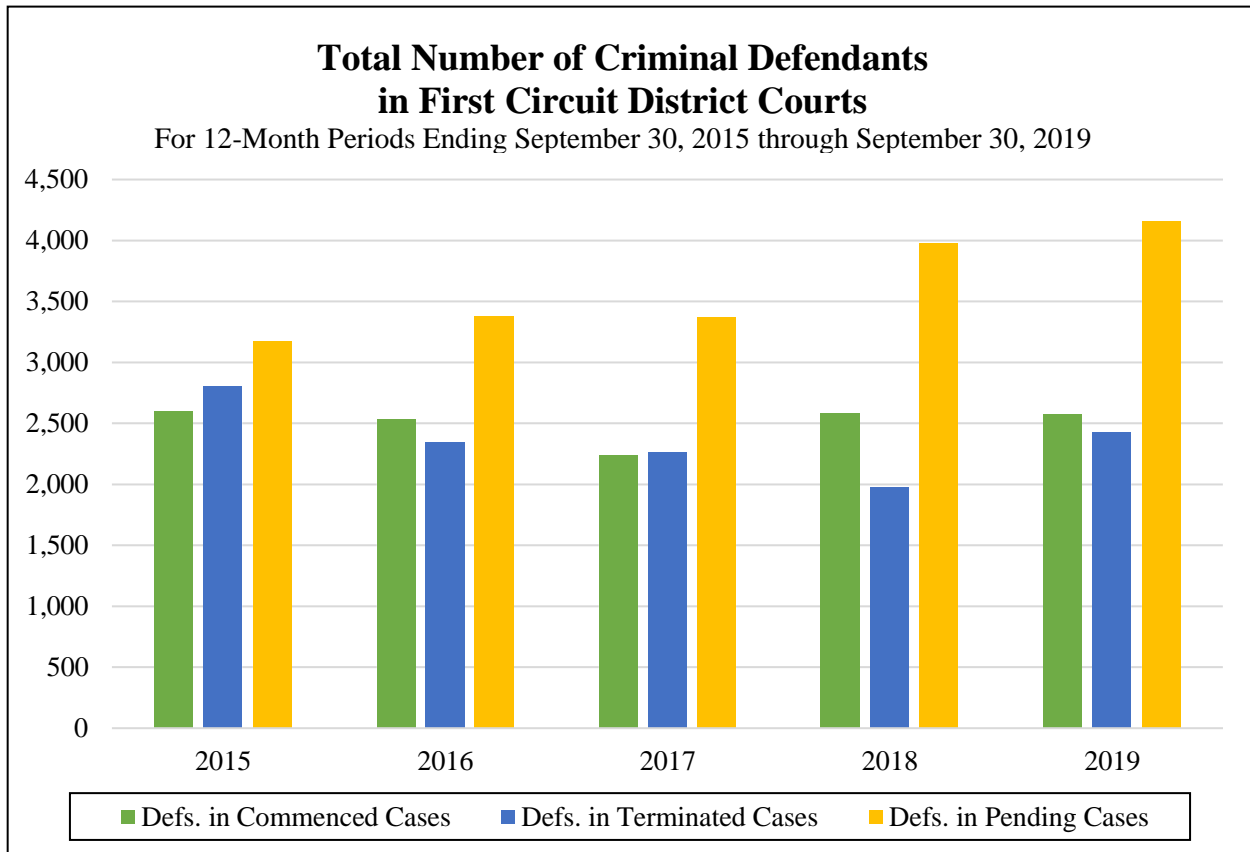
Criminal Cases Commenced, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	181	149	169	167	209
Massachusetts	378	377	336	461	498
New Hampshire	193	178	170	179	231
Puerto Rico	784	745	725	744	767
Rhode Island	105	97	97	152	101



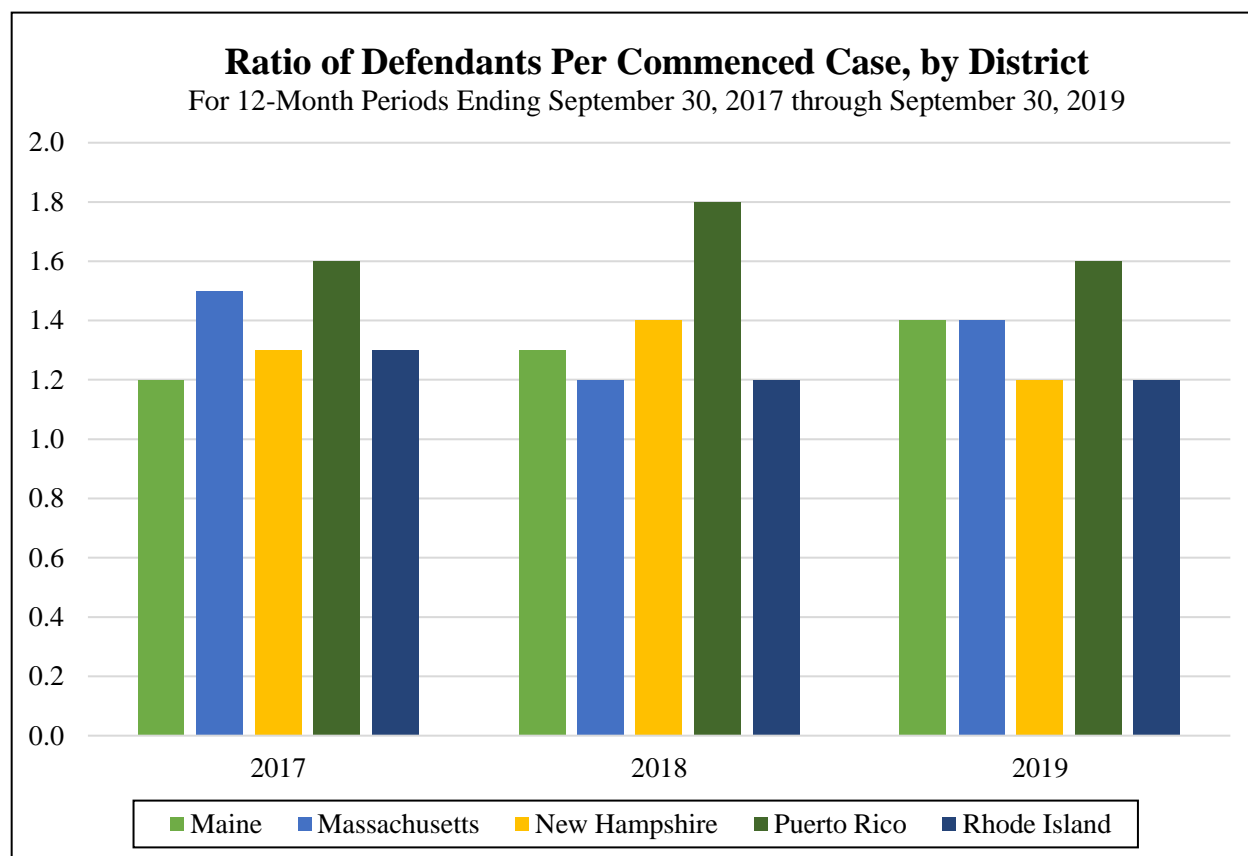
Criminal Cases Terminated, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	161	168	175	160	145
Massachusetts	367	400	358	362	384
New Hampshire	151	184	178	167	182
Puerto Rico	774	653	684	556	815
Rhode Island	110	97	90	91	128



Criminal Cases Pending, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	164	145	142	151	216
Massachusetts	474	448	449	545	649
New Hampshire	155	157	148	161	213
Puerto Rico	846	940	985	1,181	1,151
Rhode Island	99	91	101	163	137

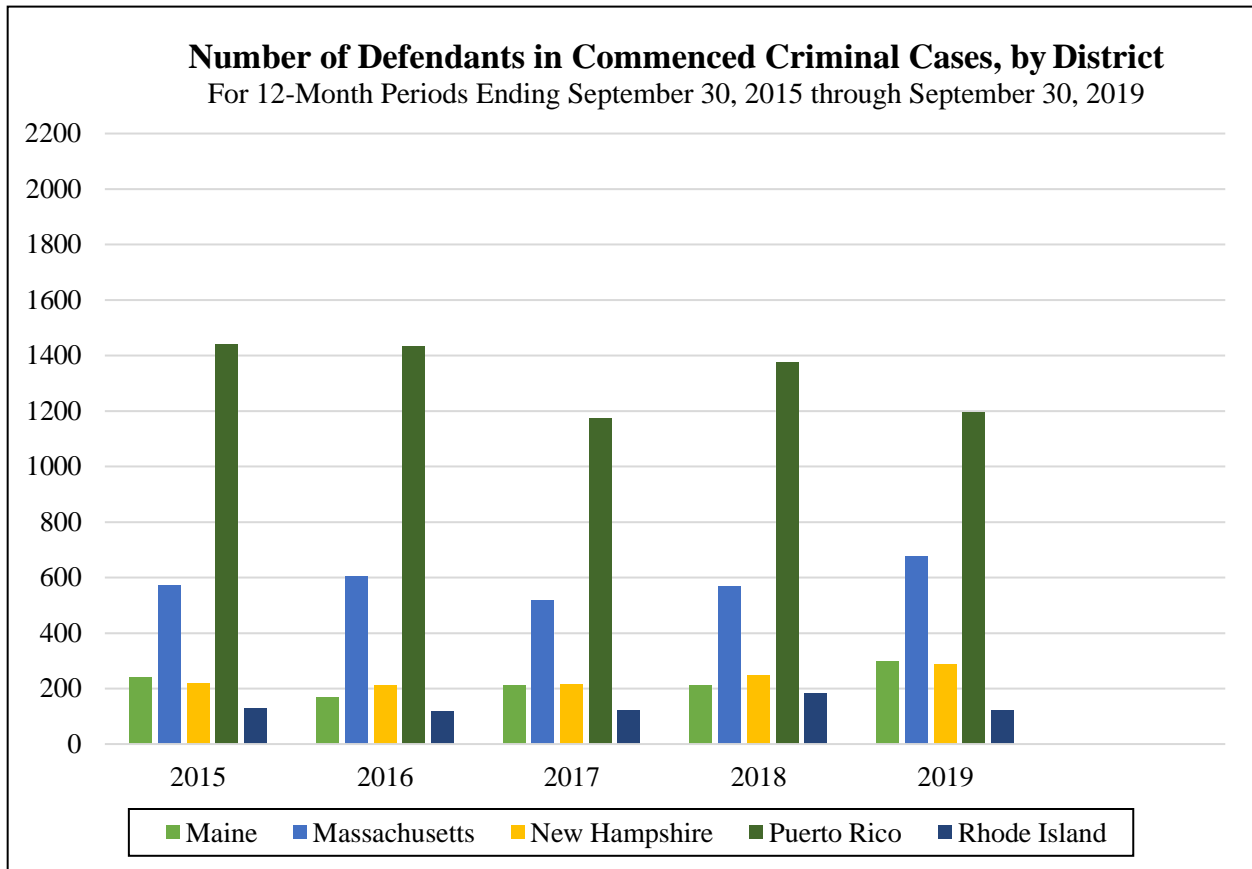


Total Number of Criminal Defendants in First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No. of Defendants Commenced Criminal Cases	2,601	2,530	2,236	2,583	2,575
No. of Defendants Terminated Criminal Cases	2,799	2,347	2,262	1,975	2,427
No. of Defendants Pending Criminal Cases	3,174	3,377	3,366	3,979	4,160

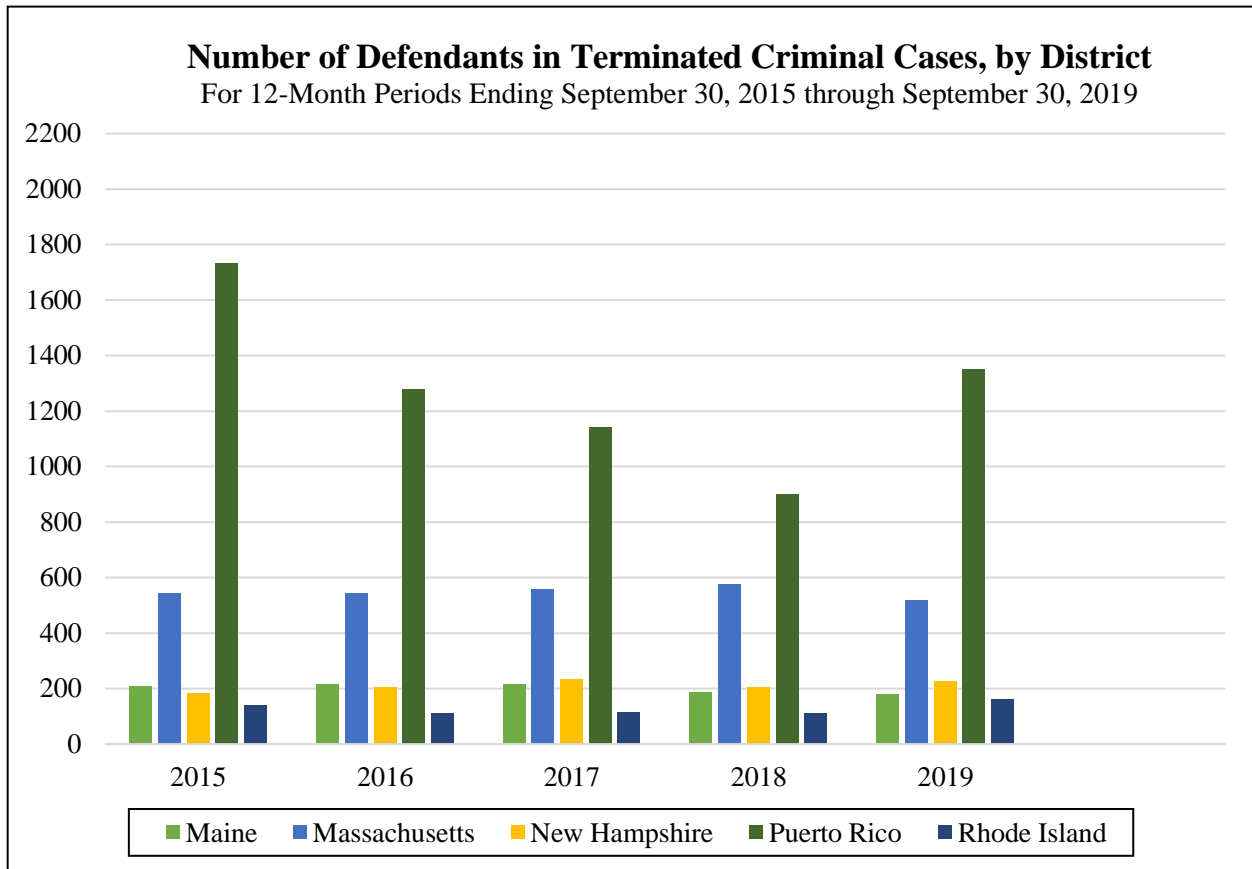


Number of Commenced Criminal Cases and Defendants and Ratio of Defendants Per Commenced Case, by District
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2019

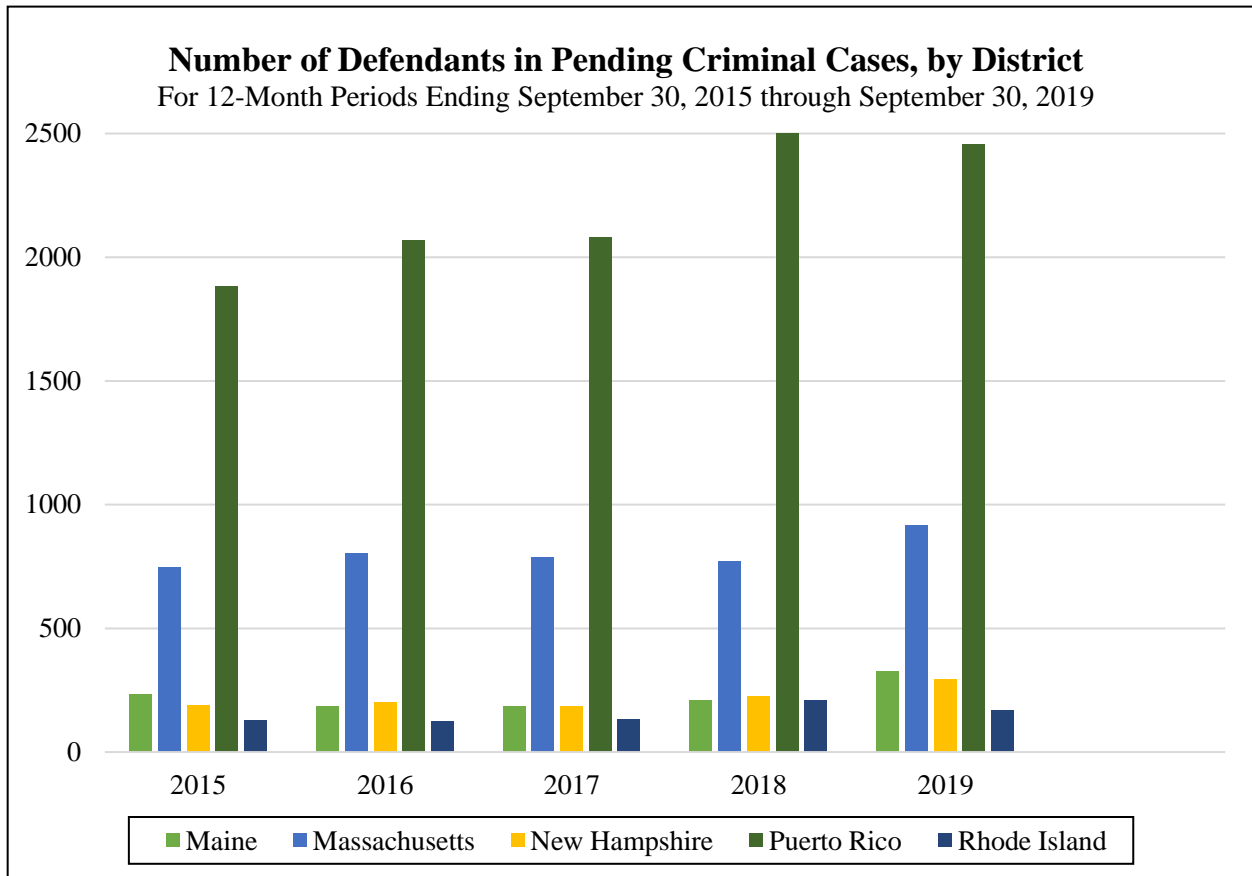
District	2017		Avg. No. of Defs./ Case	2018		Avg. No. of Defs./ Case	2019		Avg. No. of Defs./ Case
	Cases	Def.		Cases	Def.		Cases	Def.	
Maine	169	209	1.2	167	209	1.3	209	296	1.4
Massachusetts	336	517	1.5	461	568	1.2	498	675	1.4
New Hampshire	170	215	1.3	179	248	1.4	231	288	1.2
Puerto Rico	725	1,173	1.6	744	1,375	1.8	767	1,196	1.6
Rhode Island	97	122	1.3	152	183	1.2	101	120	1.2



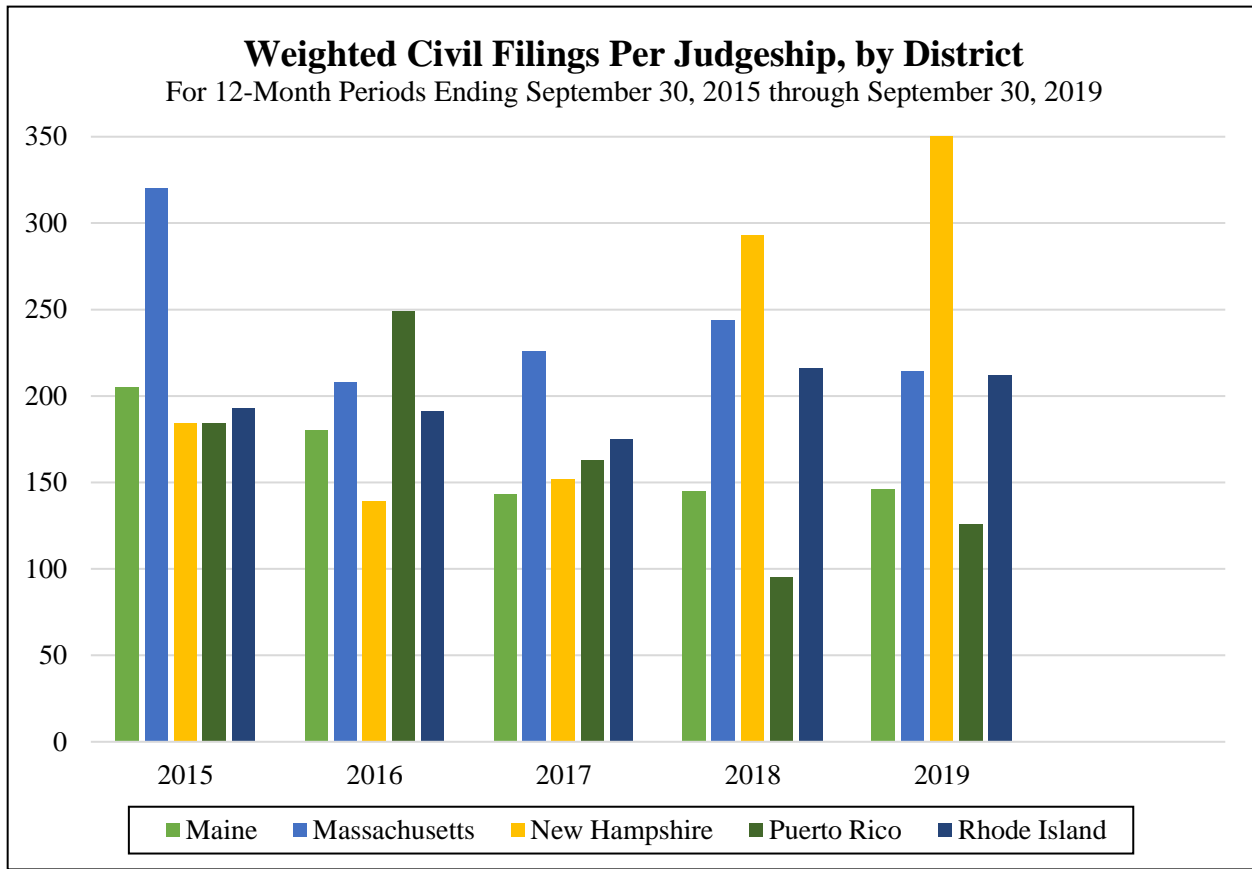
Number of Defendants in Commenced Criminal Cases, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	239	168	209	209	296
Massachusetts	573	603	517	568	675
New Hampshire	220	209	215	248	288
Puerto Rico	1,440	1,434	1,173	1,375	1,196
Rhode Island	129	116	122	183	120



Number of Defendants in Terminated Criminal Cases, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	207	214	215	187	177
Massachusetts	541	542	559	574	516
New Hampshire	182	202	233	205	226
Puerto Rico	1,713	1,278	1,142	900	1,348
Rhode Island	138	111	113	109	160

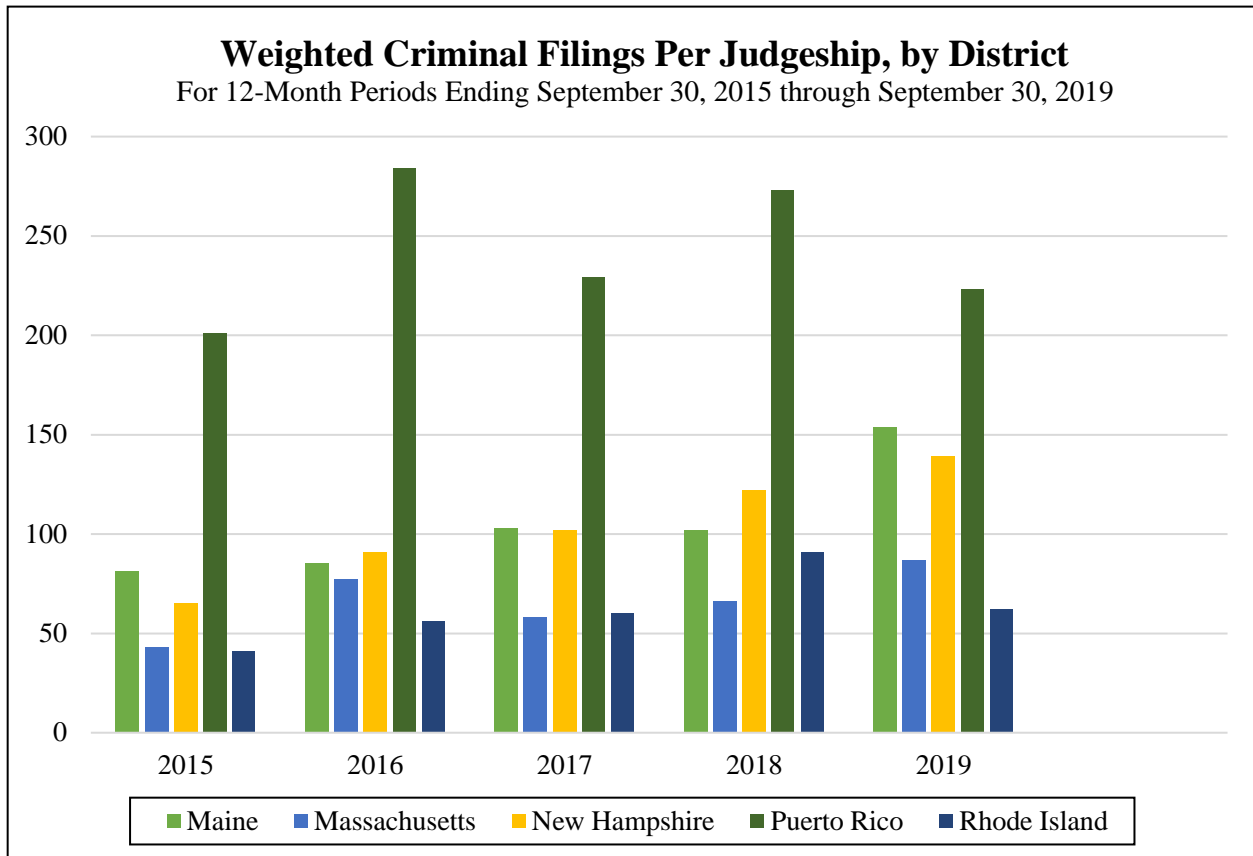


Number of Defendants in Pending Criminal Cases, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	233	186	184	208	327
Massachusetts	746	804	785	771	916
New Hampshire	187	199	185	226	293
Puerto Rico	1,882	2,066	2,081	2,567	2,455
Rhode Island	126	122	131	207	169



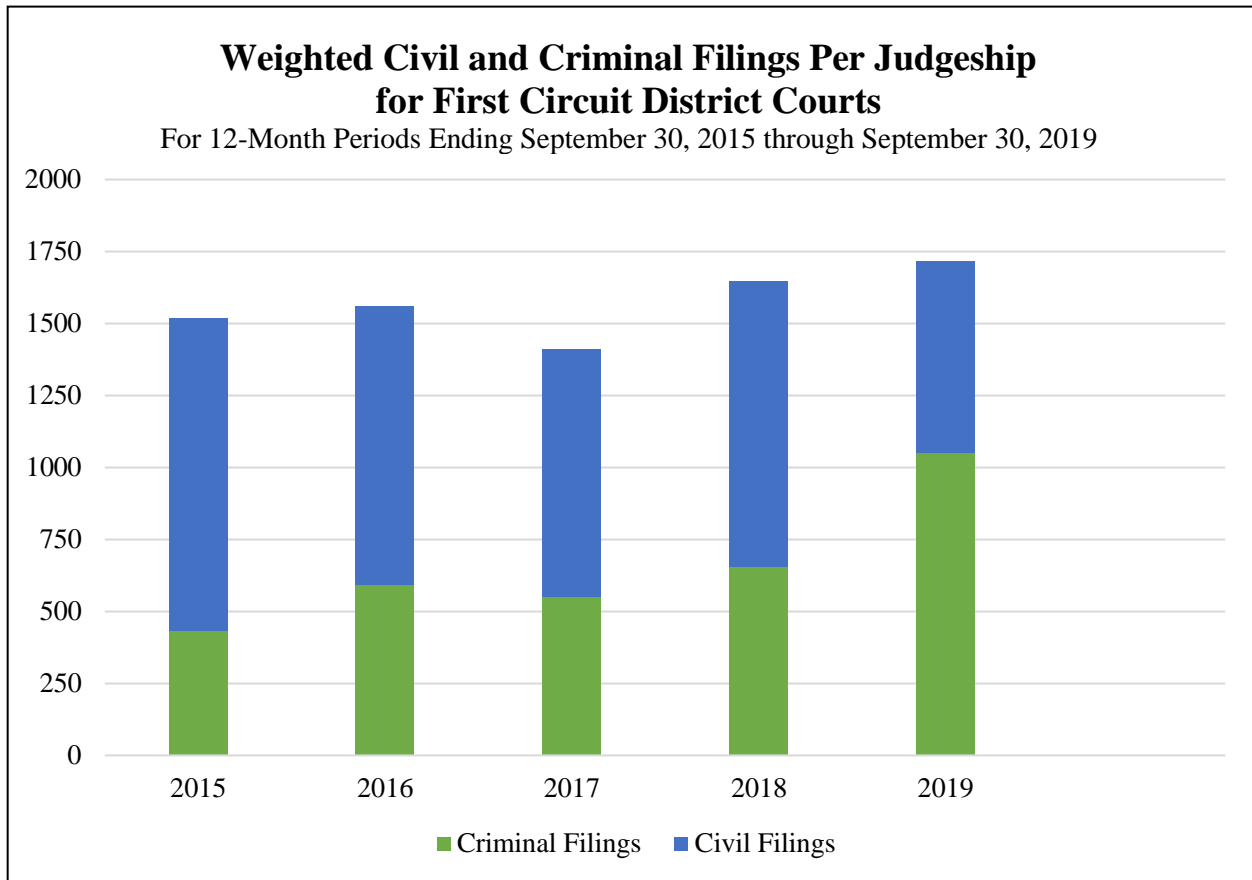
Weighted Civil Filings Per Judgeship, by District
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

District	Judgeships	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	3	205	180	143	145	146
Massachusetts	13	320	208	226	244	214
New Hampshire	3	184	139	152	293	353
Puerto Rico	7	184	249	163	95	126
Rhode Island	3	193	191	175	216	212



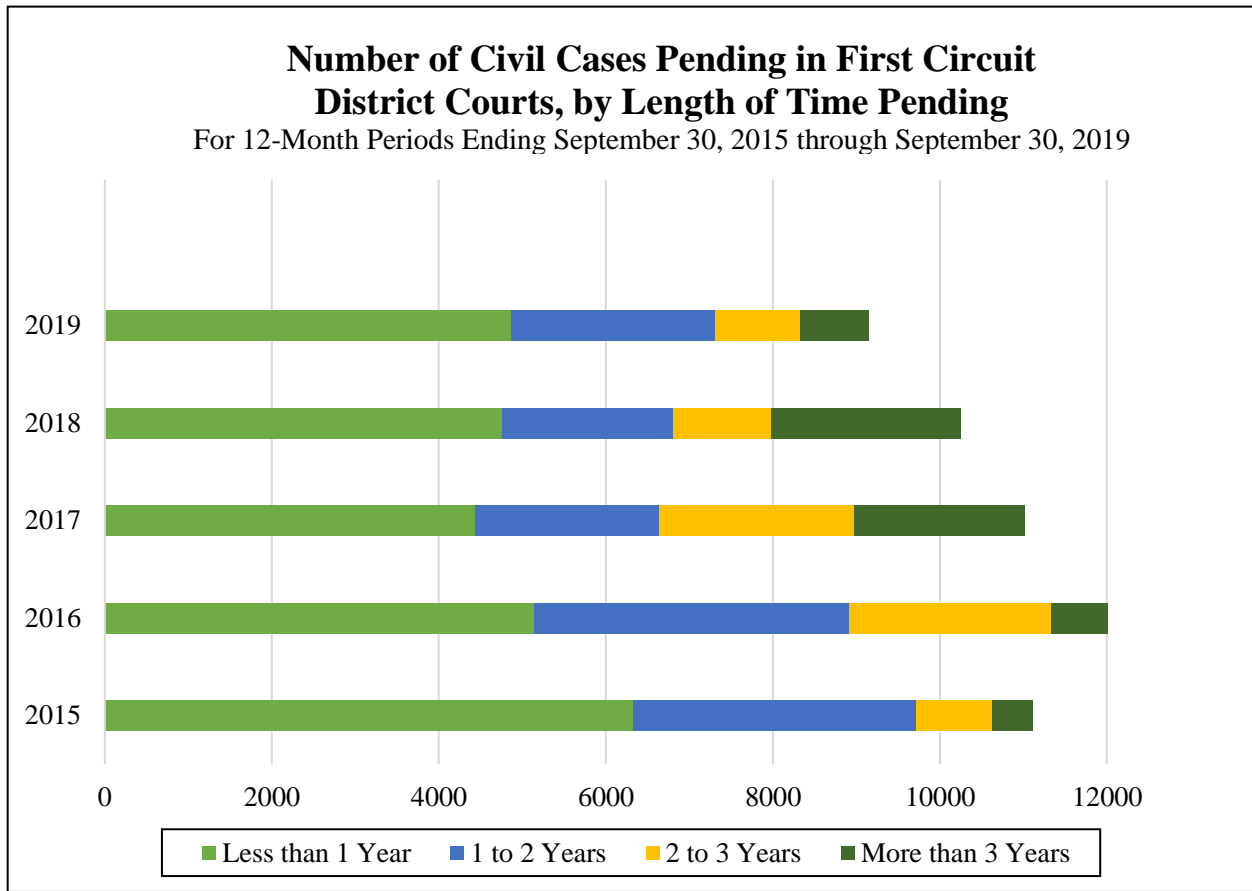
Weighted Criminal Filings Per Judgeship, by District
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

District	Judgeships	2015	2016	2017	2019
Maine	3	81	85	103	154
Massachusetts	13	43	77	58	87
New Hampshire	3	65	91	102	139
Puerto Rico	7	201	284	229	223
Rhode Island	3	41	56	60	62



Weighted Civil and Criminal Filings Per Judgeship					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Civil Filings	1,086	967	859	993	1,051
Criminal Filings	431	593	552	654	665
Total Combined Filings	1,517	1,560	1,411	1,647	1,716

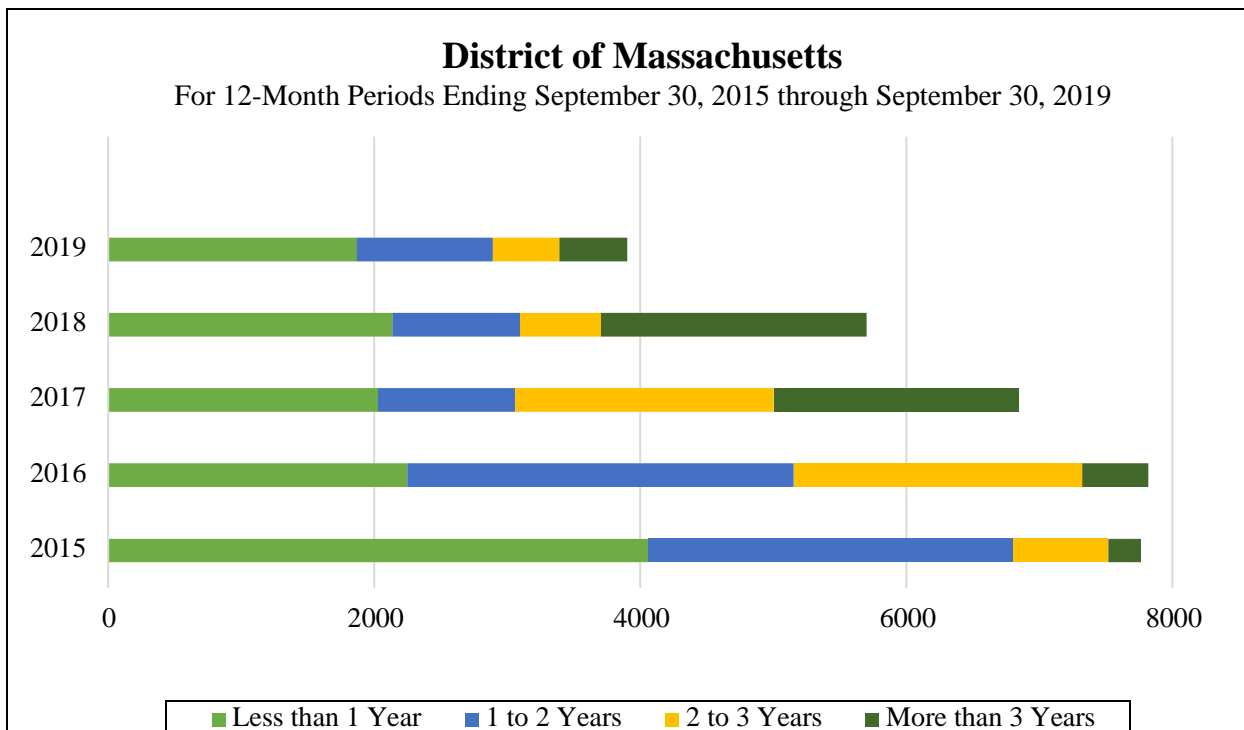
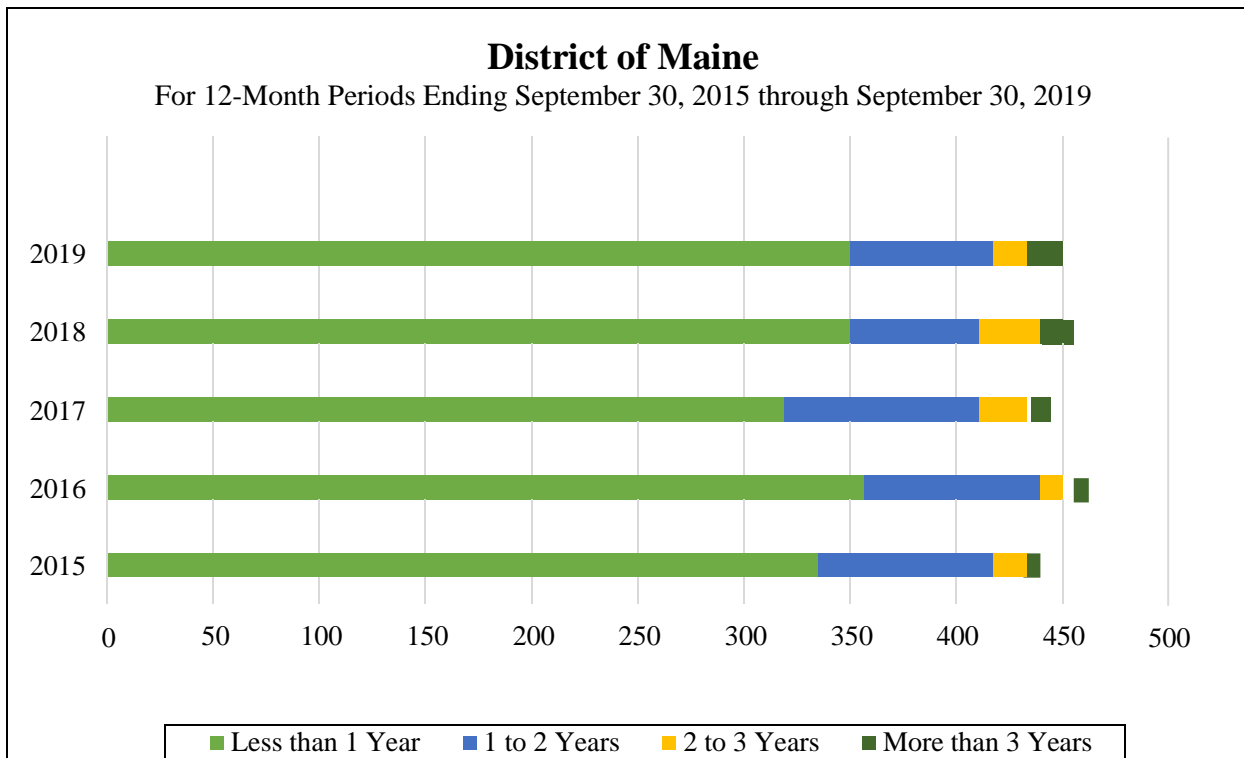
Number of Civil Cases Pending and Length of Time Pending, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
MAINE					
Less than 1 Year	335	357	319	346	353
1 to 2 Years	83	82	94	63	64
2 to 3 Years	13	16	22	31	17
More than 3 Years	8	7	9	15	18
MASSACHUSETTS					
Less than 1 Year	4,061	2,250	2,030	2,140	1,871
1 to 2 Years	2,749	2,905	1,031	956	1,022
2 to 3 Years	710	2,170	1,943	610	500
More than 3 Years	244	496	1,838	1,997	509
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
Less than 1 Year	354	376	427	1,005	1,191
1 to 2 Years	88	93	115	200	772
2 to 3 Years	19	25	33	43	127
More than 3 Years	29	20	26	33	43
PUERTO RICO					
Less than 1 Year	1,208	1,651	1,268	811	999
1 to 2 Years	332	537	812	689	414
2 to 3 Years	121	168	283	422	308
More than 3 Years	102	93	112	158	170
RHODE ISLAND					
Less than 1 Year	371	504	397	452	447
1 to 2 Years	136	153	145	150	183
2 to 3 Years	51	54	59	59	59
More than 3 Years	103	61	60	70	76

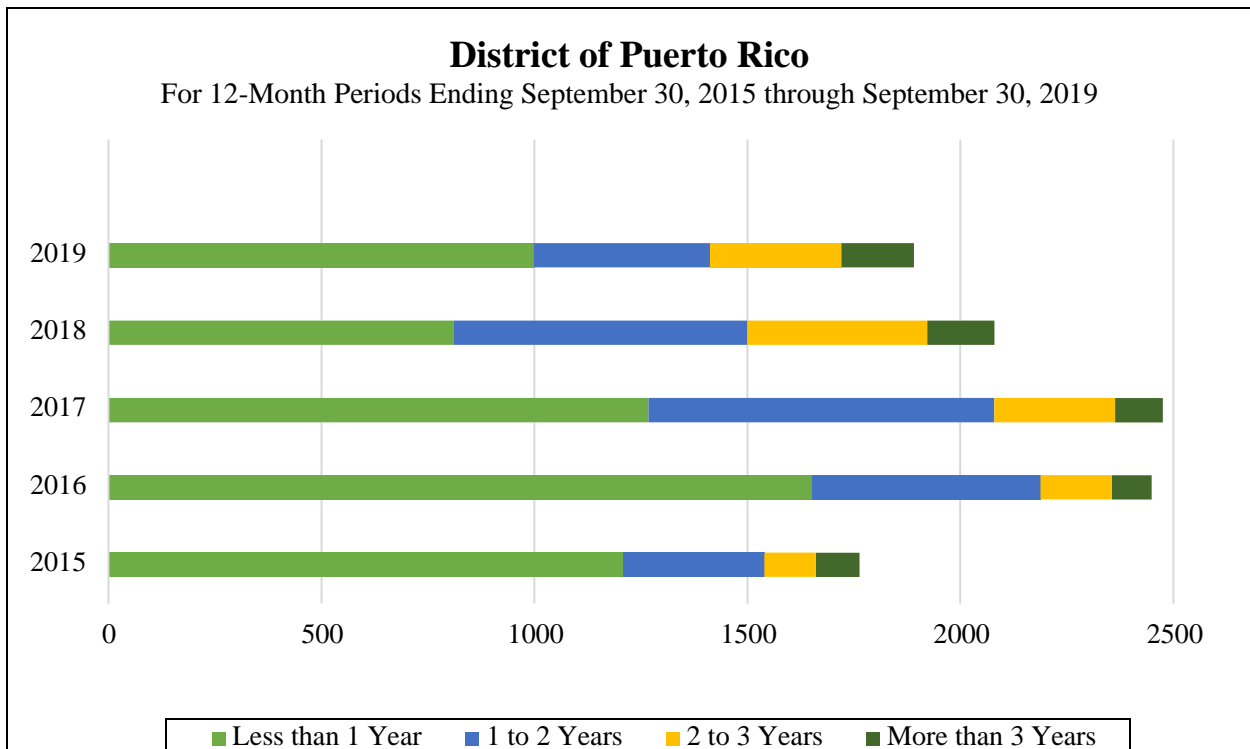
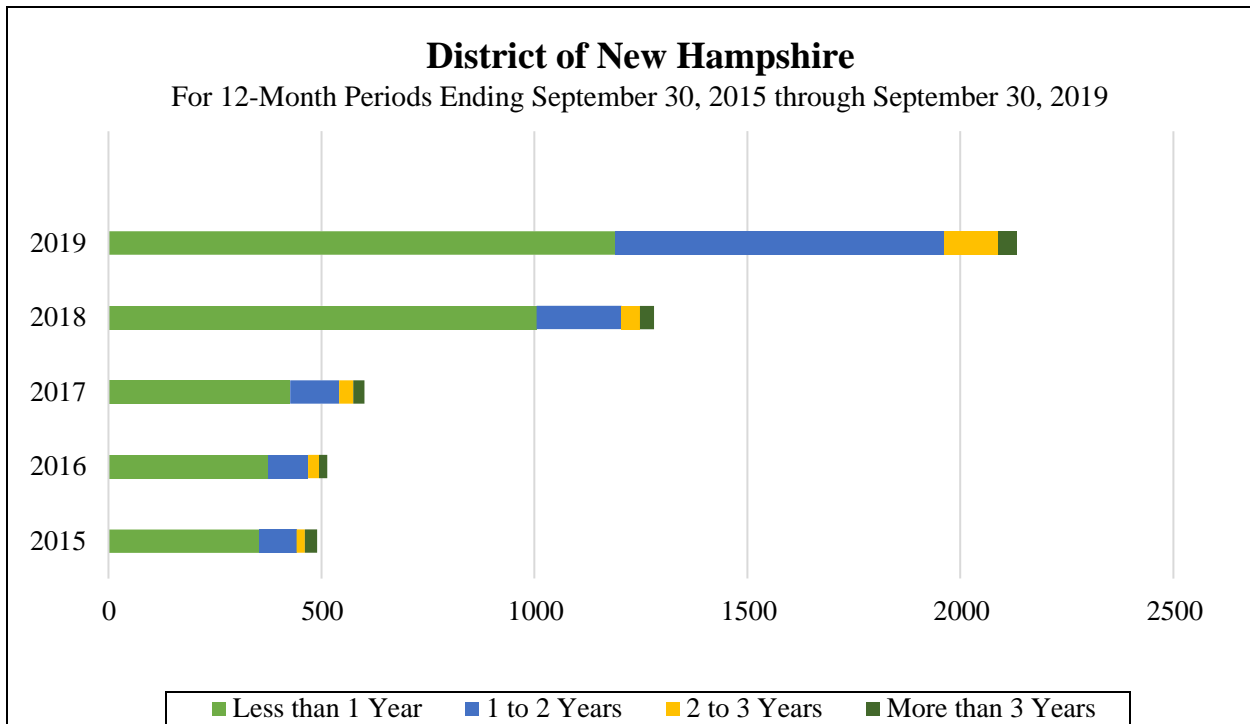


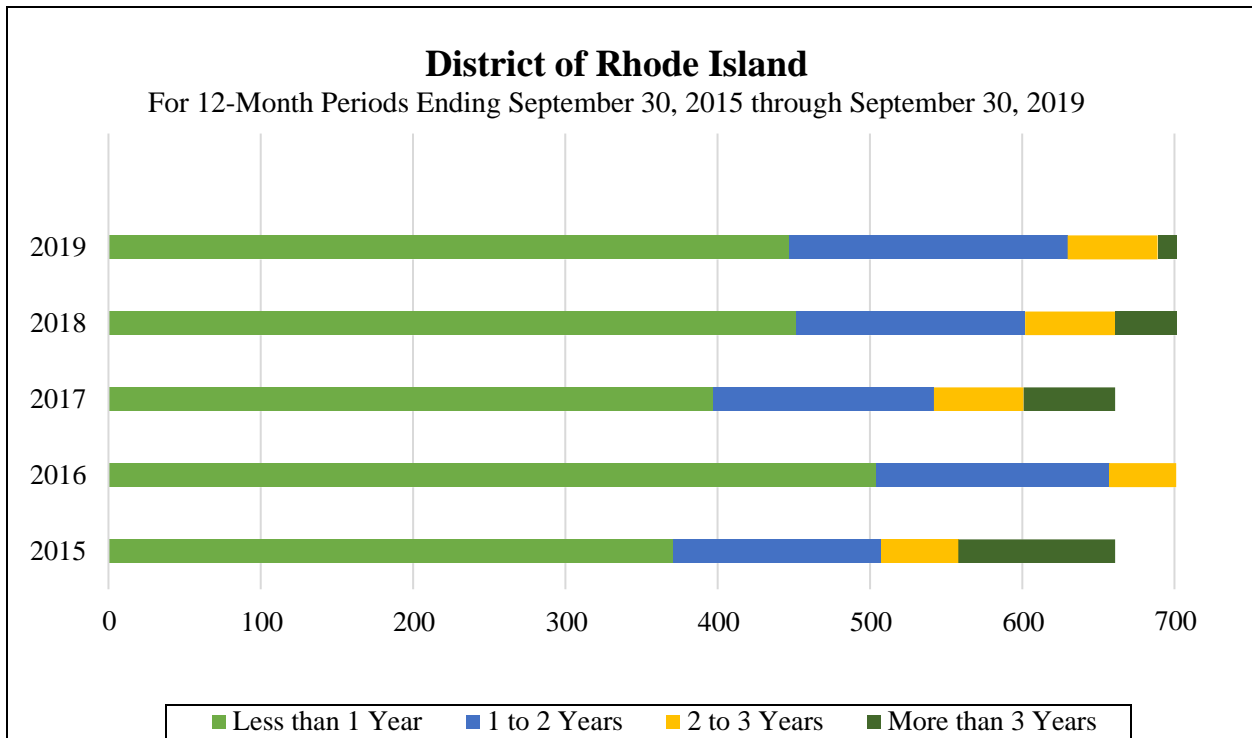
Number of Civil Cases Pending for First Circuit District Courts, by Length of Time Pending (and % Total)
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Less than 1 Year	6,329 (56.9%)	5,138 (42.8%)	4,441 (40.3%)	4,754 (46.4%)	4,861 (53.2%)
1 to 2 Years	3,388 (30.5%)	3,770 (31.4%)	2,197 (19.9%)	2,058 (20.1%)	2,455 (26.9%)
2 to 3 Years	914 (8.2%)	2,433 (20.2%)	2,340 (21.2%)	1,165 (11.4%)	1,011 (11.1%)
More than 3 Years	486 (4.4%)	677 (5.6%)	2,045 (18.6%)	2,273 (22.2%)	816 (8.9%)

**Number of Civil Cases Pending in First Circuit District Courts,
 by Length of Time**







Report for the District of Maine

Court Profile

In 2019, the District had three district judges, three senior district judges, and two magistrate judges. The Clerk's Office operated with 25 employees and five court reporters.

Statistics

In FY 2019, the District's total filings increased 12.5%, due to growth in foreclosure cases, which comprised nearly 30% of the District's civil caseload, and drug cases, which comprised 52% of new criminal case filings. The percentage of jurors who were not selected, serving, or challenged for jury service (NSSC) declined from 29.4% to 22.9%, and remained below the JCUS NSSC goal of 30%.

Committee Membership

In 2019, Clerk Christa K. Berry was a member of the District Court Local Rules Advisory Committee, the District Court Criminal Law Committee, the AO Pro Se Working Group, and the First Circuit Jury Plan Committee.

Local Rules

In 2019, the District adopted amendments to Local Rules 7(a), 72, 132, 147, and 157.1.

Information Technology

IT Technician Don Marshall retired in December after a long career in the District's Bangor office.

The District hired Audio/Visual Technology Specialist Andrew Biedrzycki, Systems Support Specialist Nathan Horn, and Systems Administrator Raymond Sanborn.

In 2019, the IT Department implemented several new national initiatives, upgraded its devices to Windows 10 and ECF to NextGen, deployed Chromebooks for remote work, and implemented cybersecurity policies and procedures.

Community Outreach

In 2019, the District introduced a new civics program, organized and directed by Chief Judge Levy, called Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions, a three-hour courtroom simulation for high school students presided over by a federal judge and coached by volunteer attorneys. Chief Judge Levy, Chief Judge Cary, and Judge Walker held this program in Portland and Bangor.

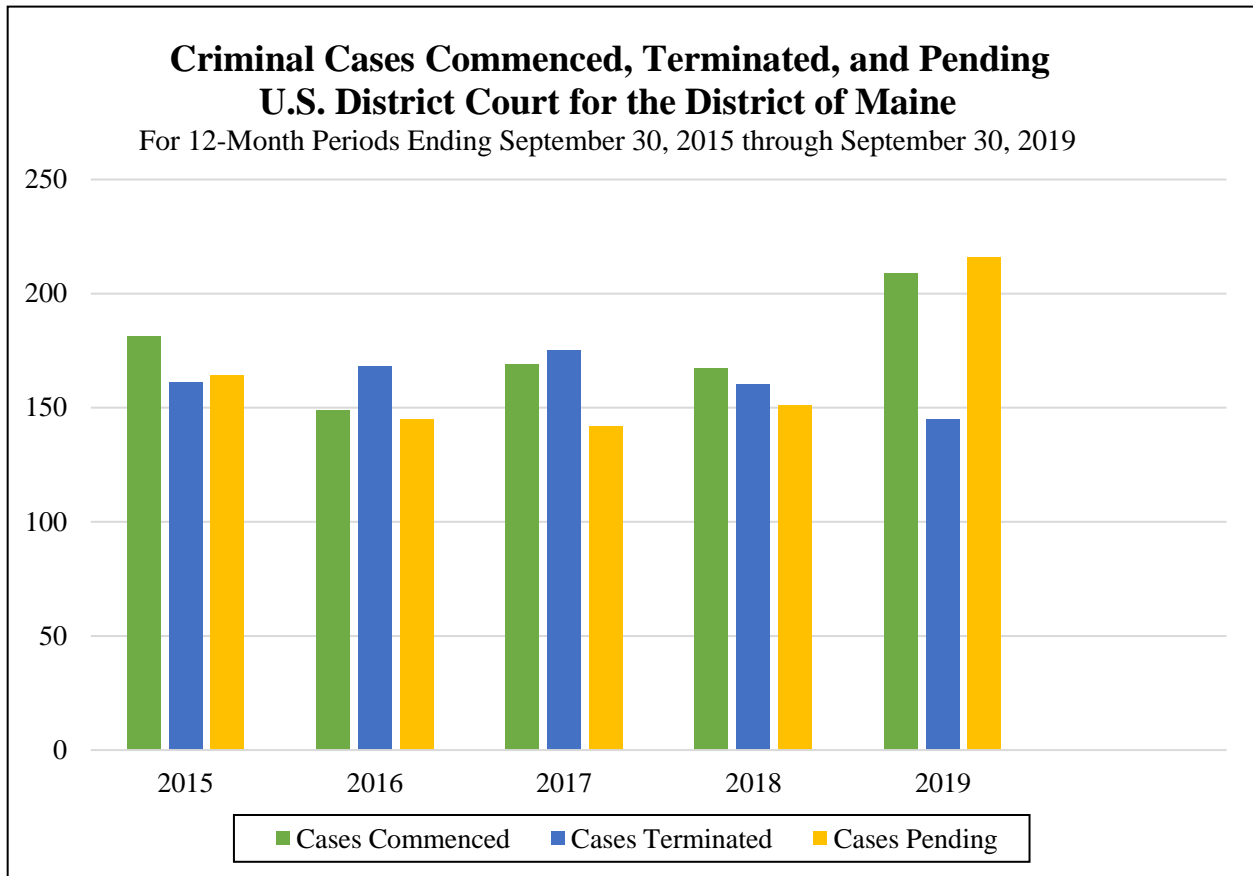
Clerk's Office

In 2019, the Clerk's Office hired Case Managers Charity Pelletier, Teagan Snyder, and Meaghan Hand.

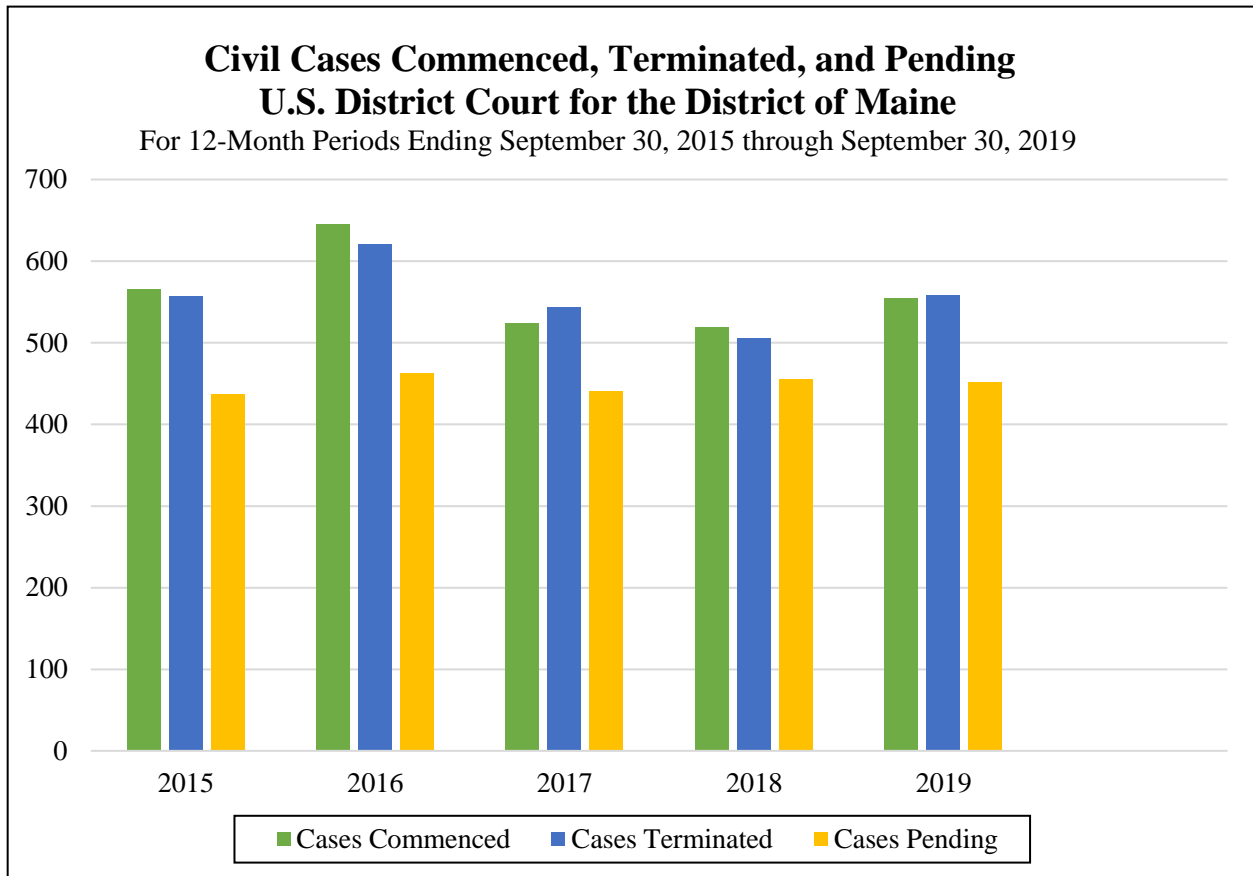
Staff Training

In 2019, the District and the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS) provided active shooter and occupant emergency plan training for all court employees.

In October, the District held an offsite program to generate ideas about various aspects of court operations, the working environment, and interpersonal communication.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Maine For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	181	149	169	167	209
Cases Terminated	161	168	175	160	145
Cases Pending	164	145	142	151	216



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending
U.S. District Court for the District of Maine
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	566	645	524	519	554
Cases Terminated	557	620	543	505	558
Cases Pending*	437	463	441	455	452

* Pending cases for 2015 - 2017 as revised by the AO.

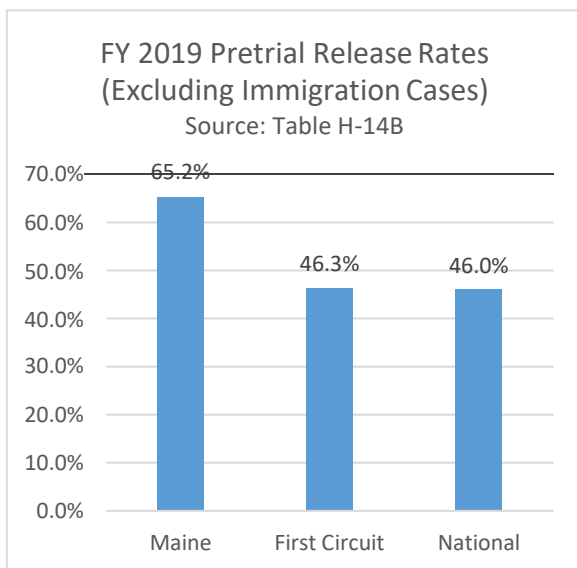
**Probation & Pretrial Services Office
 District of Maine**

Personnel

Senior U.S. Probation Officer Mitchell Oswald rejoined the District after a two-year temporary duty detail at the Probation and Pretrial Services National Training Academy in Charleston, South Carolina.

Pretrial Services

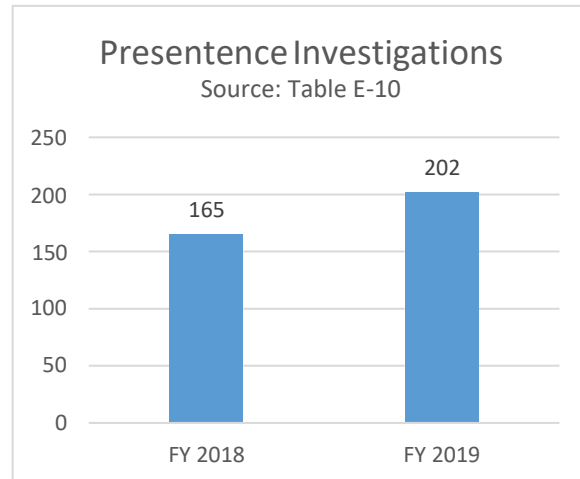
The District's release rates continued to exceed national averages. At the 2019 National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies Conference, the District was recognized as having the third most improved release rate in the U.S. Pretrial Services system.



Presentence Investigations

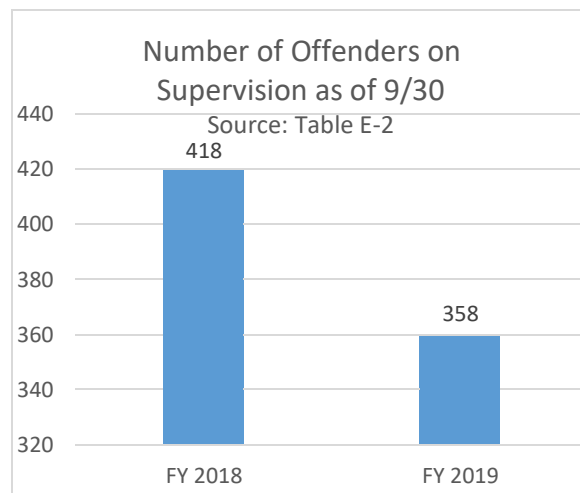
For the first time in four years, the number of presentence investigation reports completed increased. Sentencing Guidelines Specialist Jennifer Kuhn prepared revised presentence reports for 23 defendants seeking sentencing relief under the First Step Act. The District continued to work with the U.S. Attorney's

Office to address challenges regarding receiving and processing discovery.



Post-Conviction Supervision

In FY 2019, post-conviction supervision cases decreased. The District continued to use Second Chance Funds to support re-entry needs as well as the pretrial and post-conviction supervision process.



District Resources and Initiatives

In 2019, the District underwent a program review led by the Probation and Pretrial Services Office (PPSO), which showed a significant improvement in national policy compliance since the last review in 2014.

The District formed a wellness group, the PoWER (Promotion of Wellness, Empowerment and Resilience) Squad, which sponsored team wellness challenges, formed a book club, and initiated an employee recognition award, among other activities. The District held a two-day staff training focused on organizational culture, personal wellness, and relationship building, featuring nationally recognized speaker Dorie Jones, co-founder and CEO of Crisis Support Solutions.

The District increased its participation with the New England Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team, dedicating four staff members to the group.

The District hosted the Detention Reduction Outreach Program, which was attended by 75 members of the Court, U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Defender's Office, and the local bar, and hosted the FJC's Pretrial Decision-Making Program, designed to bring the Court and probation officers together to improve the District's pretrial knowledge and processes.

The District maintained its dedication to re-entry services with its re-entry specialist officer, who worked closely with the District's residential re-entry center in Portland. The District participated in an annual job and resource fair hosted in cooperation with several other agencies.

The District continued to host the problem-solving court, SWiTCH, which targets treatment, intervention, and resources to persons under supervision battling drug abuse and addiction, and in 2019, hosted the FJC's Trauma Informed Care program, which was attended by members of problem-solving courts from all of the New England states.

Senior U.S. Probation Officer Mitchell Oswald assisted the District of Rhode Island as a subject matter expert in the areas of firearms and safety.

Training and Professional Development

In 2019, officers participated in a number of professional development opportunities, including but not limited to: the Federal Probation and Pretrial Services Officers National Training Institute, National Sentencing Guidelines Training, the National Association of Drug Court Professional Conference, and training related to firearms skill building and qualification, officer response tactics, and responding to canine threats.

Deputy Chief Michael Penders served on the Probation and Pretrial Services National Information Standards Working Group and presented at the National Information Standards Conference. Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer Scott Hastings was accepted into the FJC's Advanced Leadership Institute. IT Systems Manager Andrew Maxfield was accepted into the FJC's Experienced Manager's program. Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer Bryce Turgeon and Senior U.S. Probation Officer Sharon Reinheimer were selected as subject matter experts for national program review teams. Senior U.S. Probation Officer Sharon Reinheimer served as a faculty member for the FJC's Pretrial Decision-Making Program.

Report for the District of Massachusetts

Court Profile

At the end of 2019, the District had 11 district judges, five senior district judges, seven magistrate judges, and three recalled magistrate judges.

Community Outreach

The District continued to support Discovering Justice's work with youth civics education, and judges and Clerk's Office staff participated in semi-annual mock trial events.

The Nelson Fellowship: Thirteen students participated in the 22nd year of the Fellowship, a summer program encouraging civic engagement and higher education. Participants met community leaders, visited local colleges, and were introduced to organizations that facilitate the college application process.

The Lindsay Fellowship: Seven college students participated in the ninth year of the Lindsay Fellowship, named for the late Judge Reginald C. Lindsay. Fellows were assigned to a judge and either the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Federal Defender Program, or U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services. The Fellows attended a research and writing program and competed in moot court.

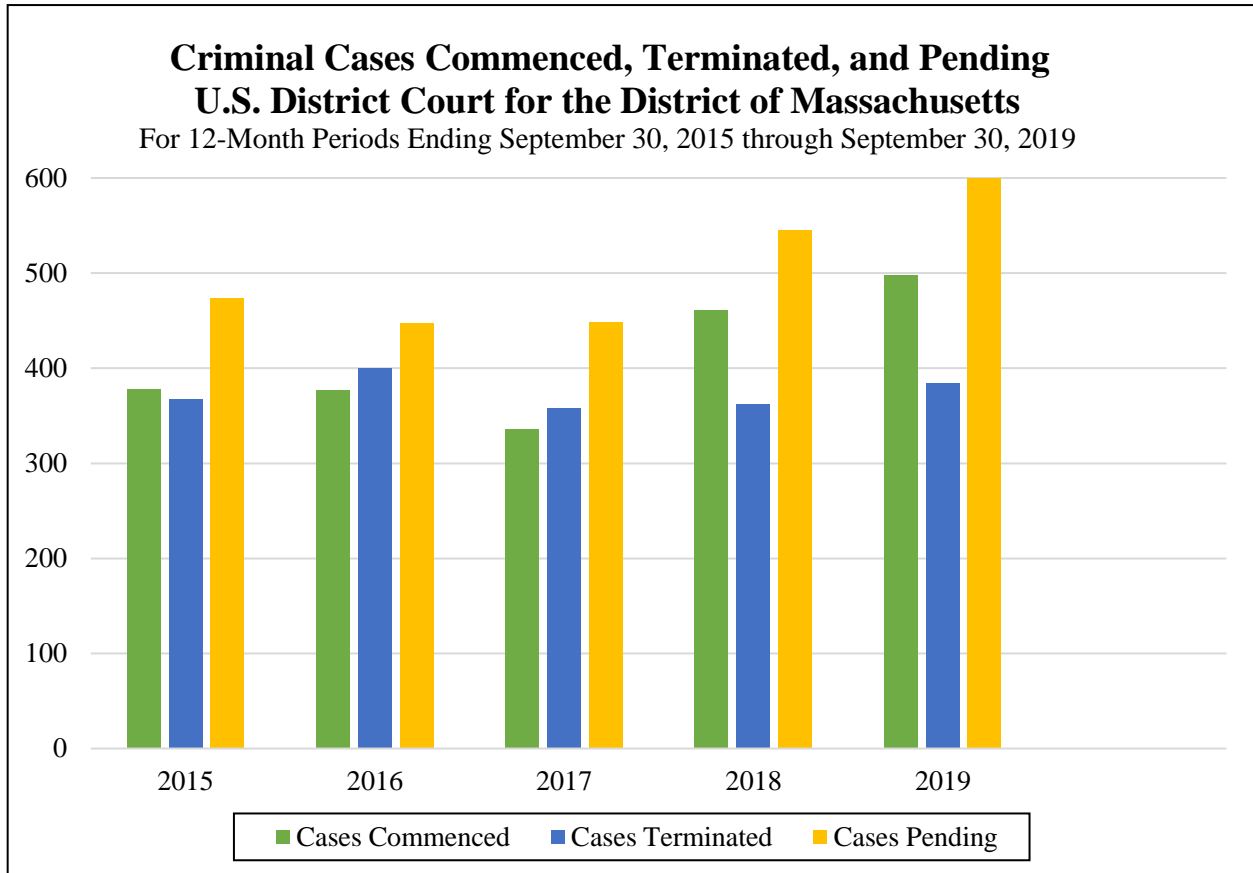
Operations

Civil filings decreased 4.2%, from 3,127 cases in calendar year 2018 to 3,002 cases in calendar year 2019. The number of criminal defendants charged in calendar year 2019 increased 27.7%, to 770 from 603 in 2018.

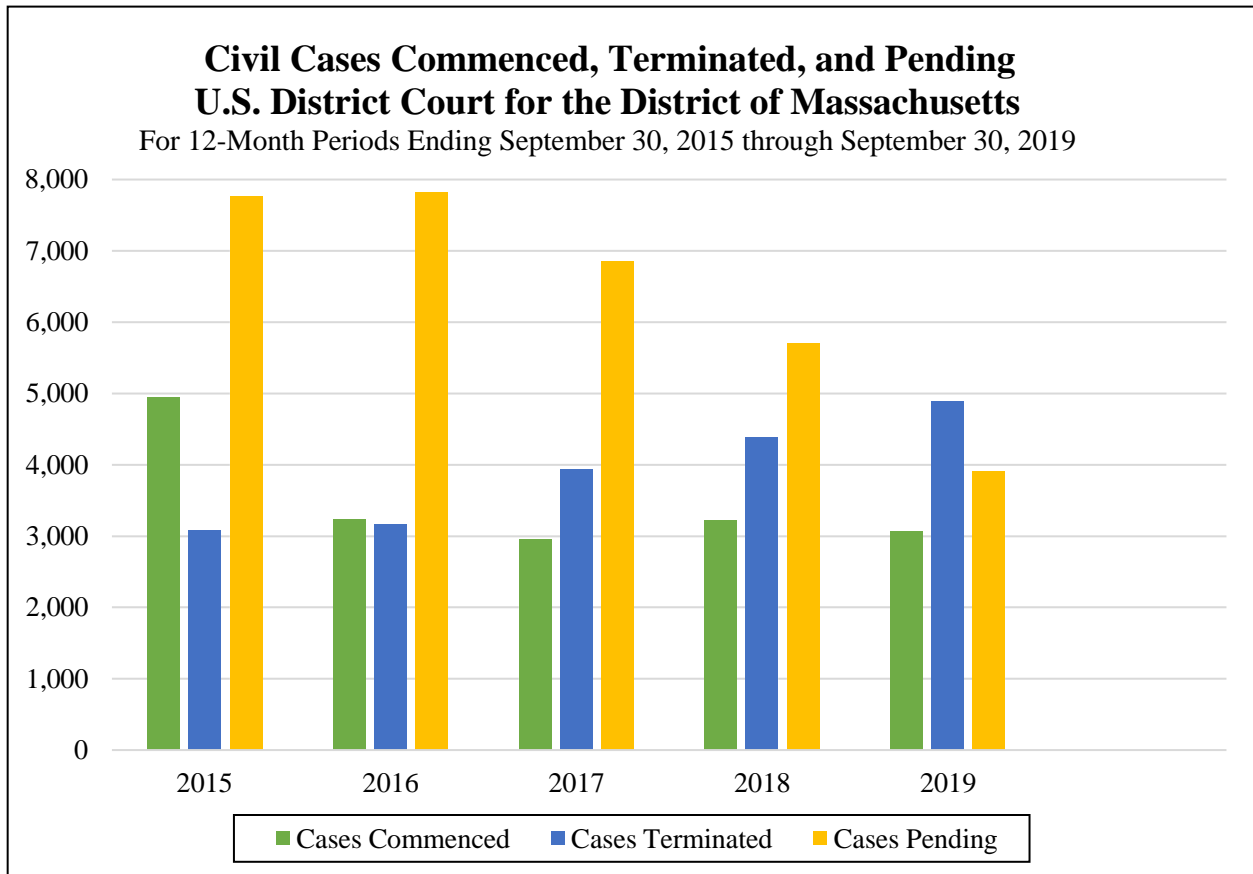
In 2019, the District closed two multi-district litigation (MDL) matters and was assigned one additional MDL matter, resulting in a total

of seven pending MDLs, with 971 pending member cases.

In 2019, the District conducted 157 trials (72 civil and 85 criminal). Judges spent 2,396 hours conducting trials and 2,440 hours conducting other proceedings



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	378	377	336	461	498
Cases Terminated	367	400	358	362	384
Cases Pending	474	448	449	545	649



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending
U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	4,947	3,226	2,949	3,219	3,063
Cases Terminated	3,081	3,163	3,928	4,375	4,882
Cases Pending*	7,758	7,821	6,859	5,703	3,902

* Pending cases for 2015 - 2017 as revised by the AO.

**Probation & Pretrial Services Office
 District of Massachusetts**

Personnel

In 2019, Chief Probation Officer Chris Maloney retired, as well as 11 probation officers (one transfer) and one long-serving administrative assistant. In addition, Probation Officer Jennifer Broquist sadly passed away in November 2019.

The Probation Office welcomed nine probation officers (eight new, one internal promotion), and a laboratory technician.

Investigations and Supervision:

Pretrial Investigations: In 2019, the PPSO activated 766 cases.

Year	Cases Activated	Release/ Detention Rate	Interview Rate
2017	531	51%/ 49%	51%
2018	665	46%/ 54%	56%
2019	766	46%/ 54%	55%

Pretrial Supervision: At the end of 2019, 413 defendants were under supervision, an all-time high for the District, and a 13% and 39% increase from 2018 and 2017, respectively. The office's supervision strategies continued to align with risk and needs including the results of the Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument. Of the 677 pretrial defendants who were supervised during 2019, three missed a court hearing, seven were rearrested, and 21 had their supervision revoked, all well below national statistics.

Presentence Investigations:

Year	Cases Assigned	Cases Sentenced w/out PSR
2017	525	47
2018	455	23
2019	600	6

Offense types covered by presentence investigations and reports included drugs, financial, immigration, weapons, robbery, sex, obstruction, tax, and under the influence offenses. Officers continued to pre-screen defendants for placement in the Bureau of Prisons Residential Drug and Alcohol Program (RDAP), handle re-sentencings, and recommend individuals for participation in the CARE and Repair, Invest, Succeed, Emerge (RISE) programs. Investigations officers also handled First Step Act cases.

Post-Conviction Supervision: In 2019, 1,484 post-conviction clients were under supervision, 29% of whom were considered moderate or high risk. The opiate epidemic, criminal thinking, and poor peer relationships continued to pose the biggest challenges. The District's revocation rate of 27.7% fell below the national average.

Space Initiatives

In 2019, the PPSO continued renovating the Springfield and Taunton offices to improve security and create a multi-purpose space for staff and persons under supervision.

District Resources and Initiatives:

The office held a series of BBA presentations for individuals under supervision on topics including family law, housing, low income benefits, and criminal record guidance. Continued initiatives also included, but were not limited to: Operation Exit-RENEW

(Release-Engage-Network-Employ-Win); the RISE, CARE, and Reentry Empowering Successful Today, and Responsible Tomorrow (RESTART) programs; community-based drug treatment programs for graduates of RDAP; the Nurturing Fathers Program; and Staff Training Aimed at Reducing Re-arrest (STARR).

Training, Professional Development, & National Workgroups

Staff participated in numerous training and professional development opportunities, including, but not limited to, workplace conduct training, firearms training, Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers' Association Conference, United States Sentencing Commission National Guidelines Conference, National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies Conference, and national conferences focused on IT, location monitoring, sex offenders, and STARR. Locally, staff participated in training on leadership, medication assisted treatment, gangs, domestic violence, computer monitoring, officer response tactics, and restorative justice. Officers also continued to participate in AO district program reviews, temporary duty placements, and national working groups.

Report for the District of New Hampshire

Human Resources/Staffing

In 2019, Director of IT Dana Bauer became Security/Network Administrator, and Assistant Director of IT Robert Birdsey became Director.

New hires included Network Administrator Thomas Baron, IT Security Officer Nate Armstrong, Court Reporter Brenda Hancock, and Pro Se Law Clerk Mary Frasche.

Network Administrator Dave Crepeault left the Court in February 2019.

Jury Administrator Brigid Davis was awarded an Innovation Award for improving the jury administration process.

Conferences/Educational Programs

The Federal Court Advisory Committee (FCAC) met twice in 2019 and provided feedback to the Court regarding upcoming CLE programs and local rule amendments. The FCAC also reviewed expenditures from the Court's library fund.

In October, the District hosted the 2019 Mediation Seminar in conjunction with the New Hampshire Judicial Branch Office of Mediation and Arbitration and the UNH Franklin Pierce School of Law.

The District also provided trainings for Criminal Justice Act (CJA) panel attorneys and their support staff.

Information Technology

The IT Department began developing a new intranet site, implemented the Jury Management System backup scanner system for juror check-in, performed IT security upgrades, transitioned the Court's electronic

filing system to NextGen CM/ECF, and completed migration to Microsoft O365.

Local Rules/Procedure

In December, the District enacted amendments to its Local Rules addressing the procedures for filing answers in Section 2254 cases, the Court's bar admissions procedures, and the Court's transition to NextGen CM/ECF.

Operations

The District completed an annual financial self-audit and a cyclical audit.

Case Management

Civil filings increased from 1,247 cases in 2018 to 1,296 in 2019. Filings related to In Re: Atrium Medical Corp. C-Qur Mesh Products Liability Litigation, an MDL case assigned to Chief Judge McCafferty, increased. Criminal filings also increased, from 255 defendants charged in 2018 to 309 in 2019.

Staff Training

Key staff for the NextGen CM/ECF transition attended training in San Antonio, and procurement staff attended the Interpreter and Court Reporter Services Conference.

IT staff provided District-wide technology training to staff throughout the year, including, but not limited to, IT security measures and transitioning to Microsoft Outlook and NextGen CM/ECF.

Community Outreach

The Court provided tours and educational programming for local students and held

offsite naturalization ceremonies at Concord High School, Dover High School, and Hanover High School.

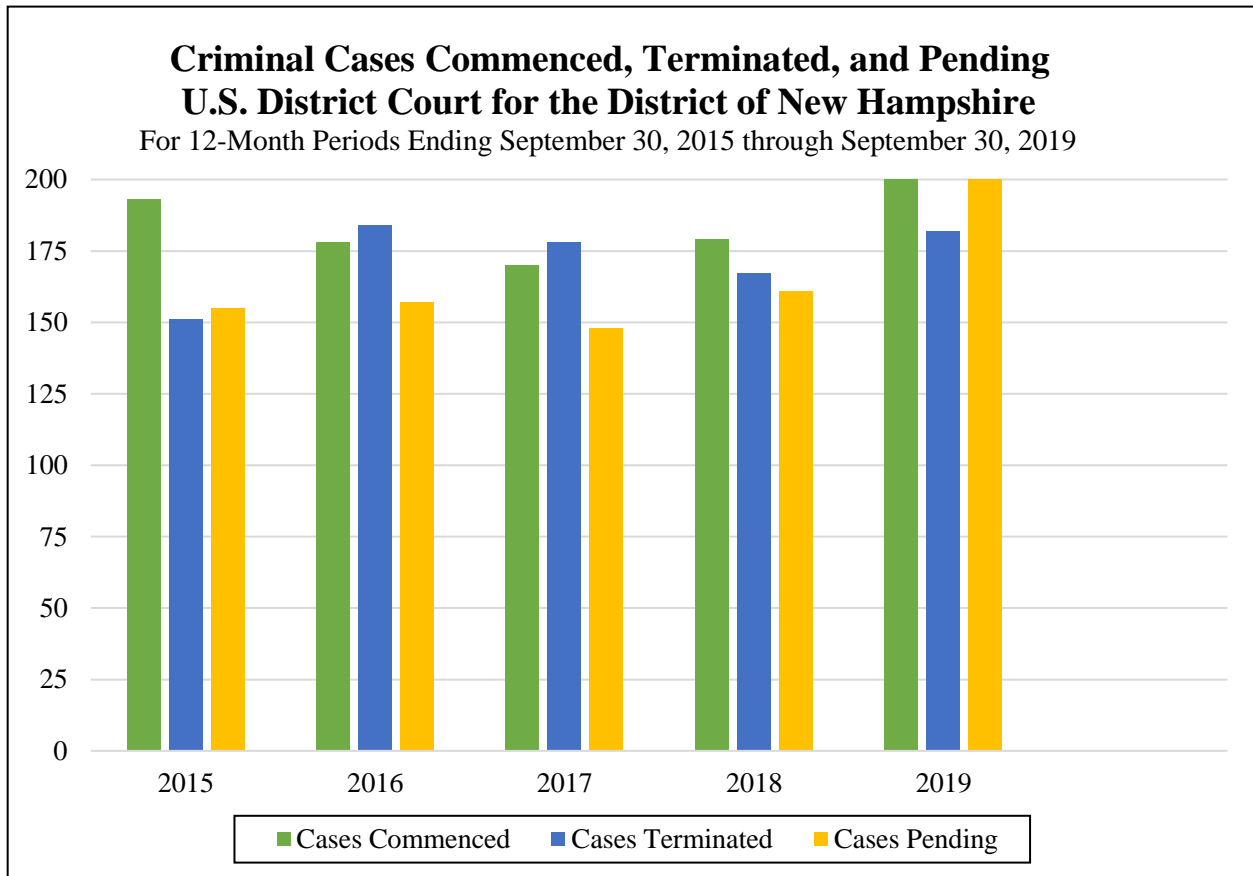
The Court also hosted a two-day teacher seminar on the “Project Citizen” curriculum.

Clerk Daniel J. Lynch and Chief Deputy Clerk Tracy Uhrin hosted numerous legal delegations through the World Affairs Council.

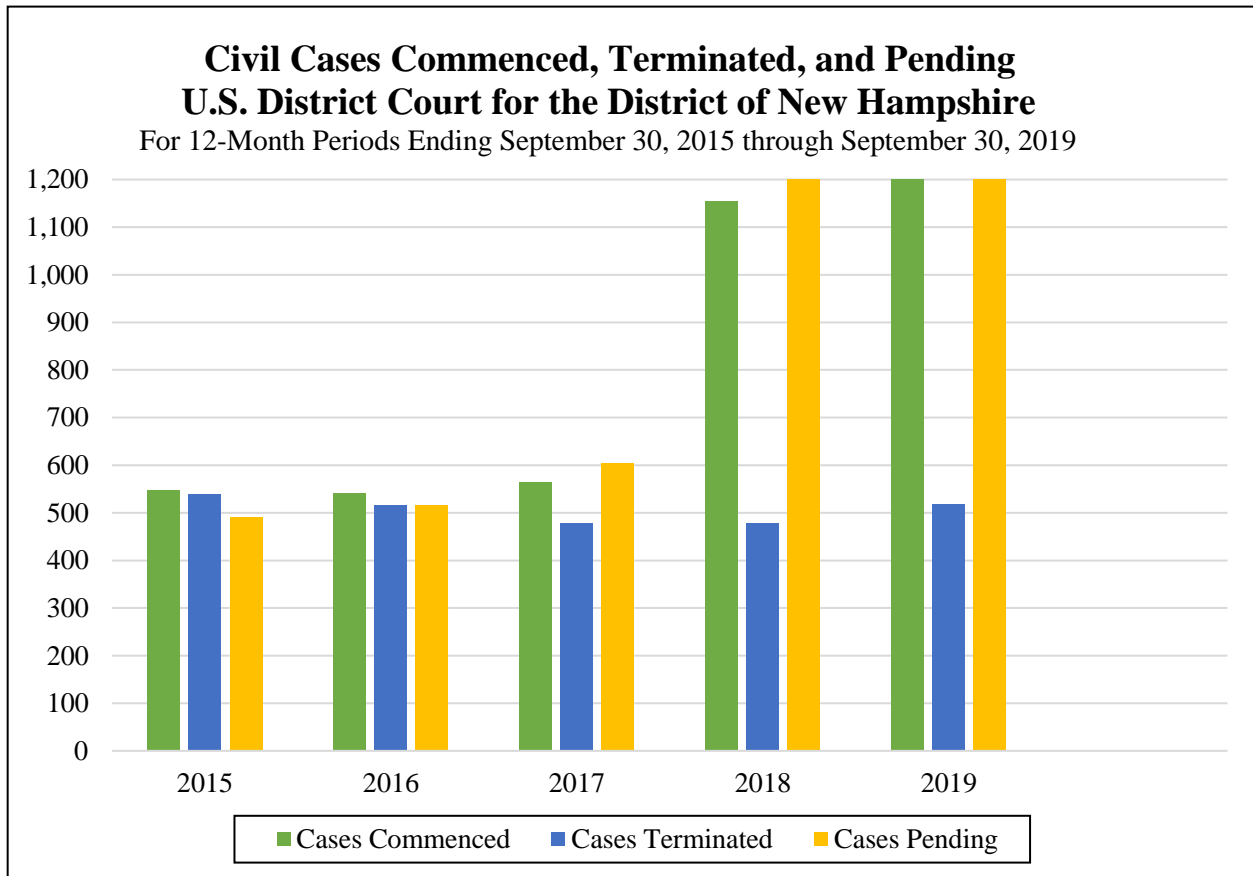
Space & Facilities

Construction/Consolidation

In 2019, the Clerk's Office mailroom was renovated, additional law clerk offices were added in two judges' chambers, and planning and design began for renovations to the intake area. The District also helped manage the AO Long-Range Facilities Plan Assessment.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	193	178	170	179	231
Cases Terminated	151	184	178	167	182
Cases Pending	155	157	148	161	213



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	547	541	563	1,154	1,370
Cases Terminated	538	517	478	478	519
Cases Pending*	490	516	605	1,281	2,133

* Pending cases for 2015 - 2017 as revised by the AO.

**Probation & Pretrial Services Office
District of New Hampshire**

Personnel

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Daniel Gildea retired on June 7, 2019, and U.S. Probation Officer Eric Gray was promoted to succeed him.

U.S. Probation Officers Janice Benard and Steven Seero were promoted to Senior U.S. Probation Officers in January 2019.

Data Quality Analyst Daniel Whitmoyer was promoted to U.S. Probation Officer, and U.S. Probation Officer William Carroll was hired in September 2019.

Jessica Avelar's appointment as Probation Technician expired in September 2019.

Pretrial Services

In FY 2019, the office activated 280 new cases, a 31% increase from FY 2018. Drugs were the largest proportion of charged offenses (170; 61%). Officers conducted 195 pretrial interviews in FY 2019, compared to 128 in FY 2018 (52% increase) and completed 238 bail reports (43% increase). Officers recommended release 52.5% of the time (excluding immigration cases). The District received 95 new cases for pretrial supervision in FY 2019 and, as of September 30, 2019, was supervising 101 defendants, a 60% increase over the 63 defendants under supervision as of September 30, 2018.

In FY 2019, there were 35 pretrial service violations across 29 defendants.

Presentence Investigations

The office completed 216 presentence investigations in FY 2019, including five

retroactive amended guideline reports and two armed career criminal cases, a 13% increase from FY 2018.

Post-Conviction Supervision

In FY 2019, the office underwent a reorganization, converting the Supervision Unit to the Post-Conviction Unit, which continued to focus on core supervisions practices. This reorganization coincided with multiple personnel changes.

In FY 2019, the Post-Conviction Unit continued to employ evidence-based practices to help change the behavior of persons under supervision, most notably through STARR techniques, which were used in 36% of all personal contacts. As in the prior two fiscal years, the District ranked first nationally in using STARR techniques in FY 2019. .

At the end of FY 2019, 327 cases were on active post-conviction supervision, of which 86% were on supervised release, and 37 were for drug offense convictions. Cases deemed intense or elevated risk accounted for 50% of post-conviction supervision, compared to 33.9% nationally, and remained consistent with FY 2018.

In FY 2019, the office closed 179 cases from active supervision, 49 (27.5%) of which were closed due to revocation. Of those revoked, 33 (18.5%) were considered technical violations, ten (5.6%) were major violations, and five (2.8%) were minor violations. Total cases revoked increased from 44 cases in FY 2018 to 49 cases in FY 2019, a 10% increase.

In FY 2019, the office terminated 13 cases early from supervision, a decrease from the 20 cases terminated in FY 2018, resulting in a total savings of \$73,536.00.

Treatment Services

Treatment services costs decreased 7% from FY 2018. Participation in post-conviction substance use treatment decreased by 15%, largely due to an increase in the use of private insurance for residential treatment admissions. Location monitoring and sex offender costs increased in FY 2019 by 18% and 10%, respectively.

LASER Docket Program

Since 2010, the District has operated the Law-Abiding, Sober, Employed, and Responsible (LASER) Docket, a cooperative effort between the Court, the U.S. Attorney's Office, the PPSO, the Federal Defender's Office, and the USMS. The LASER Docket offers treatment and sanction alternatives to address defendant/offender behavior, promote rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, and ensure community safety. During FY 2019, 15 pretrial defendants were approved for the program, bringing the total number of participants for FY 2019 to 22, and eight participants graduated from the program.

Information Technology

The office continued to share IT services with the District and Bankruptcy Courts. In 2019, the District achieved the following goals: upgrading several aging hardware and software platforms; further developing local applications; migrating to CM-ECF Next Gen.; and improving the District's security posture, including its self-assessment score.

Officer Safety

The Officer Response Tactics (ORT) team conducted and participated in a variety of trainings during FY 2019, including, but not limited to: the second annual district instructor meeting, tactical movement and ORT training,

and use of force policy training. The ORT team also assisted the District of Rhode Island in rolling out its restraints program. Additionally, ORT and firearms instructors participated in a multi-district, week-long biometric feedback training hosted by the District of Rhode Island.

Training and Professional Development

In FY 2019, staff participated in several national, regional, and local trainings, as attendees and/or presenters, including, but not limited to: stress first aid training, First Step Act Conference, New Hampshire Drug Court Conference, First Circuit and New England Problem Solving Court Symposium, Rewriting the Sentence Summit, and various classes at the Federal Probation Pretrial Academy in Charleston, South Carolina. Additionally, Probation Officer Specialist Scott Christensen and Probation Officer Scott Davidson participated in the District's Leadership Exploration and Development Program.

Recognition

During FY 2019, on recommendation from the Employee Recognition Committee, the following staff were cited for outstanding work:

- Janice Benard – Chief's Award for Quality Improvement;
- Scott Davidson – District Award for Sustained Superior Performance; and
- Chris Pingree – District Award for Sustained Superior Performance.

Report for the District of Puerto Rico

Court Profile

At the end of 2019, the District had six district judges, three senior district judges, and five magistrate judges. Chambers staff totaled 38, including two full-time pro se law clerks.

Human Resources/Staffing

In September 2019, Clerk of Court Frances Ríos de Morán retired after 31 years of federal government service, Chief Deputy Clerk Maria Antongiorgi became Clerk of Court, and Jorge E. Soltero-Pales became Chief Deputy Clerk.

Conferences/Educational Programs

In August 2019, the District and the United States Sentencing Commission (USSC) sponsored a sentencing guidelines training, which judges, law clerks, members of the bar, and staff from the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Federal Public Defender's Office, and the PPSO attended.

In September 2019, the Court and the United States Probation Office, in partnership with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico's Women's Advocate Office, held a Pro Bono Work to Empower and Represent (POWER) Act event on domestic violence and the attorney's role in supporting victims.

During 2019, the District hosted 16 Department of Justice Judicial Studies Institute and Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training visits from judges from Central and South American countries.

Local Rules/Procedure

In April and May 2018, Chief Judge Gelpí formed a Local Rules Committee, constituted by Committee Chair Judge Besosa, Magistrate Judge McGiverin, Bankruptcy Judge Godoy, and lawyers and other individuals competent

in judicial practice, administration, and procedure, to recommend local rules revisions to the Court.

Interpreters

In FY 2019, staff interpreters completed 8,074 Spanish language interpreting events, and contract interpreters completed 1,405 Spanish language events.

District Bar Examination

In April and October 2019, 348 individuals took the district bar exam and 136 passed, for a 39% aggregate passing rate. A total of 75 attorneys were admitted to practice in the District during 2019, including those who passed the test in previous years.

Civil Pro Bono Program

In 2019, 250 attorneys were selected to serve on the Civil Pro Bono Panel, and 85 pro bono appointments were made.

Criminal Justice Act (CJA) Committee

In March 2019, 18 interviews for new appointments and reappointments to the CJA panel were conducted.

Naturalization Ceremonies

The Court held 17 naturalization ceremonies in 2019, during which 707 persons were sworn in as citizens. Three special ceremonies were held in commemoration of Flag Day, Independence Day, and Citizenship Day.

Information Technology

IT staff continued updating and implementing security measures based on the IT Scorecard guidelines, upgraded CM/ECF, migrated users to Microsoft Outlook/Skype for Business, and, in the Operations Department, rewired network connections and added video/teleconference capabilities.

Clerk's Office IT staff resumed updating judges' courtrooms to include high definition video and videoconferencing capabilities.

IT staff continued supporting the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA) case, including producing specialized reports, updating/maintaining website content, and providing video/teleconferencing capabilities among New York, Massachusetts, and Puerto Rico.

Jury Administration

The Court designated the Clerk of Court to preside over jury qualification proceedings, began the process of amending the Jury Plan, and evaluated new tools to enhance the inclusiveness and representativeness of the jurors on the master list.

Staff Training

In July 2019, Financial Administrator Freddie Gonzalez participated in trainings as part of his selection for a temporary duty assignment to collaborate with the AO's Department of Administrative Services.

Community Outreach

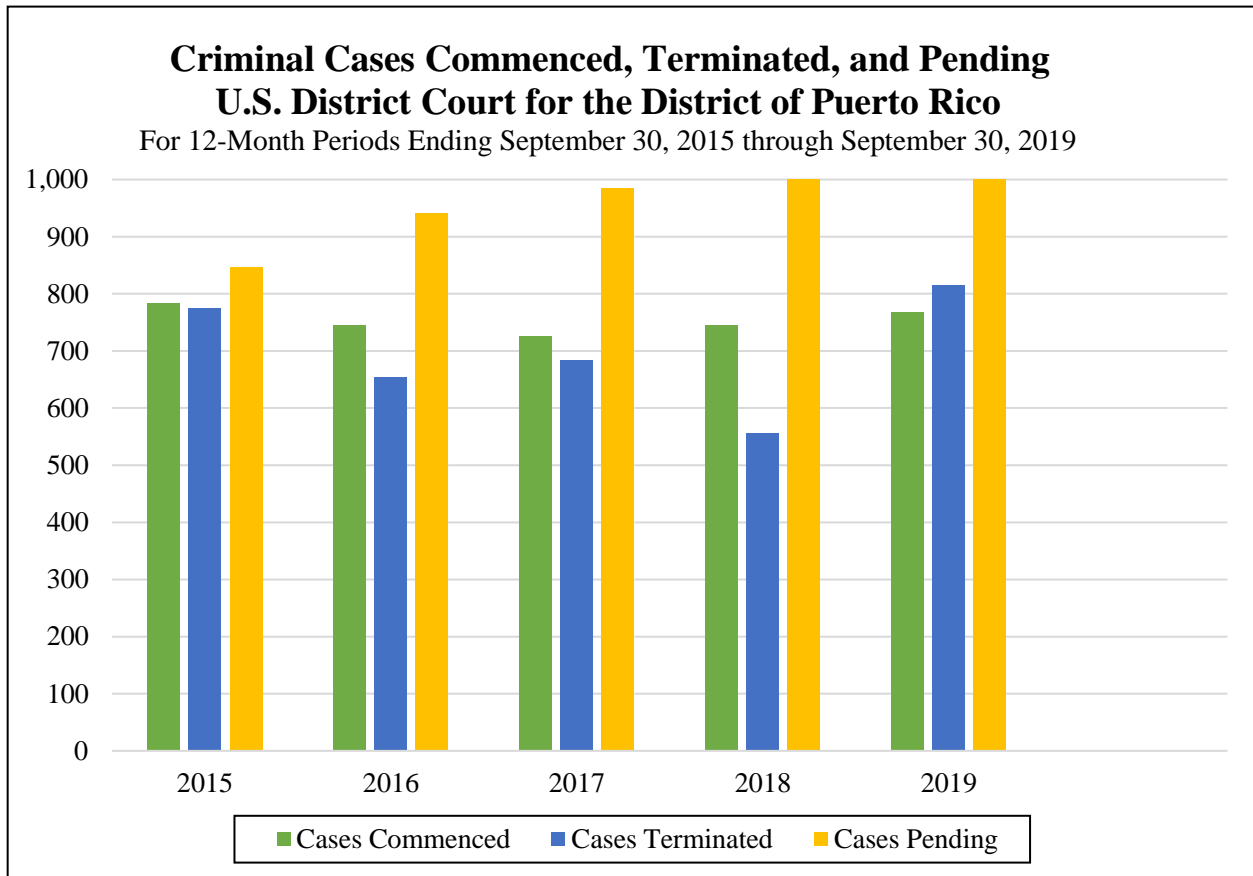
Student and Youth Visits: In 2019, the Court hosted several visits from high school and college students. In April 2019, the Court sponsored the Puerto Rico Trial Advocacy Competition, hosted by the Interamerican University School of Law and the Trial Advocacy Association. In May 2019, the Court hosted a moot court for students of the Juris Doctor English Program at the Interamerican University School of Law. The moot court panel included Judge Besosa, Magistrate Judge McGiverin, Bankruptcy Judge Godoy, and local bar members.

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC): The Court continued its outstanding contribution to the CFC Campaign for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Space and Facilities

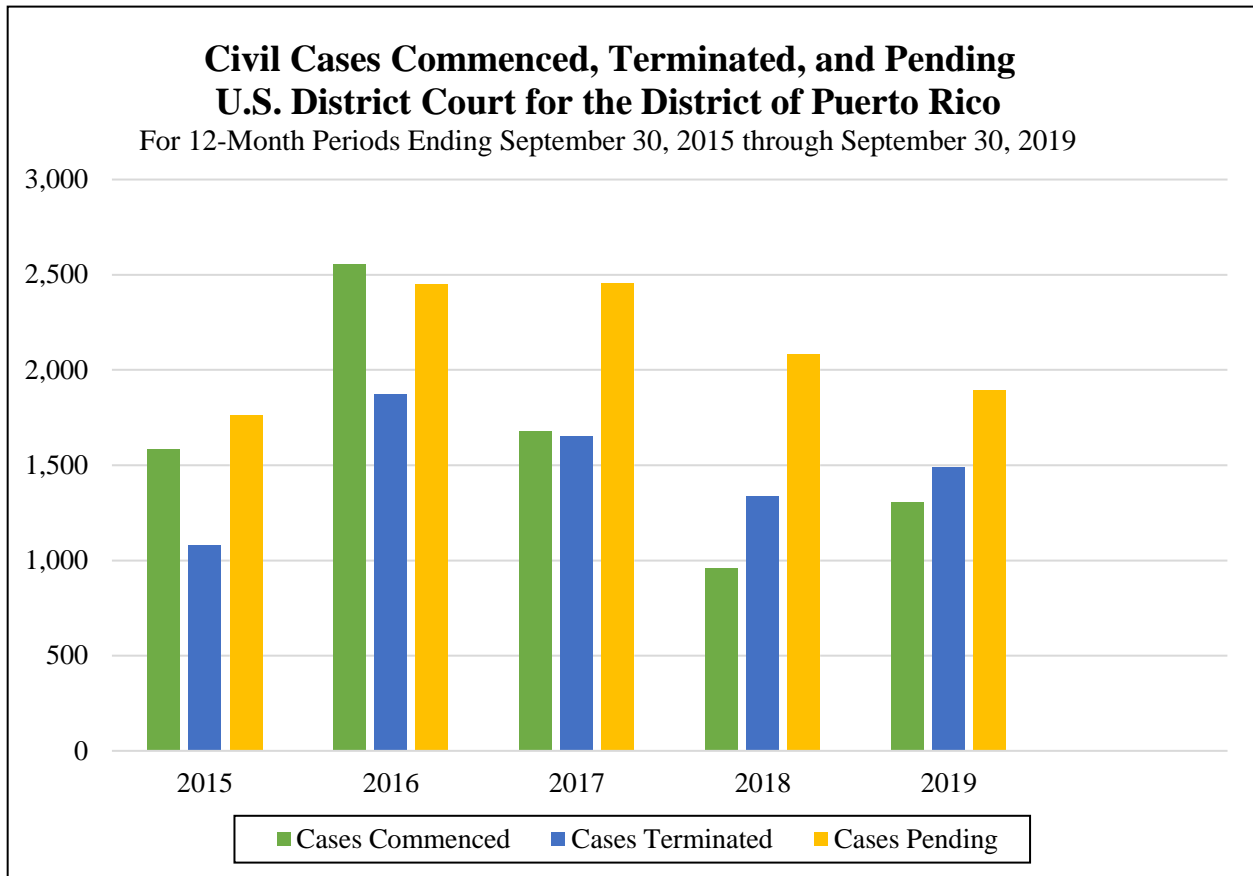
Projects completed included the second phase of the Clerk's Office operations area reconfiguration project, and renovations to chambers, administrative offices, the Judge's Conference Room, the Bankruptcy Clerk's Office, and a jury room.

Projects commenced included repairs related to the Phase II Hurricane Recovery Project, construction of the new Link Extension Project, renovation designs for five elevators in the Degetau Federal Building and Toledo Courthouse, and renovations of intake, bail, and cashier areas.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending
U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	784	745	725	744	767
Cases Terminated	774	653	684	556	815
Cases Pending	846	940	985	1,181	1,151



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	1,585	2,556	1,676	961	1,303
Cases Terminated	1,077	1,871	1,649	1,337	1,487
Cases Pending*	1,764	2,448	2,456	2,080	1,891

* Pending cases for 2015 - 2017 as revised by the AO.

**Probation & Pretrial Services Office
 District of Puerto Rico**

In FY 2019, the office underwent an AO District Review and reassigned duties among the divisions, with the Court Services division absorbing the Pretrial Supervision component and Low Intensity Immigration caseloads.

Personnel

Dr. Luis O. Encarnación-Canales, became the new Chief U.S. Probation Officer, after serving as a career officer and supervisor for 18 years.

A new Deputy Chief U.S. Probation Officer was selected, the office hired nine probation officers, one staff member separated due to retirement, and one staff member transferred to another district.

Investigations and Supervision

Court Services: The new Court Services Division had seven full-time supervisors, 32 full-time officers, one part-time officer, three task force officers conducting presentence and pretrial investigations and supervision, and nine support staff. During FY 2019, the division completed 1,271 bail reports and had a 99% completion rate for Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument. The division completed a total of 996 presentence reports, a significant increase from FY 2018.

Pretrial Services Investigations: During FY 2019, the office opened 1,271 cases. Controlled substances remained the most common offense type, followed by firearms and violent crimes.

Supervision Division: The division focused on early terminations in qualifying cases, increased supervision for higher risk cases, and caseload distribution by risk level. The division continued to provide reentry services, including collaborative agreements with other community resources for Graduate Equivalency Diplomas, workforce

development workshops, and driver's licenses. The office continued to have one of the highest investments nationwide in Second Chance funds for Offender-Defendant Reentry Services.

<i>Cases Revoked and Closed</i>					
	<i>FY 2015</i>	<i>FY 2016</i>	<i>FY 2017</i>	<i>FY 2018</i>	<i>FY 2019</i>
Total Cases Closed	837	908	933	1,062	1,112
Cases Closed by Early Termination	92	106	39	70	97
Revocations	145	142	227	219	299
Revocation Rate	17%	15%	24%	20%	35%

<i>Persons Under Supervision</i>	<i>FY 2018</i>	<i>FY 2019</i>
Pretrial Services (and Diversion)	689	815
Post-Conviction	3,682	3,804

District Initiatives

During FY 2019, the office continued its community outreach efforts to raise public awareness about safety, familiarize the public with the mission and responsibility of the agency, and assist non-profit organizations within the District. During FY 2019, the office held a total of 22 outreach activities to schools and colleges, a private company, public agencies, and the community.

Training and Professional Development

The office provided 29 in-house training sessions to employees, and staff also participated in 38 training events outside of the jurisdiction.

Space Initiatives

In FY 2019, the office completed its Integrated Workplace Initiative construction, which accommodates more employees; supports mobility; and incorporates an open plan, collaborative spaces, interview rooms, urinalysis operations, and a specialized training area

Report for the District of Rhode Island

Committee Membership

Clerk of Court Hanorah Tyer-Witek served on the First Circuit Judicial Council IT Committee.

Chief Deputy Clerk Frank Perry continued to serve on the District Best Practices Working Group - Technology Subgroup and served as faculty for the FJC's New Deputy Court Unit Executive (CUE) and Experienced Deputy CUE programs. In addition, he was selected to serve as faculty for the FJC's Workplace Relations program, Civility in the Workplace.

IT Director Heather Restifo served as Co-Chair of the Court IT Operations Working Group until September 2019, continuing active membership thereafter, and took part in the Judiciary Data and Analysis Office Data Security Categorization Project Working Group.

Court Services Manager Michael Simoncelli was selected to serve on the AO's Restitution Expert Panel Working Group.

Alternative Criminal Case Programs

Deferred Sentencing Program: There were seven participants in the program at the end of 2019, three of whom graduated and received non-prison sentences.

HOPE Court: In 2019, nine individuals joined and two individuals graduated from the Helping Offenders Prepare for reEntry (HOPE) program.

Human Resources/Staffing

In 2019, the District promoted Operations Generalist Carrie Potter to Courtroom Deputy

and hired IT Staff Member Patrick McGourty and Operations Generalist Alyson Hicks.

Conferences/Educational Programs

Attorney Admissions Program: In 2019, 80 new attorneys were admitted to the District's bar, and the Court's Board of Bar Admissions was renamed the Board of Bar Admissions and Attorney Education to reflect its new focus on attorney education.

Litigation Academy: The District, in partnership with the Roger Williams University School of Law and the Rhode Island chapter of the Federal Bar Association (FBA), continued its Litigation Academy, a program designed to improve attorneys' federal litigation skills, with sessions on opening statements, closing arguments, and deposition skills, in May and December, respectively.

2019 District Conference: In October 2019, the Court hosted a conference for the federal bench and bar on "The Independence of the Judiciary," which featured leaders in criminal and civil justice reform and immigration.

Local Rules/Procedures

In December, the Court adopted 48 amendments to its Local Rules, most of which removed rules that conflicted with the federal rules or were no longer reflective of practice before the Court.

Information Technology

The IT Department undertook several projects, including increasing data security, procuring and implementing courthouse infrastructure upgrades, implementing

technological improvements to internal chambers workflow, and moving the email system to the cloud.

Case Management

The Clerk's Office entered into acceptance of service agreements with the Commissioner of Social Security, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Rhode Island Attorney General. The Court revised its CJA and Jury Selection Plans.

Staff Training

Clerk's Office staff were represented at all AO-sponsored forums in 2019. Internally, staff conducted workplace conduct training with First Circuit Director of Workplace Relations Christine Guthery, and Clerk's Office, chambers, and U.S. Probation staff attended a District Service Excellence Retreat in Middletown.

Community Outreach

Civic Education Programs: In partnership with the FBA Rhode Island chapter, the Court conducted four civic education programs for elementary, middle, and high school students, including a mock trial and a sentencing exercise.

Special Naturalization Ceremonies: Judge McConnell presided over a special naturalization ceremony at the Paw Sox Stadium in Pawtucket, and Magistrate Judge Almond presided over a special naturalization ceremony at Slater Mill National Historic Site.

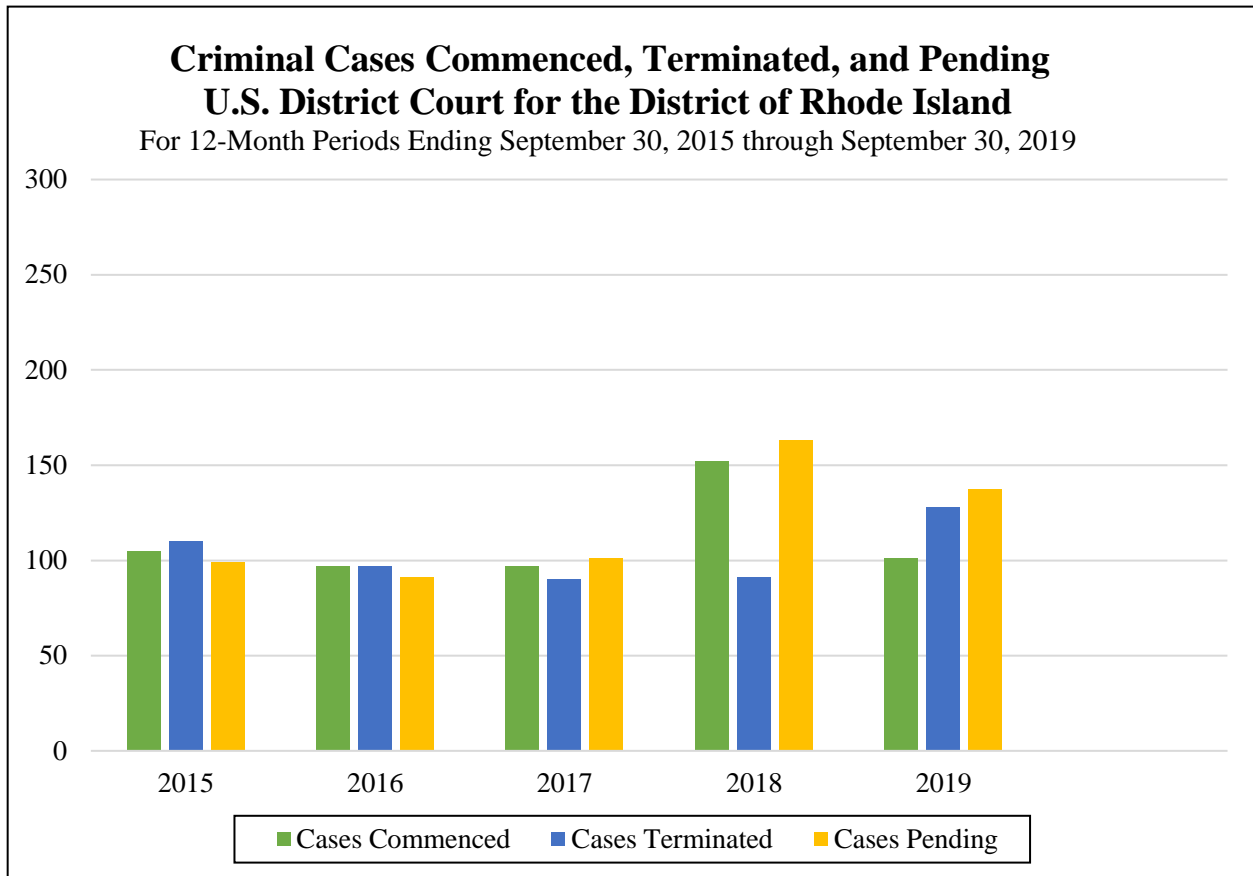
Motion Hearing at Roger Williams Law School: In February 2019, Judge McConnell heard motions in the law school auditorium and then took questions from the students in attendance.

Special Ceremonies

In 2019, Chief Judge Smith swore in U.S. Marshal Wing Chau and U.S. Attorney Aaron Weismann

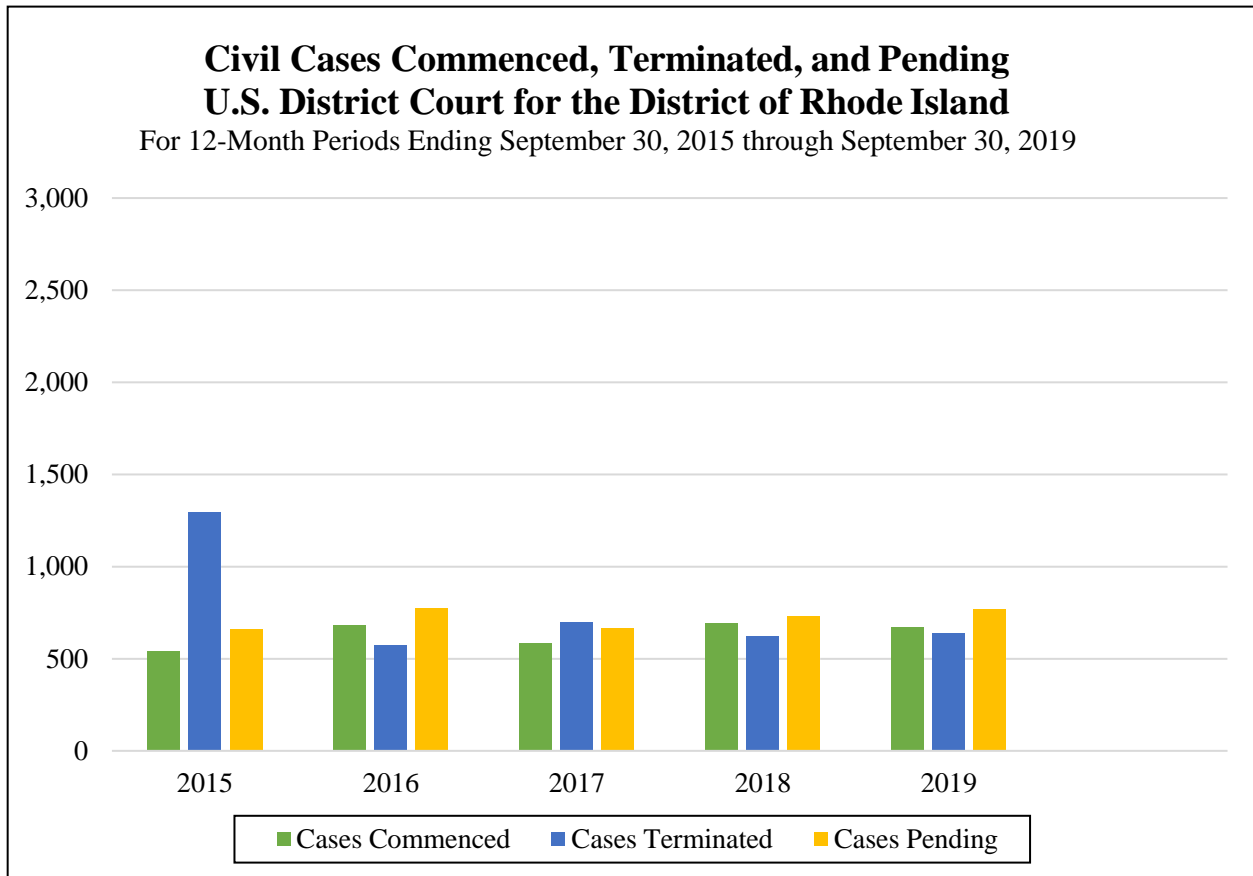
Space and Facilities Construction/Consolidation

In 2019, the Court completed a major fiber backbone replacement project and data closet air conditioning project, necessary for its courtroom technology initiative.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending
U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	105	97	97	152	101
Cases Terminated	110	97	90	91	128
Cases Pending	99	91	101	163	137



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	539	684	585	690	670
Cases Terminated	1,293	573	698	621	637
Cases Pending*	661	774	662	731	765

* Pending cases for 2015 - 2017 as revised by the AO.

**Probation & Pretrial Services Office
District of Rhode Island**

Personnel

Andrea Edgar was promoted to Drug, Alcohol, and Mental Health Treatment Specialist.

Pretrial Services

In 2019, the office activated 156 new cases, a 4% decrease from 2018. The District's pretrial release rate for FY 2019 was 48.8%, compared to the national average of 25%. On average, the PPSO supervised 82 pretrial defendants each month, a 13% increase from 2018. During FY 2019, there was one felony re-arrest violation and one failure to appear violation, with 19 pretrial supervision violations and five pretrial diversion investigations completed.

Presentence Investigations

The PPSO completed 130 presentence investigations, a 5% increase from 2018, and continued to make referrals for placement in the Deferred Sentencing Program. The District completed 21 updated presentence reports to determine eligibility for resentencing, in accordance with the First Step Act of 2018.

Post-Conviction Supervision

In 2019, the office supervised an average of 409 offenders per month. At the end of 2019, 412 individuals were on supervision: 54 on probation, 357 on supervised release, and one on parole. The District's revocation rate increased, from 22.2% in FY 2018 to 28% in FY 2019, and was below the FY 2019 national average of 31.4%.

The District utilized a total of \$24,745 in Second Chance funds for housing, education, employment, transportation, and other

miscellaneous items for moderate to high risk persons under supervision.

In 2019, the District implemented a search team and appointed Justin Albergaria and Jason Whitlock as search team coordinators.

Treatment Services

Treatment services costs for pretrial services cases increased 26% in 2019, but costs for post-conviction services decreased 12%.

After accounting for copayments from defendants and offenders, the total cost of treatment services for substance abuse, mental health, and sex offender treatment for pretrial and post-conviction cases incurred by the District decreased by 6% in 2019.

The office requested that one treatment provider create a cognitive model group to address criminal thinking patterns, which the office now offers in addition to Moral Reconciliation Therapy groups to persons under supervision.

District Initiatives

In 2019, there were five active participants in the Court's Deferred Sentencing Program, which provides eligible defendants with a framework of supervision and services in lieu of incarceration. In conjunction with the program, the District joined 12 other districts in studying federal Alternative-to-Incarceration (ATI) Courts to help measure pretrial supervision outcomes and evaluate the costs and benefits of ATI programs.

The HOPE Court, which supports high risk offenders with intensive supervision strategies and targeted services, served as the model reentry Court for the FJC's Quality Improvement Program, and operated with an

average of ten participants, with two participants graduating in 2019.

In 2019, the District was selected as one of two districts for the FJC's Supervising Officers in an Evidence-Based Environment program, a year-long program that provides supervisors with education and training to more effectively support supervision of defendants and offenders and to ensure that supervision corresponds with evidence-based practices.

Professional Development and Training

Chief U.S. Probation Officer John Marshall was selected as a member of the Probation and Pretrial Services Office's Post-Conviction Procedures Working Group, which is working to create efficient procedures and practices for post-conviction supervision. He was also selected to serve on the Staffing Formula Steering Group, which provides guidance to the AO in developing a national staffing formula for PPSOs.

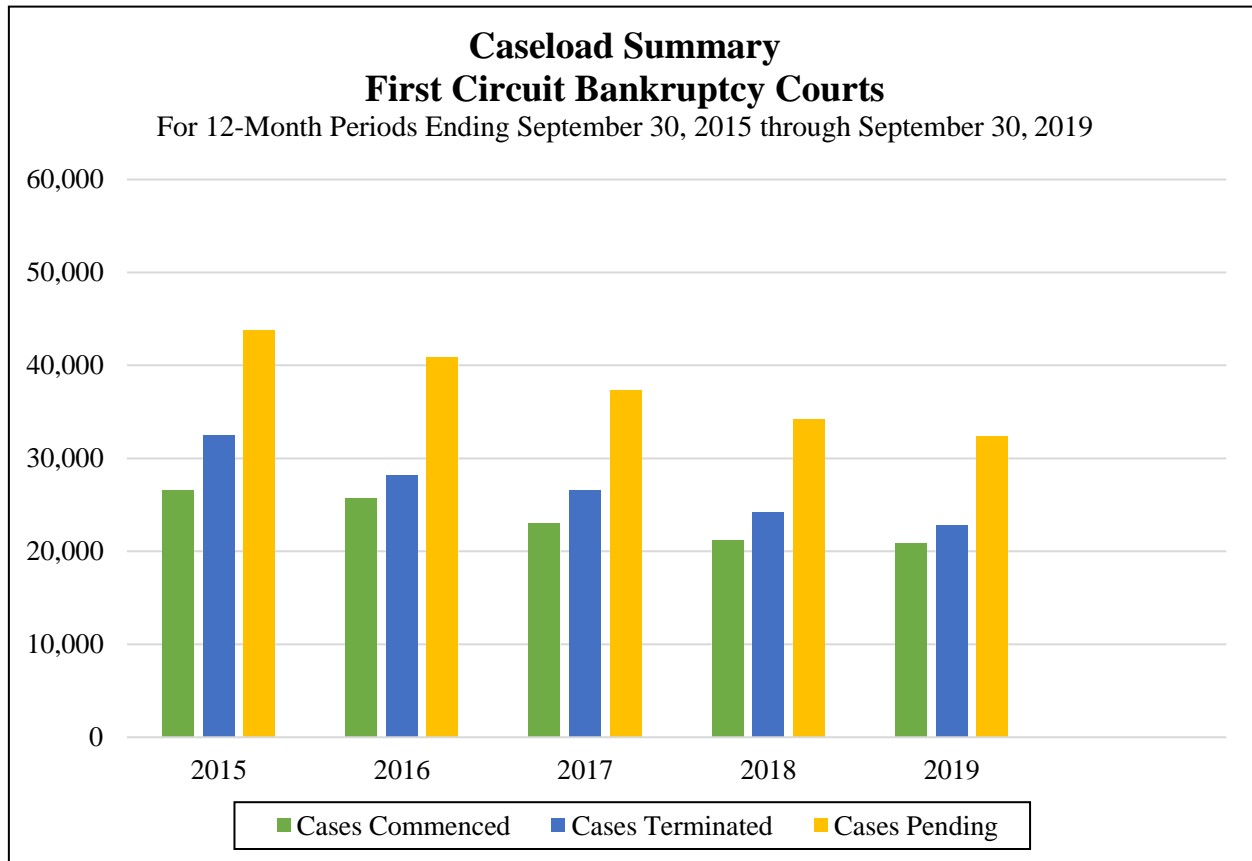
Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Heather Maloney was chosen to be a member of the First Step Act Working Group, which assists the PPSO with identifying the aspects of the First Step Act that may impact probation officers' workload.

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Amie Blanchette served a two-week temporary duty assignment in the District of Alaska to assist that district with the supervision of defendants and offenders.

Staff participated as attendees and/or presenters, in several national, regional, and local training seminars on topics such as STARR, firearms, Critical Stress Management, search and seizure, and sex offenders. Staff also attended Lessons from

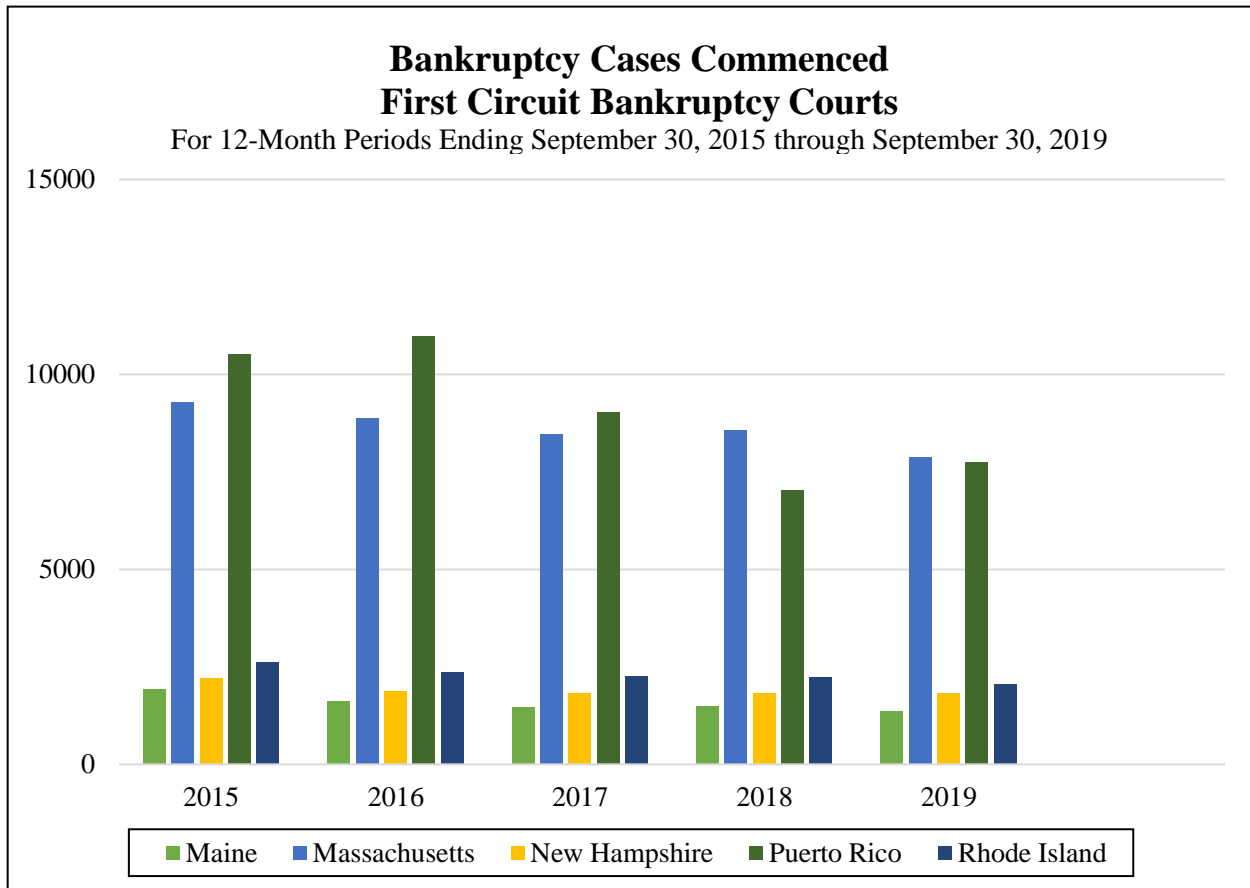
Eisenhower and Churchill Leadership Training, FJC Trauma Informed Justice, National Information Standards Conference, and Federal Probation and Pretrial Services Officer Association Seminar. Additionally, staff members participated in program reviews for other districts.

Statistical Report for the Bankruptcy Courts in the First Circuit

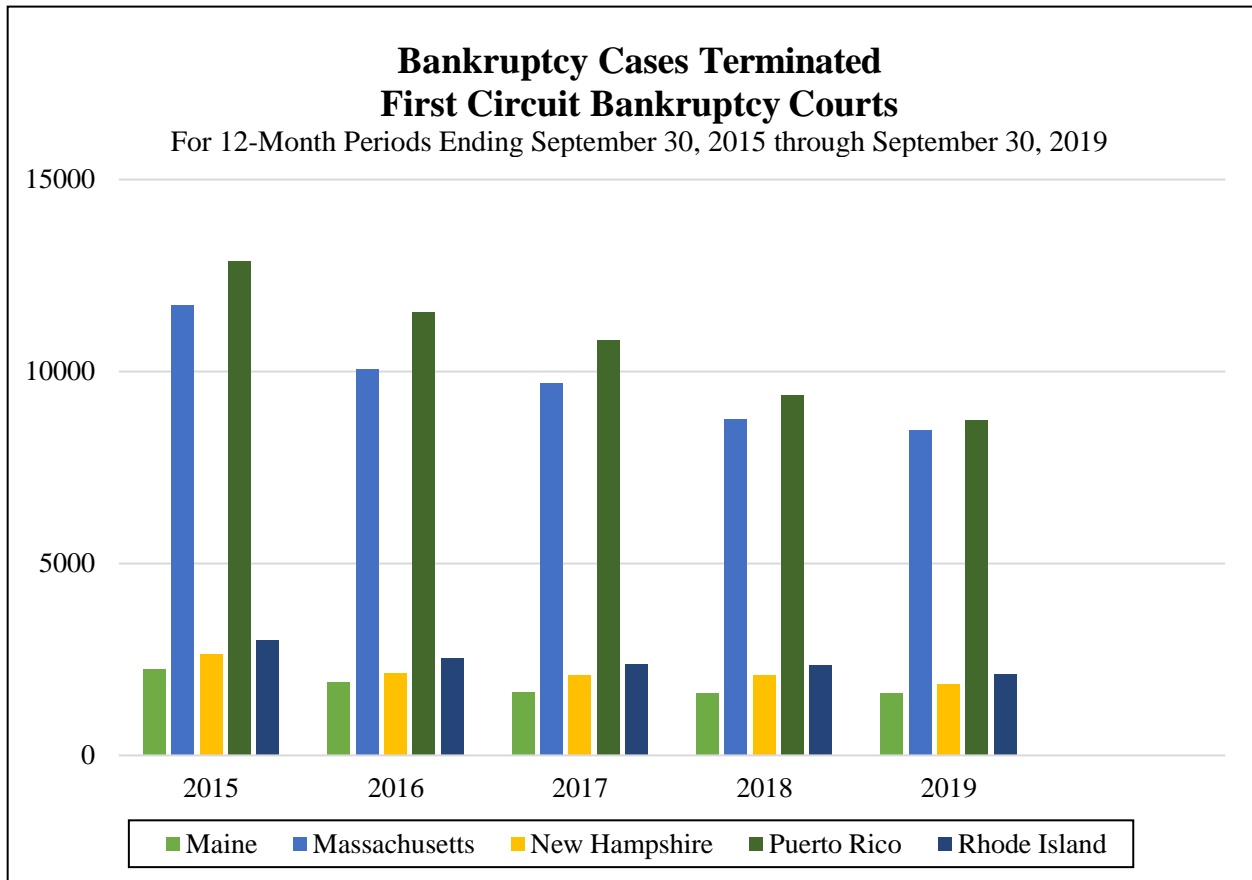


Caseload Summary First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	26,565	25,701	23,038	21,145	20,884
Cases Terminated	32,484	28,180	26,600	24,221	22,793
Cases Pending*	43,815	40,868	37,321	34,248	32,297

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

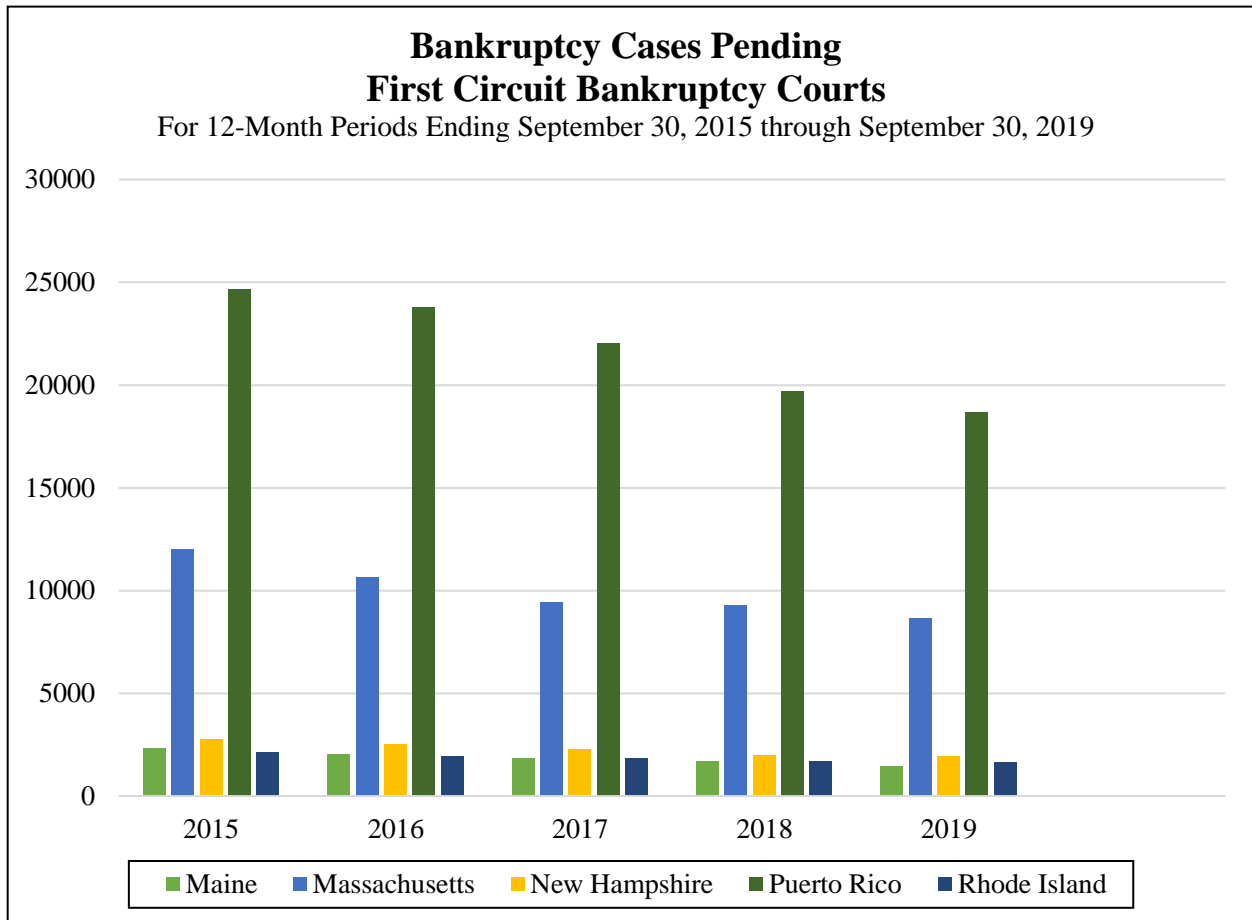


Bankruptcy Cases Commenced First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	1,930	1,613	1,450	1,497	1,362
Massachusetts	9,280	8,873	8,458	8,556	7,883
New Hampshire	2,211	1,878	1,840	1,812	1,836
Puerto Rico	10,533	10,973	9,028	7,038	7,756
Rhode Island	2,611	2,364	2,262	2,242	2,047



**Bankruptcy Cases Terminated
First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts**
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019

District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	2,244	1,896	1,657	1,633	1,618
Massachusetts	11,724	10,054	9,681	8,748	8,465
New Hampshire	2,633	2,146	2,082	2,093	1,868
Puerto Rico	12,882	11,543	10,813	9,386	8,728
Rhode Island	3,001	2,541	2,367	2,361	2,114



Bankruptcy Cases Pending*					
First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
District	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Maine	2,315	2,020	1,816	1,680	1,423
Massachusetts	11,969	10,650	9,433	9,244	8,661
New Hampshire	2,768	2,494	2,252	1,971	1,939
Puerto Rico	24,660	23,794	22,012	19,664	18,651
Rhode Island	2,103	1,910	1,808	1,689	1,623

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

Business Bankruptcy Filings, by chapter First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2019				
District	chapter 7	chapter 11	chapter 12	chapter 13
Maine	47	13	3	8
Massachusetts	220	66	9	26
New Hampshire	45	14	2	12
Puerto Rico	68	84	18	36
Rhode Island	61	3	0	4

Nonbusiness Bankruptcy Filings, by chapter First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2019			
District	chapter 7	chapter 11	chapter 13
Maine	1,082	2	207
Massachusetts	4,794	31	2,737
New Hampshire	1,274	1	488
Puerto Rico	2,924	31	4,595
Rhode Island	1,512	1	466

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine

Human Resources/Staffing

The Bankruptcy Court continues to share administrative services (human resources, procurement, budgeting, space and facilities, payables, and IT) with the District Court.

Information Technology

The Court transitioned to MS Outlook and migrated to Windows 10. The Court formed a district-wide IT Security Committee and continued to work on standardizing IT policies and to improve IT security. Additionally, the Court began preparing for national Cloud/View hosted services, National SharePoint, and the NextGen conversion process.

Space and Facilities

The Bangor Clerk's Office cubicles were replaced, and new cabinets were installed at the front counter. A mediation suite was completed and used for the first time in the visiting judge's chambers at the Portland office.

Local Rules

The Court hosted five Local Rules Committee meetings, resulting in changes to Local Rules 1020-1, 2016-2, 3002-1(e), 30017-1, 3015-1, 3015-3 and 9045-1.

Conferences/Educational Program

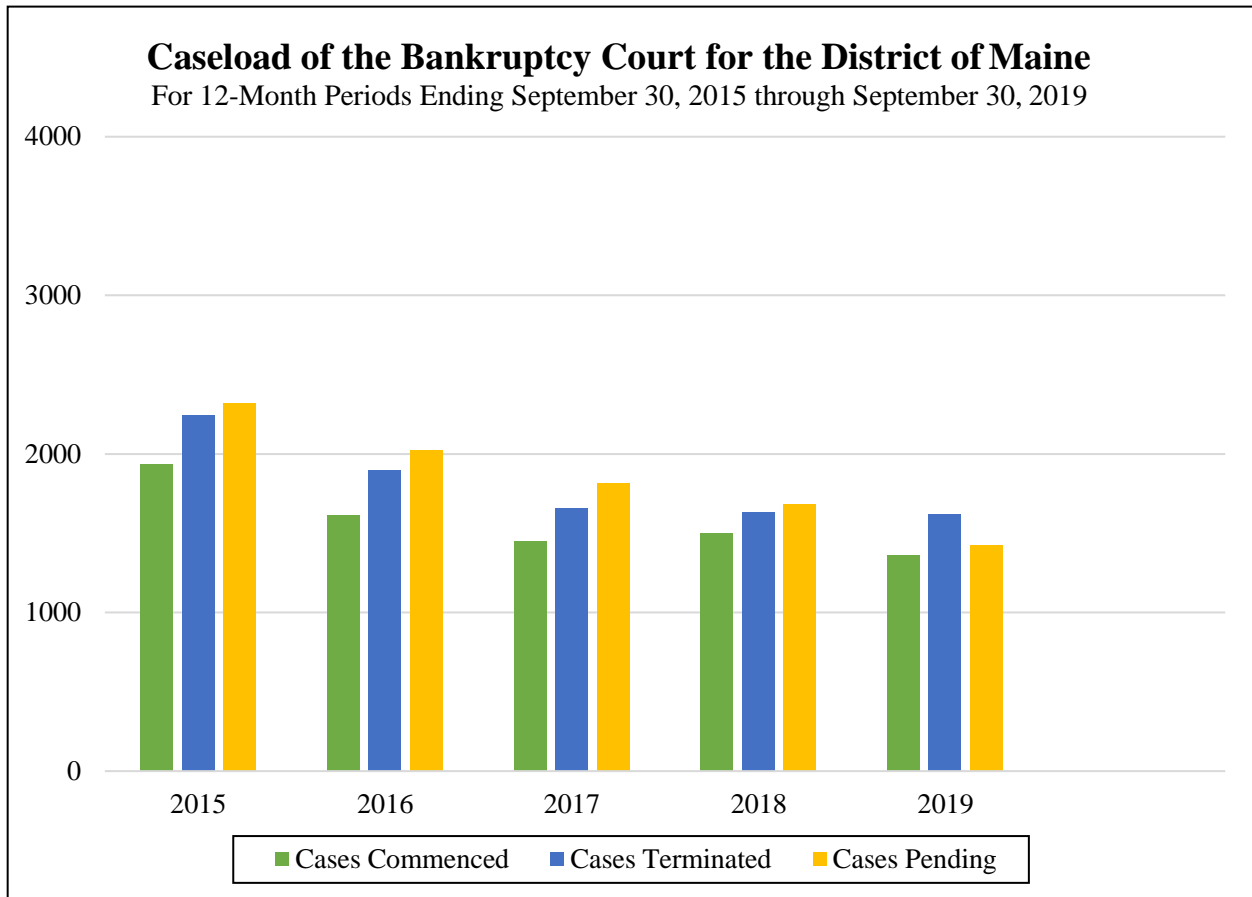
Court staff attended various programs and trainings, including, but not limited to, the 2019 National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks annual meeting, the Association of Bankruptcy Judicial Assistants annual meeting, a retirement training in Boston, the Clerk/Chief Deputy conference in

Indianapolis, Circuit Security Training, and the First Circuit Workplace Conduct meeting. The Court also had several security trainings.

Community Outreach

Chief Judge Cary and the Court participated in community outreach to students at various levels of education to discuss career opportunities, the judicial system, and civil discourse. These programs included an eighth-grade student field trip to the Bankruptcy Court through Jobs for Maine's Graduates, the Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions Program with Greeley High School, and the PreLaw Undergraduate Scholars Program at the University of Maine School of Law.

The Court remained active in CARE, a national financial literacy program through which bankruptcy professionals, including judges, clerk's office staff, and practicing attorneys, educate young adults on budgeting, saving, and obtaining and using credit responsibly.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	1,930	1,613	1,450	1,497	1,362
Cases Terminated	2,244	1,896	1,657	1,633	1,618
Cases Pending*	2,315	2,020	1,816	1,680	1,423

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts

Human Resources/Staffing

Chief Deputy Clerk Judith P. Crossen announced her retirement in September 2019. Her replacement, Ann M. Fox, began her tenure on December 1, 2019.

Statistics

Filings in calendar year 2019 decreased by 11.2%, from 8,582 new cases in 2018 to 7,622 in 2019; pending cases decreased by 5.2%, from 9,032 in 2018 to 8,562 in 2019.

Community Outreach

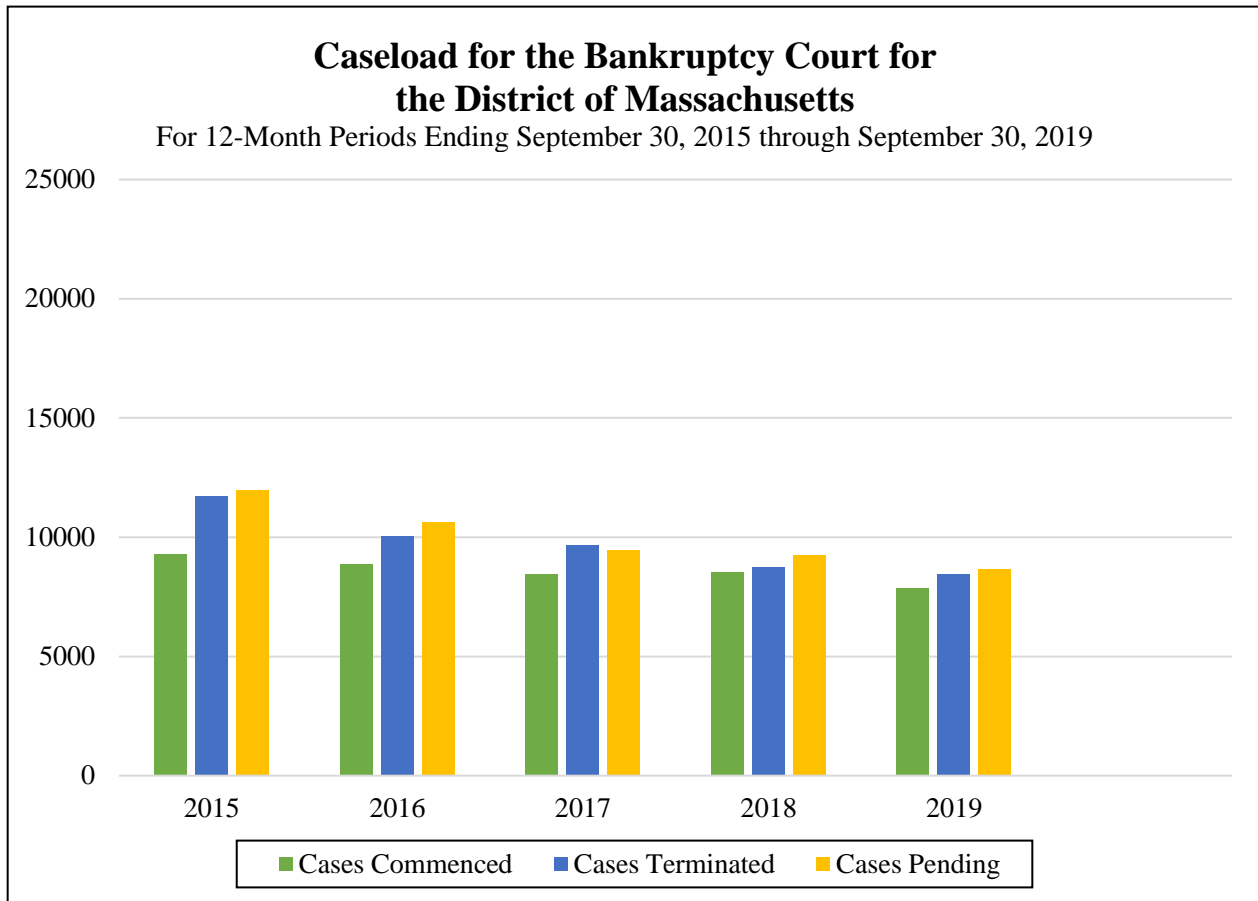
The bankruptcy judges and Clerk of Court served as panelists on local, regional, and national programs presented by Massachusetts MCLE, the BBA, the Practicing Law Institute, the NCBJ, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, the ABI, Hamden County Bar Association, area law schools, and the ABA. The Court's Pro Bono Committee, chaired by Judge Katz and Clerk Molly Sharon, continued its efforts to increase the number of attorneys available to accept pro bono cases from people in financial distress. The Court's Diversity Initiative Task Force, co-chaired by Chief Judge Panos and Judge Bailey, continued to work and meet with local bar associations, law schools, and affinity groups to increase the diversity of attorneys who practice bankruptcy law.

Local Rules

Co-chaired by Chief Judge Panos and Judge Hoffman, the Local Rules Advisory Committee met quarterly to review and discuss proposed modifications and improvements to the Local Rules. A rules modernization subcommittee continued to review the Local Rules in their entirety, and ultimately the Committee will finalize all new and amended rules and forms.

Space and Facilities

The Court engaged in routine maintenance, renovated the kitchen, and a remodeled a section of the intake area to be an internal multi-purpose room.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	9,280	8,873	8,458	8,556	7,883
Cases Terminated	11,724	10,054	9,681	8,748	8,465
Cases Pending*	11,969	10,650	9,433	9,244	8,661

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire

Human Resources/Staffing

The Bankruptcy and District Courts continued to share human resources, IT, and procurement services. In December, Dana Bauer stepped down as the Director of IT and Robert Birdsey, from the U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire, assumed the Director role. Nathaniel Armstrong filled the role of IT Security Officer in May. The Clerk's Office had two more veteran staff members retire in September.

Local Rules/Procedure

The Court adopted Administrative Order 3012-1 and Local Bankruptcy Forms 3012-1C and 3012-1D in April, and it revised Administrative Order 5005-4 and Local Bankruptcy Form 5005-4 in July. In December, the Court repealed Local Bankruptcy Rule 9037-1, adopted Administrative Order 9037-1, and adopted amendments to Interim Bankruptcy Rule 1007-1 and Local Bankruptcy Forms 1009-1B and 9037-1.

With the implementation of NextGen CM/ECF, the Clerk's Office updated its procedure for issuing logins and passwords to filing users.

Information Technology

In January, the District of New Hampshire migrated from Lotus Notes email to Microsoft Outlook and began the process of implementing NextGen CM/ECF. The District of New Hampshire transitioned to NextGen CM/ECF version 1.3 in November.

Staff Training

The Clerk's Office continued to focus on training new operations and courtroom staff,

which will continue over the next number of years as more staff prepare for retirement.

Employees were able to attend numerous training programs including the Court Unit Executive and Chief Deputy Clerk training in San Juan and the NextGen CM/ECF Workshop. An operations staff member also attended the CM/ECF Dictionary class in San Antonio. IT staff training included the Network Operations Center Mentoring Program, PaAM User Training, and Creston Training.

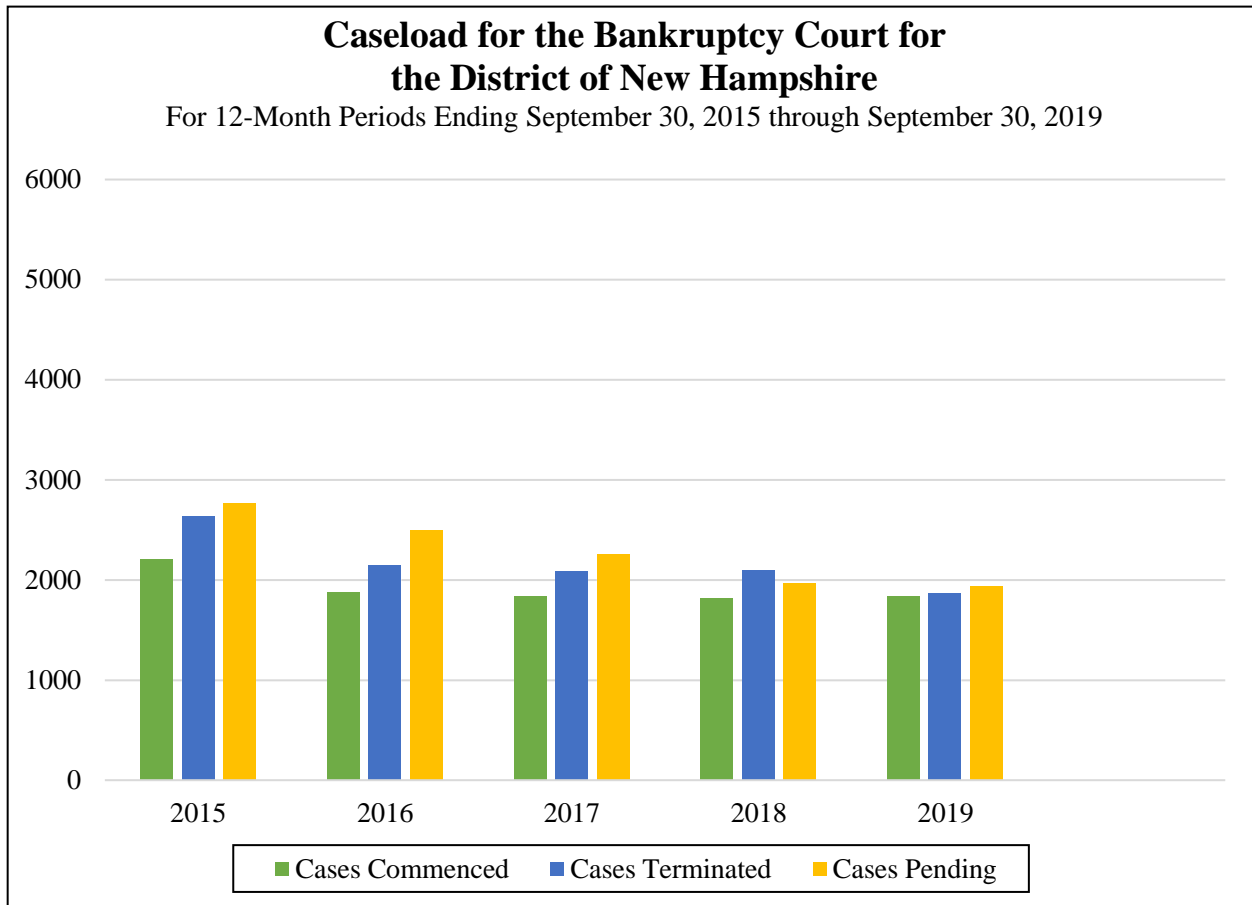
Community Outreach

In December, Court employees participated in the Capital Region Food Program's 46th annual Holiday Food Basket Project. The Capital Region Food Program is a private, not-for-profit, all volunteer organization which seeks to help reduce hunger in the greater Concord, New Hampshire area through the distribution of food to individuals, families, and local agencies.

The Court collected various items, such as clothing, personal care items, and gift cards, to donate to the Concord Coalition to End Homelessness, which has an emergency winter shelter, a housing program, and a daytime resource center that provides showers, laundry facilities, and caseworker support to guests.

Space and Facilities

Much of Chief Judge Harwood's chambers experienced a flood that displaced staff. The area underwent emergency water removal and mold remediation. Reconstruction and repair of the walls, trim, and bookcases, and carpet replacement are scheduled to begin in March 2020.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	2,211	1,878	1,840	1,812	1,836
Cases Terminated	2,633	2,146	2,082	2,093	1,868
Cases Pending*	2,768	2,494	2,252	1,971	1,939

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico

Local Rules/Procedures

The following local rules and forms were adopted during this year:

- Effective June 28, 2019, through General Order 19-01 the Court adopted PR LBR 2016-1 (f) thereby amending LBR 2016-1. Effective November 27, 2019, the Court amended Local Form B for the Application to request the withdrawal of unclaimed funds.

Information Technology

The Court upgraded cameras and other equipment in the San Juan courtrooms and the Ponce training room. Court users migrated to Microsoft Office 365. IT updated the CM/ECF system to version 5.3.1. and enrolled in AO hosted cloud services. The Court completed the Judiciary IT Security Self-Assessment Program Scorecard in December 2019. The Bankruptcy Court also provided technical CM/ECF support to the District Court to assist with management of the PROMESA case.

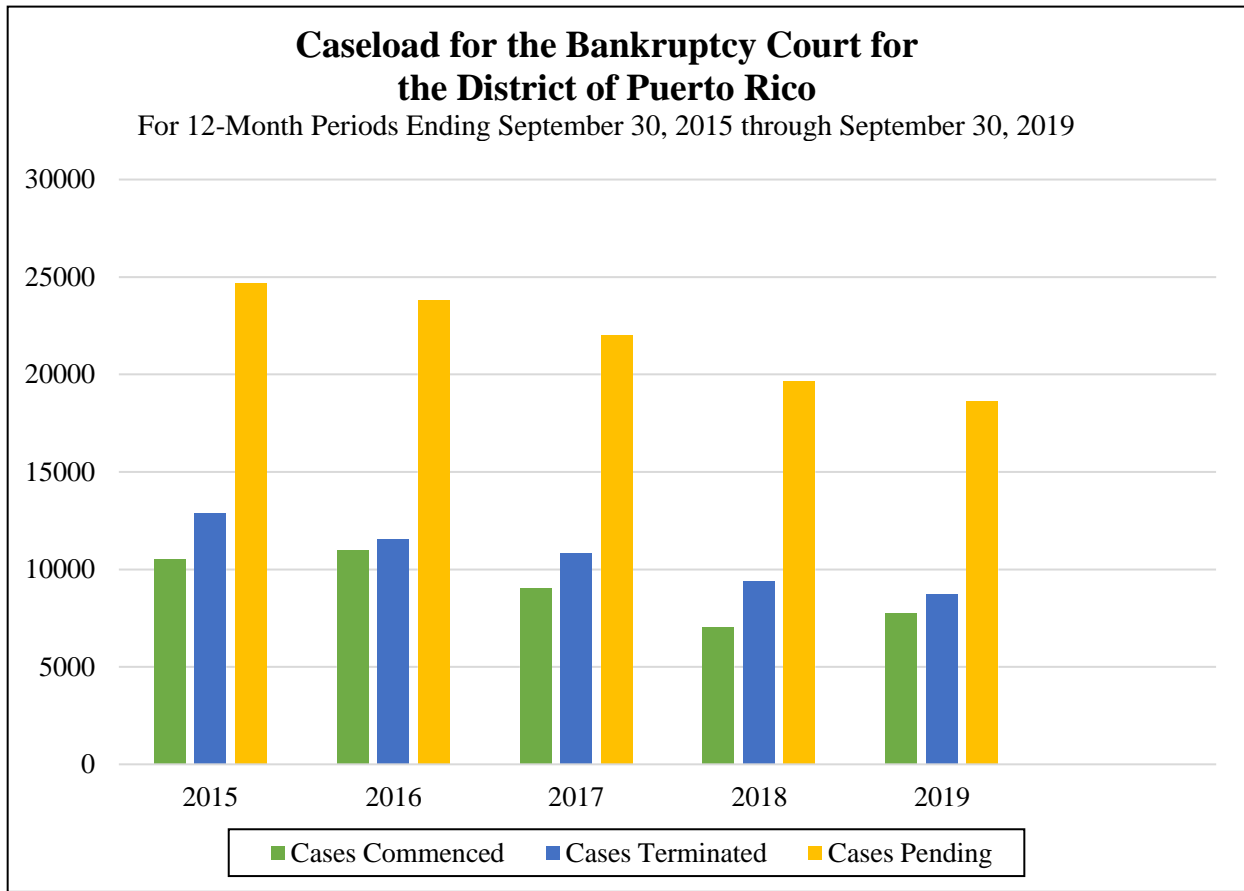
Case Management

The Court deployed the online Operations Manual for court services and case management procedures, which provides staff the ability to search for individual judges' procedures and includes reference materials. The manual was implemented as a resource for the new work distribution model that moved staff from working in a single team for the four judges to separate teams for each judge.

Staff Training

All staff completed required IT security awareness, ethics, and Microsoft Applications

trainings. Staff participated in a program regarding Dominance, Influence, Steadiness and Conscientiousness (DISC), a behavior assessment tool based on four different personality traits. Staff attended an FJC training on preventing workplace harassment. The Court offered quarterly Employee Assistance Program (EAP) presentations. Financial and procurement staff were also trained on appropriations law, small purchases procedures, and contracting. Court personnel attended trainings and conferences, including the Experienced Deputy Court Unit Executive Program, Advance Certifying Officer Training, HR Forum, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks, and Court Unit Executive and Chief Deputy Operational/Administrative Training.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	10,533	10,973	9,028	7,038	7,756
Cases Terminated	12,882	11,543	10,813	9,386	8,728
Cases Pending*	24,660	23,794	22,012	19,664	18,651

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island

Human Resources

The Bankruptcy Court shared procurement administrative services with the District Court and continued to partner with the New Hampshire Bankruptcy Court to perform annual internal controls reviews.

Staff Training

Court staff attended various conferences, including, but not limited to: the First Circuit CUE Conference; the Pro Se Conference; IT Security Training; 2019 Human Resources Forum; CUE Leadership Seminar; 2019 Court Unit Executive and Deputies Operational/Administrative Conference; and workforce relations training.

After a five-year period of study in court administration and a Capstone project, four Clerk's Office staff graduated and received certificates in Court Administration from the University of Michigan.

Committee Membership

Clerk of Court Susan Thurston served as a member of the AO's Judiciary Data Working Group, a member of the Bankruptcy Clerks Advisory Group's Rules Subcommittee, faculty for the FJC's New CUE Leadership Seminar, and clerk representative board member for the FBA Bankruptcy Law Section.

Federal and Local Rule and Form Changes

The Bankruptcy Court issued amended Local Rules, forms, and related training materials to implement the requirements of the Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019.

Information Technology

The IT team implemented numerous upgrades to CM/ECF. The Court migrated the existing on-premises SharePoint 2016 to the 2019 platform. The Court also completed its annual self-assessment of the IT security environment using the judiciary IT Security Scorecard and implemented 22 IT security policies.

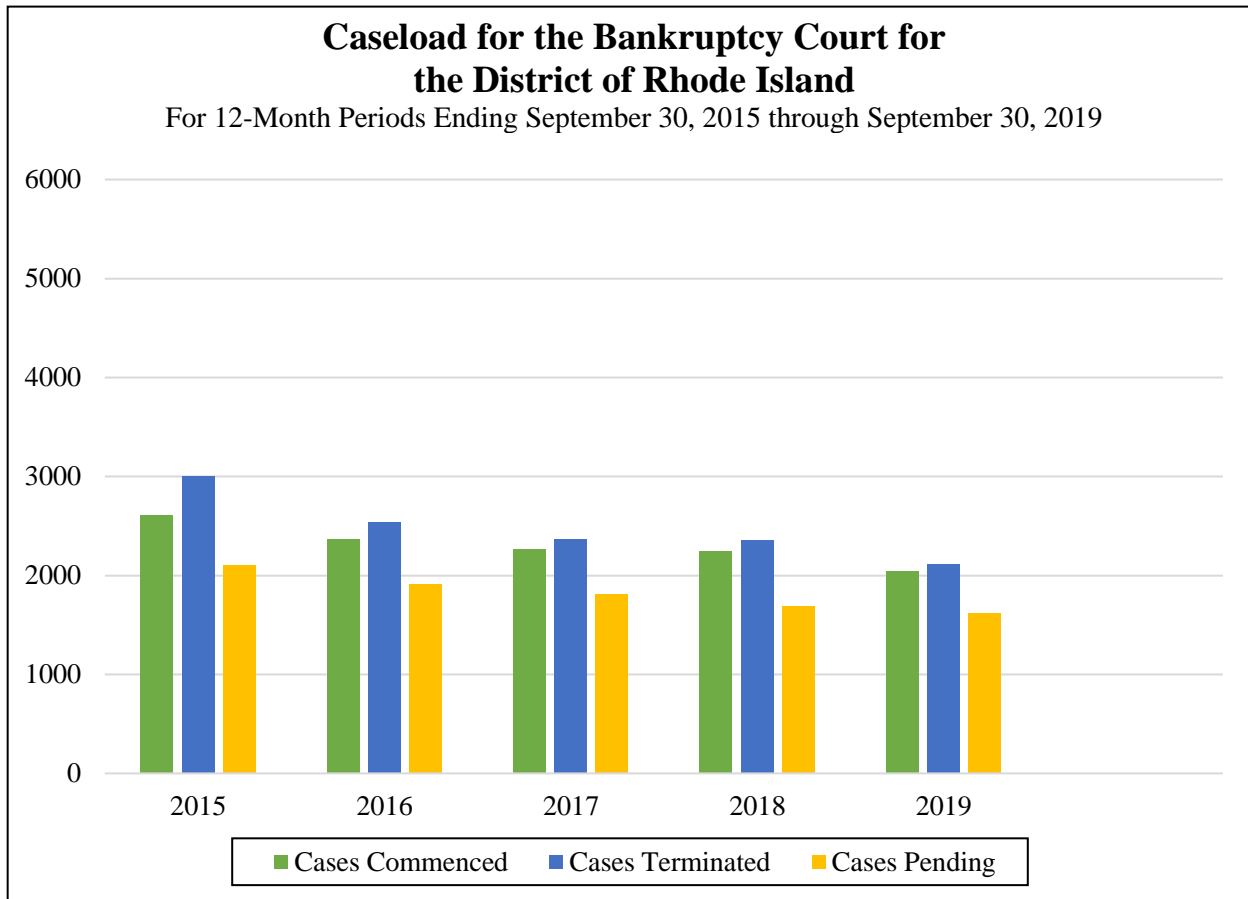
Case Management

The Court partnered with Language Line Services to provide over-the-phone language interpretation services for self-represented litigants and those with pro bono counsel appearing in the Bankruptcy Court. Telephonic interpreting services may be available for court proceedings as well as for conducting business with the Clerk's Office at the intake counter or over the telephone. The Court also updated the Court Resources Manual and began an Electronic Bankruptcy Noticing marketing effort to reduce the cost of bankruptcy noticing.

Community Outreach

In December 2019, Judge Finkle and members of the Clerk's Office met with the bankruptcy bar to receive input and suggestions on improving bankruptcy court operations and procedures.

The Court continued to operate its free bankruptcy legal clinic for the benefit of unrepresented parties and is thankful to have an excellent panel of volunteer attorneys serving the clinic's needs.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2019					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cases Commenced	2,611	2,364	2,262	2,242	2,047
Cases Terminated	3,001	2,541	2,367	2,361	2,114
Cases Pending*	2,103	1,910	1,808	1,689	1,623

* Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2018 as revised by the AO.

Judicial Administration

The Judicial Conference of the United States

The present administrative structure of the federal court system is less than a century old. Originally, the individual judges were the de facto administrators of the court system. In the 1870s, the Office of the Attorney General of the United States was given a large degree of administrative responsibility for running the court system. This designation of authority was the earliest attempt at providing centralized management for the courts. The Office of the Attorney General maintained a centralized bookkeeping system and attempted to ensure that the courts worked expeditiously and efficiently.

In 1922, the Judicial Conference of the United States was formally created. It was intended that the Judicial Conference would assume a major share of administrative responsibility for the running of the federal courts.

The Judicial Conference is statutorily required: to make a comprehensive survey of the conditions of business in the courts of the United States; to prepare plans for the assignment of judges to or from courts of appeals or district courts, where necessary; to submit suggestions to the various courts to promote uniformity of management procedures and the expeditious conduct of court business; to exercise authority provided in chapter 16 of Title 28 of the United States Code for the review of circuit council conduct and disability orders filed under that chapter; and to carry on a continuous study of the operation and effect of the general rules of practice and procedure in use within the federal courts, as prescribed by the Supreme Court pursuant to law. See 28 U.S.C. § 331.

The Judicial Conference meets twice a year, in March and September. The Judicial Conference's members are the Chief Justice of the United States presiding, the chief judges of each of the circuit courts of appeal, the Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of International Trade, and one elected district judge from each of the 12 regional circuits. The Conference works mostly through its committees and is staffed by employees from the AO.

At the March 2019 and September 2019 Judicial Conferences, AO Director James C. Duff reported on judicial business and AO matters; FJC Director John S. Cooke spoke about FJC programs; and Judge Charles R. Breyer, of the Northern District of California, reported on USSC activities in his role as Commissioner. Also at the March 2019 Judicial Conference, Judge Susan R. Bolton, of the District of Arizona, reported on the judiciary's achievement of its three percent national space reduction target and continuing space reduction initiatives, in her role as Chair of the Committee on Space and Facilities.

**First Circuit Judges Serving on the Judicial Conference,
Judicial Conference Committees, Special Courts, and Boards**
[Generally, terms begin and expire on October 1 of the year noted.]

MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Jeffrey R. Howard	CJ	First Circuit	2019	Open

COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BANKRUPTCY SYSTEM

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Gustavo A. Gelpí	DJ	Puerto Rico	2013	2019

COMMITTEE ON CODES OF CONDUCT

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
John J. McConnell, Jr.	DJ	Rhode Island	2017	2023

COMMITTEE ON COURT ADMINISTRATION AND CASE MANAGEMENT

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Leo Sorokin	DJ	Massachusetts	2018	2021
Patricia A. Sullivan	MJ	Rhode Island	2016	2022

COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL LAW

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Indira Talwani	DJ	Massachusetts	2016	2022

COMMITTEE ON DEFENDER SERVICES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Landya B. McCafferty	DJ	New Hampshire	2015	2021

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Rya W. Zobel	DJ	Massachusetts	2013	2019

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL-STATE JURISDICTION

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Timothy S. Hillman	DJ	Massachusetts	2013	2019

COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
O. Rogeriee Thompson	CJ	First Circuit	2014	2020

COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL RELATIONS

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Richard G. Stearns	DJ	Massachusetts	2014	2020

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL RESOURCES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
William E. Smith	DJ	Rhode Island	2018	2021

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL SECURITY

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Denise J. Casper	DJ	Massachusetts	2015	2020

COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MAGISTRATE JUDGES SYSTEM

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Mark G. Mastroianni	DJ	Massachusetts	2017	2023
John H. Rich III	MJ	Maine	2018	2021

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON BANKRUPTCY RULES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Melvin S. Hoffman	BJ	Massachusetts	2016	2022

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RULES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Jennifer C. Boal	MJ	Massachusetts	2018	2021

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL RULES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Bruce J. McGiverin	MJ	Puerto Rico	2017	2023

COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
William J. Kayatta, Jr.	CJ	First Circuit	2018	2021

COMMITTEE ON SPACE AND FACILITIES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
David J. Barron	CJ	First Circuit	2019	2022

First Circuit Judicial Conferences

Circuit judicial conferences are periodic circuit-wide meetings convened pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 333. A modification to this statute, which formerly mandated an annual conference, permits the circuit judicial conference to be held in alternate years. A 1996 modification of § 333 made attendance optional; formerly, active circuit and district judges were required to attend unless excused.

In the First Circuit, circuit judicial conferences are generally conducted in two different formats. One type of conference, a “workshop,” is designed primarily for judicial officers. In addition to the judges, others who attend include the Circuit Executive, senior court personnel, and representatives of the AO and the FJC. These conferences are organized by a committee of judges, appointed by the Chief Circuit Judge, with the assistance of the Circuit Executive and staff.

The other meeting format is the full-scale conference. Attendees at these conferences include those who attend the workshops and, pursuant to First Circuit Court of Appeals Local Rule 47.1, representatives from the districts, such as presidents of the state and commonwealth bar associations, deans of accredited law schools, state court chief justices, the public defenders, and the U.S. Attorneys. Public officials from the city and state in which the conference is held are also invited, as are a substantial number of lawyers who are members of the federal bar.

In planning the full-scale conference, the Judicial Council selects the approximate dates of the conference and assigns one of the districts in the Circuit to act as a host district. The Chief Circuit Judge appoints a Planning Committee to organize and conduct the conference. This planning is usually done one-and-a-half to two years prior to the conference.

The selection of the attorney invitees to a full-scale conference is handled in the following manner. After the Planning Committee has selected a site and received the approval of the Chief Circuit Judge, the number of invitees that the site can accommodate is determined, and a number of invites is assigned to each district (roughly based on the proportion of the number of judges in a given district to the total number of judges in the First Circuit, plus an allotment for the Court of Appeals). The district court chief judges, in consultation with their respective judges, supply lists of nominees to receive invitations. Based on these lists, invitations are then extended by the Chief Circuit Judge.

The Office of the Circuit Executive assists the Planning Committee in all aspects of its work. The Circuit Executive also provides the point of contact for continuity purposes, is the custodian of the Judicial Conference Fund, and serves as Secretary of the conference.

A judges' workshop was held on April 9-11, 2019, at the Wequasset Resort, in Harwich, Massachusetts.

Business of the First Circuit Judicial Council

Circuit judicial councils were created by Congress in 1939, along with the AO and circuit judicial conferences, to assist in the management of the courts. The Chief Circuit Judge presides over the Council, and its membership consists (in this Circuit) of all the active judges of the Court of Appeals and one district judge from each of the five districts in the Circuit. Each judicial council has administrative responsibility for all courts in its circuit. It is authorized to “make all necessary and appropriate orders for the effective and expeditious administration of justice within its circuit” 28 U.S.C. § 332(d).

Council meetings in the First Circuit are generally held twice a year. In 2019, there were two Judicial Council meetings. The spring Council meeting, held on April 11, took place at the Wequassett Resort, in Harwich, Massachusetts. The fall session, held on October 8, took place at the John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse. Many matters were decided by email vote between meetings.

One task of the Judicial Council involves the consideration of complaints of judicial disability or misconduct. An explanation of the Council’s role in these matters and a summary of final actions taken by the Council during 2019 are provided at pages 100-102.

Another primary task of the Judicial Council is to review caseload statistics of individual courts and judges. The Council undertakes this task, in part, with a view towards providing additional help where assistance is required.

Other Judicial Council actions taken during 2019 included: review of the federal judiciary’s budget; review of courthouse construction projects and expenditures; review of juror utilization, trials, and other court activity statistics; review of judicial vacancies; review of court security measures; review of privacy rules; and approval of bankruptcy judge assignments.

Members of the Judicial Council of the First Circuit
as of December 31, 2019

Honorable Jeffrey R. Howard, Chief Judge	Court of Appeals
Honorable Juan R. Torruella	Court of Appeals
Honorable Sandra L. Lynch	Court of Appeals
Honorable O. Rogeriee Thompson	Court of Appeals
Honorable William J. Kayatta, Jr.	Court of Appeals
Honorable David J. Barron	Court of Appeals
Honorable Jon D. Levy	District of Maine
Honorable Indira Talwani	District of Massachusetts
Honorable Joseph N. Laplante	District of New Hampshire
Honorable Pedro A. Delgado-Hernández	District of Puerto Rico
Honorable Mary McElroy	District of Rhode Island

Observing Members

Honorable Andrea K. Johnstone	District of New Hampshire Magistrate Judge
Honorable Diane Finkle	District of Rhode Island Bankruptcy Judge

Court Unit Executives

as of December 31, 2019

- FIRST CIRCUIT CLERKS OF COURT -

Maria Hamilton
Court of Appeals

Christa K. Berry
District of Maine

Robert Farrell
District of Massachusetts

Daniel Lynch
District of New Hampshire

Maria Antongiorgi
District of Puerto Rico

Hanorah E. Tyer-Witek
District of Rhode Island

- FIRST CIRCUIT BANKRUPTCY CLERKS OF COURT -

Alec Leddy
District of Maine

Mary P. Sharon
District of Massachusetts

Bonnie L. McAlary
District of New Hampshire

María de los Ángeles González
District of Puerto Rico

Susan M. Thurston
District of Rhode Island

- FIRST CIRCUIT CHIEFS OF PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES -
as of December 31, 2019

Kimberly Rieger
District of Maine

Ricardo R. Carter
District of Massachusetts

Jonathan E. Hurtig
District of New Hampshire

Luis O. Encarnacion Canales
District of Puerto Rico

John Marshall
District of Rhode Island

- FIRST CIRCUIT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDERS -

David Beneman
District of Maine

Miriam Conrad
Districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island

Eric Vos
District of Puerto Rico

Space and Facilities

Court of Appeals

Several cyclical maintenance projects were completed in 2019, including replacement of carpet in the Staff Attorneys' Office and other court areas at the Moakley Courthouse. A project was initiated to expand the footprint of the Clerk's Office conference room, which is anticipated to conclude in February of 2020. Judge Selya's law clerks in the Providence courthouse relocated to new space in the spring of 2019.

District of Maine

The District of Maine's Long-Range Facilities Plan, which recommended new construction in Portland, was finalized in March of 2019. The First Circuit Judicial Council endorsed Chief Judge Levy's request that the JCUS Space and Facilities Committee add Portland to the list of locations requiring a GSA feasibility study, which is the first step in a new courthouse construction prioritization process. The Council's request was submitted and will be reviewed by the JCUS Space and Facilities Committee in the spring of 2020.

The USMS funded design of enhanced screening stations in the Gignoux Courthouse and in PPSO space. PPSO construction was completed in the summer of 2019. The Gignoux screening station construction will begin in 2020.

A project was completed to modify existing Bankruptcy Court space in Portland, creating a more effective space for visiting judges and mediations. A project was funded to design and enhance the functions of the urinalysis laboratory in the Portland office. The full project will be completed in 2020. The District Court funded a project to convert its existing conference room into new office

space for four additional staff members. The project is expected to be completed in early 2020.

District of Massachusetts

GSA revisited the design of an additional security bollard wall at the base of Courthouse Way, which includes additional lights for the park. GSA secured the necessary funding, and the project will begin in 2020. Expansion of the Probation Office's existing testing lab and creation of a large interview room/multi-purpose area were completed in Taunton. The Probation Office in Springfield underwent construction to include secure interview rooms. The project will be completed in 2020.

District of New Hampshire

The District of New Hampshire participated in long-range planning sessions in September 2019. A design was developed to provide secure interview rooms and a urinalysis toilet in the Probation Office in Concord.

District of Puerto Rico

The Degetau Federal Building is one of nine judiciary-occupied facilities nationwide identified as at extremely high risk for seismic activity. GSA studied the potential impact of a seismic event and made recommendations to address the concerns. Due to the invasive nature of this work, the judiciary and GSA are discussing alternate options.

GSA received approximately \$25 million in 2018 to make necessary repairs to federal buildings in Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria. This work is primarily focused in Hato Rey and includes a replacement roof for the Nazario Courthouse, upgrades to the campus generators and water filtrations systems, elevator repairs or replacements, and fence

line upgrades. Construction commenced and will be completed in 2020.

In 2015, the AO completed a Capital Security Fund study, which reviewed the security deficiencies of the Hato Rey campus and recommended improvements. The project received 2018 funds to design and implement these recommendations. The general scope of work includes the construction of a prisoner sallyport, construction of two new elevators, and the creation of secure prisoner circulation in the Nazario Courthouse. Design began in fall 2019.

The JCUS approved the construction of a new security screening enclosure for the Hato Rey campus. Construction of an extension to the existing link was underway in 2019 and is expected to be completed in the winter of 2020. In 2019, the existing Federal Public Defender's Office was under construction to expand the space to account for additional staff. The project is expected to conclude in the spring of 2020.

District of Rhode Island

The District Court renovated its IT space in 2019. The District Court also began upgrading the fiber to the Courthouse and Pastore building. A similarly-timed project will upgrade the cooling in their computer room and data closets. Both projects are expected to conclude in 2020.

Judicial Conduct and Disability

The Judicial Conduct and Disability Act, codified as 28 U.S.C. § 351 et seq., authorizes “any person” to file a complaint alleging that a judge has engaged in “conduct prejudicial to the effective and expeditious administration of the business of the courts, or alleging that such judge is unable to discharge all the duties of office by reason of mental or physical disability” 28 U.S.C. § 351(a). See also Judicial Improvements Act of 2002, P.L. 107-273. After staff of the Circuit Executive’s Office receives a complaint, the Chief Circuit Judge reviews the complaint, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 352. The Chief Judge may then dismiss the complaint, conclude the proceeding for corrective action taken or intervening events, or, where necessary, appoint a special committee to further investigate the charges of judicial impropriety. See 28 U.S.C. §§ 352 and 353.

Both the complainant and the subject judge have the right to file a petition for Judicial Council review of a final order entered by the Chief Circuit Judge. See 28 U.S.C. § 352(c). Except where a special committee has been appointed, and in other limited circumstances, see 28 U.S.C. § 354, the orders issued by the Judicial Council are “final and conclusive.” 28 U.S.C. § 357(c).

In March 2008, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 331 and 358, the JCUS adopted the Rules for Judicial-Conduct and Judicial-Disability Proceedings (Rules of Judicial-Conduct).

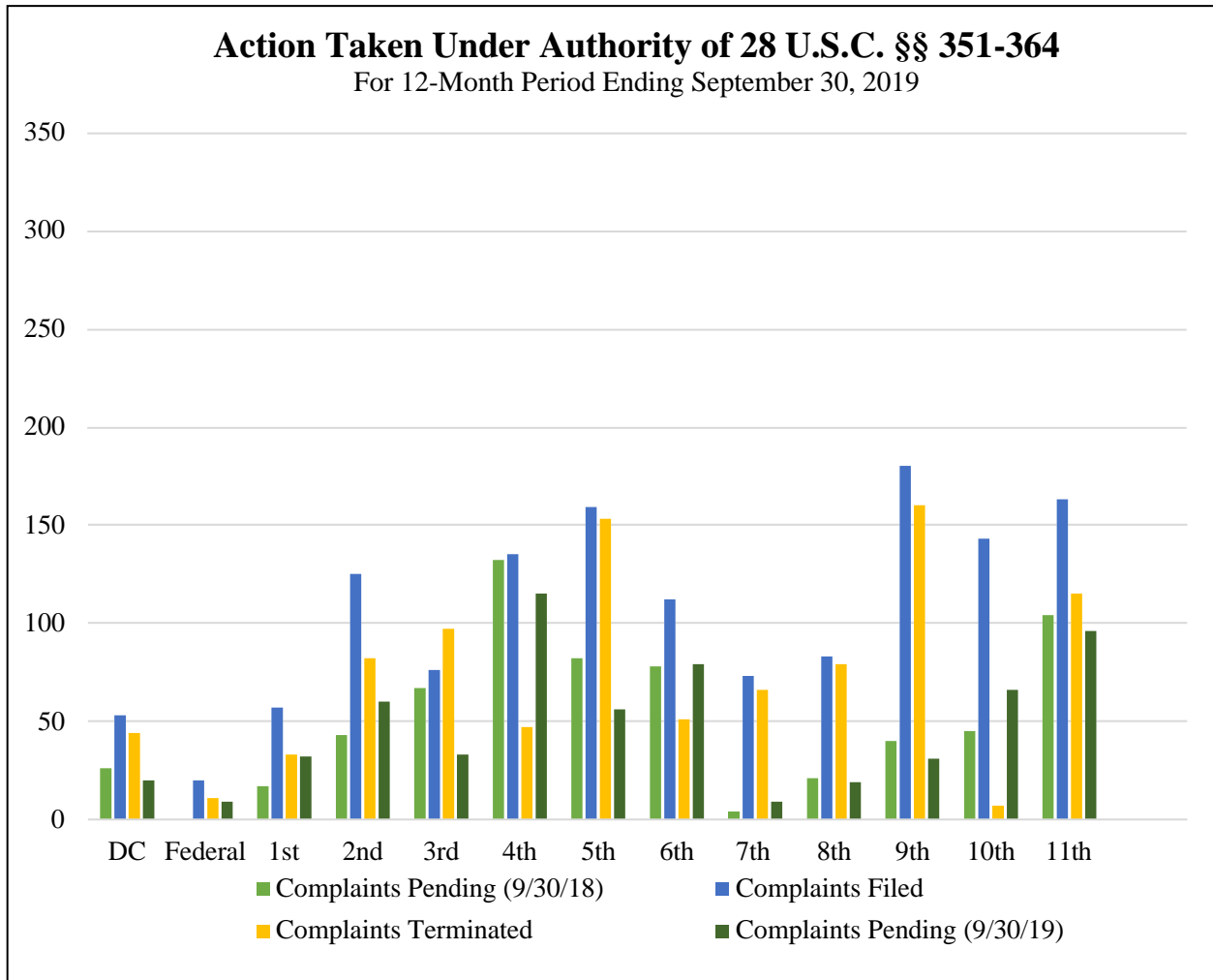
The adoption of uniform mandatory rules was intended to provide national standards and procedures for handling judicial misconduct and disability proceedings. The Rules of Judicial-Conduct were also intended to effectuate many of the recommendations included in the “Breyer Committee Report,” 239 F.R.D. 116 (Sept. 2006), which was issued in 2006 after a study, commissioned by Chief Justice Roberts, on the implementation of the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act of 1980. The JCUS amended the Rules of Judicial-Conduct in September 2015 and in March 2019.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 352(d) and the Rules of Judicial-Conduct, the Chief Circuit Judge annually designates two review panels to act for the Judicial Council on petitions for review. This amendment was adopted in response to a provision of the Judicial Improvements Act of 2002 that explicitly authorized the referral of petitions for review to “a panel of no fewer than 5 members of the council, at least 2 of whom shall be district judges.” 28 U.S.C. § 352(d). Any member of the review panel may vote to refer the petition to the full Judicial Council. While judicial misconduct proceedings are confidential, final written orders issued by the Chief Circuit Judge and Judicial Council are publicly available and are published on the First Circuit’s website. See 28 U.S.C. § 360.

Summary of First Circuit Complaints of Judicial Misconduct or Disability, 2019*	
Complaints Filed in 2019 (Calendar Year)	49
Orders of Dismissal Issued by Chief Judge	44
Petitions for Review Filed with Judicial Council	10
Orders of Dismissal Affirmed by Judicial Council	6
Show Cause Orders Issued	3
Preclusion Orders Issued	0
Total Number of Complainants in 2019 (Calendar Year)	16**

* *This table includes actions taken on matters filed in 2018.*

** *Eleven complainants filed complaints against more than one judicial officer.*



Action Taken Under Authority of 28 U.S.C. §§ 351-364
For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2019

Summary of Activity	Circuit												
	DC	Fed.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
Complaints Pending* (9/30/18)	26	0	17	43	67	132	82	78	4	21	40	45	104
Complaints Filed	53	20	57	125	76	135	159	112	73	83	180	143	163
Complaints Terminated	44	11	33	82	97	47	153	51	66	79	160	97	115
Complaints Pending (9/30/19)	20	9	32	60	33	115	56	79	9	19	31	66	96

* Pending caseloads for 2018 as revised by the AO.

Attorney Discipline

During 2019, the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit handled nine attorney disciplinary cases under the Rules of Attorney Disciplinary Enforcement for the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit (Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement). Two attorney discipline cases resulted in disbarment, and seven resulted in suspensions. Eight matters arose out of the reciprocity provisions of Rule II of the Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement, and the Court of Appeals initiated one proceeding.

Work of the Federal Public Defender

Report for the Federal Public Defender for the District of Maine

The District of Maine's Federal Defender Office (FDO) remained one of the smallest federal defender offices in the country, with four lawyers and three and a half support professionals divided between the Portland and Bangor offices. The FDO continued to operate at or below budget in all areas of its operation. It also continued to be one of the few federal defender offices participating in a shared services agreement with other court entities in procurement and employee benefits.

Statistics

In 2019, the FDO opened 155 cases, an increase of 45 cases from 2018. The FDO closed 144 cases, including all of its pending Johnson cases. The office also resolved all of its 30 First Step Act cases.

The FDO also added eight new participants to the SWiTCH drug court, and one existing participant graduated from the program.

Information Technology

The office transitioned to HRMIS Leave Tracking in April 2019.

Human Resources

Longtime Assistant Federal Defender J. Hilary Billings retired in October of 2019. Hilary provided the clients and office ten years of service as part of his almost 40-year career as a lawyer. The office hired two new assistant federal defenders in its Portland office: Heather Gonzales and Daphne Donahue, who both have experience as CJA attorneys.

Committee Membership

David Beneman continued his service on the District's CJA, Criminal Law, Local Rules, Conference Planning, and Court Security Committees, and on the SWiTCH drug court team, and attended the District Administrative Meetings.

Conferences/Educational Programs

In June, the office held a training for staff on emergency preparedness, safety, strategic planning, and the office's vision for the future.

The FDO provided CLE training to the CJA panel attorneys through live training, individual consultation, and email newsletters.

FDO employees attended training events, such as: Federal Defenders Conference in San Diego, California; Writing Strategies Seminar in Miami, Florida; National Seminar for Federal Defenders in Detroit, Michigan; Administrative Officers Conference in Chicago, Illinois; Paralegal and Investigator Seminar in Baltimore, Maryland; and New Assistant Federal Defender Orientation in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

CJA Panel

The CJA Committee continued to diversify the CJA panel as panel openings become available. The size of the CJA panel remained consistent with approximately 40 members in Portland and 20 members in Bangor.

Report for the Federal Public Defender for the Districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island

<u>Massachusetts</u>						
	Cases Opened				Cases Closed	Cases Pending
	Total	Prosecutions	Appeals	Other		
FY 2015	579	248	26	305	552	409
FY 2016	1,102	227	138	737	1,063	448
FY 2017	507	222	39	246	527	423
FY 2018	552	279	9	264	651	324
FY 2019	608	325	58	225	442	487

<u>New Hampshire</u>						
	Cases Opened				Cases Closed	Cases Pending
	Total	Prosecutions	Appeals	Other		
FY 2015	225	131	6	88	195	119
FY 2016	363	140	52	171	311	171
FY 2017	232	137	19	76	283	118
FY 2018	198	127	7	64	199	117
FY 2019	247	164	11	72	198	169

<u>Rhode Island</u>						
	Cases Opened				Cases Closed	Cases Pending
	Total	Prosecutions	Appeals	Other		
FY 2015	198	66	2	130	196	93
FY 2016	290	67	101	122	199	184
FY 2017	167	61	17	89	252	101
FY 2018	121	61	1	59	127	95
FY 2019	147	71	0	76	148	94

Statistics

The number of new prosecutions opened by the Federal Public Defender's Office in Massachusetts increased by more than 16% in FY 2019 and by nearly 50% between FY 2017 and FY 2019. The number of pending cases in the Massachusetts office at the beginning of FY 2019 was more than 50% larger the number of pending cases a year earlier. This increase resulted from the hiring of a large number of new prosecutors over the preceding year. In New Hampshire, the number of new prosecutions increased by nearly 30% between FY 2018 and FY 2019. At the beginning of FY 2019, the New Hampshire office had 44% more pending cases than a year earlier. This increase likely resulted from a national initiative known as Operation Synthetic Opioid Surge, a program created to reduce the availability of synthetic opioids. The Rhode Island office had a modest increase in its caseload in FY 2019.

Notable Matters

The FPDO for the Districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island had a number of notable accomplishments in FY 2019, such as the resentencing of many defendants under the First Step Act, and the Davis and Johnson decisions. Some defendants were released after being sentenced to life imprisonment. The office won acquittals at trial in four cases and secured the granting of a habeas petition challenging an extradition to the Dominican Republic.

Human Resources

Several longtime employees retired, including the office's computer systems administrator and assistant computer systems administrator, two assistant federal public defenders (AFPD) in the New Hampshire office, and the New Hampshire investigator. The office filled all vacancies. Behzad Mirhashem, a former

AFPD in the New Hampshire office, who had taken a teaching position, returned to the FPDO. An AFPD position was added to the Boston office. The Massachusetts office expanded to the western division, located in Springfield, Massachusetts, where AFPD Tim Watkins has built up a full caseload.

Conferences/Training

The FPDO continued to provide training and support to the CJA panels through quarterly seminars, two email listservs, and its website. The FPDO began streaming its Boston training programs to the Worcester, Springfield, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island courthouses, with the support of the staff of each of the clerk's offices.

Report for the Federal Public Defender for the District of Puerto Rico

Space and Facilities

At the end of 2019, the new office space for the District of Puerto Rico FPDO was 95% complete and is anticipated to be finished by February of 2020. The process for creating the new space took four years. The space is approximately 25,000 square feet on two floors, includes all new construction and furniture, and has a conference room, which can accommodate the entire staff and CJA panel for onsite training events. The space was designed to accommodate the office's growing staff and new technologies.

Statistics

In 2019, the District of Puerto Rico FPDO opened 1,684 cases. Included in this tally were two new federal death penalty matters. In the District of Puerto Rico, 42.4% involved firearms and 14.9% of the district's caseload involved immigration. The mean and median sentences for defendants in Puerto Rico were 59 and 46 months of incarceration, respectively. In the District of Puerto Rico, 50.5% of cases carried mandatory minimum sentences.

Human Resources/Budget

During 2019, the office consisted of the Federal Public Defender; 21 AFPDs; 16 specialists, investigators and/or writing attorneys; eight legal assistants; seven administrative support staff members; and two computer system administrators. The office continued to operate below budget. Two AFPDs from Puerto Rico spent the year in Washington, D.C. providing district court criminal practice expertise to the Defender Services Office and the USSC.

Educational Programs

The office conducted trainings for CJA panel members regarding identifying prosecutorial misconduct, using investigators to locate federal and state documents, Fourth Amendment concerns in the digital age, persuasive writing for lawyers, and use of PowerPoint in federal trials.