

SUPERIOR COURT
OF PENNSYLVANIA
ANNUAL REPORT 2006







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THE SUPERIOR COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA



CHAMBERS OF PRESIDENT JUDGE KATE FORD ELLIOTT
SUITE 1660 / TWO CHATHAM CENTER / PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

To the Citizens of Pennsylvania:

On behalf of the judges and staff of the Superior Court, I am pleased to present the 2006 Annual Report. The past year has been a significant one for our court. Our new appeal filings in 2006 numbered 8,200, the second highest in the court's history. Additionally, we lost the services of a valued member of the court when former President Judge Joseph A. Del Sole retired from the bench to pursue a mediation practice. To alleviate this loss of judicial experience, at our request, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court specially appointed Senior Judge Robert E. Colville, from the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, to serve on the Superior Court.

To further handle our increased caseload, the court instituted an appellate mediation program in Philadelphia, and it is our hope that the program will expand statewide within the next few years. This program is designed to expedite the appeal process and offer litigants a substantial savings of time and money.

The Superior Court has also revitalized our child-centered fast track program which monitors and expedites dependency, custody, adoption and support matters. We have done this in an effort to ensure that these most important cases involving children will continue to be given priority in our growing inventory.

Throughout 2006, the court continued to travel to various counties and law schools in the Commonwealth for the purpose of judicial outreach and education. We consider such special sessions a unique opportunity to provide our citizens with greater access to their system of justice.

As I complete my first year as President Judge, I have been grateful for the total dedication of the judges of this court to do all that is necessary to maintain the Superior Court's historic commitment to the delivery of justice in a fair and timely manner. It is my great privilege and pleasure to lead this great court and to present this report to the citizens of Pennsylvania.

Kate Ford Elliott

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Ford Elliott".

PRESIDENT JUDGE

The year in review



In January 9, 2006, Chief Justice Ralph Cappy administered the oath of office to President Judge Kate Ford Elliott following her election as President Judge the previous November. A formal installation took place in Pittsburgh on March 10th.

On February 6th, Karen R. Bramblett, Esq. began her tenure as Prothonotary following her appointment by the President Judge. Attorney Bramblett combines both prior experience with the Superior Court as a Supervising Staff Attorney as well as extensive experience in private civil litigation.

In March, Senior Judge Robert E. Colville was specially assigned to the Superior Court by Chief Justice Cappy. Judge Colville was formerly a member of the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

The third annual Appellate Courts Educational Conference was held in June. Professor Thomas Pangle, the Joe R. Long Chair in Democratic studies at the University of Texas; Professor Lorraine Pangle of the University of Texas; Professor Pam Karlan of the Stanford Law School; and Gordon S. Wood, Alva O. Way University Professor and Professor of History at Brown University were lecturers.

On September 2nd, President Judge Emeritus Joseph A. Del Sole left the bench to return to private practice. On September 7th, a portrait of P.J.E. Del Sole was unveiled and was accepted by the court for display in the Founders Courtroom in Philadelphia.

On October 6th, the court instituted an appellate mediation program to provide litigants with a prompt, effective, alternative means of resolving disputes without many of the expenses associated with litigation. The program initially targets civil appeals from the Eastern District. However, it is anticipated that the program eventually will be conducted statewide and will include a wider variety of cases. The court appointed P. Douglas Sisk, Esq., who helped develop a similar program for the Third Circuit Court of Appeals as an in-house mediator.

In October, the court conducted a retreat for its Central Legal Staff to assess, evaluate and, in some instances, revise existing functions. Staff is exploring new and innovative case screening and case flow management techniques.

During the year, the court continued to hold argument sessions throughout the Commonwealth. In addition to our own courtrooms, venues included: Scranton, Williamsport and West Chester, as well as Villanova, Temple and Duquesne Law Schools.

The court wishes to recognize the passing of former President Judge Robert Lee Jacobs on August 11, 2006. President Judge Jacobs served on the court from 1965 to 1979.

Family Fast Track Program



In July 3, 2000, the Superior Court instituted the Family Fast Track Program in an effort to eliminate delays in the appellate review of cases involving the rights and needs of children. Cases involving adoption, custody/visitation, child support, dependency and involuntary termination of parental rights are identified from filed docketing statements and are placed into the program. These appeals are then subject to monitoring procedures designed to expedite the filing of the trial court record and the parties' briefs. Once the briefing schedules are completed these appeals are given priority listing before panels.

In 2006, a total of 482 appeals were designated for the Family Fast Track Program. Of this number, 185 were concluded within the year. On average appeals in this program reached disposition within 180 days, exceeding the standards set by the American Bar Association by more than three months. The continued efforts of this Court, as well as the trial court Bench and the Bar, will ensure that appeals involving the rights of children will be thoroughly prepared and reviewed and expeditiously resolved.

APPEALS PENDING, FILED AND CONCLUDED

	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
Appeals Pending 01/01/2006	6161	2187	3974
New Appeals Filed in 2006	8201	3348	4853
Appeals Concluded in 2006	7898	3462	4436
Appeals Pending 01/01/2007	6464	2073	4391

APPEALS, PETITIONS AND WIRETAPS FILED, BY DISTRICT

	TOTAL	EAST	MIDDLE	WEST
Appeals Filed	8201	3565	2251	2385
Petitions Filed	9572	5440	1664	2468
Misc. Dkt Filings	369	155	64	150
Wiretaps	63	60	0	3

REARGUMENT/RECONSIDERATION

Petitions Filed:	407
Petitions Granted:	40
PERCENT GRANTED:	10%

APPEALS BY COUNTY OF ORIGIN

Adams	51	Lackawanna	137
Allegheny	838	Lancaster	188
Armstrong	34	Lawrence	64
Beaver	61	Lebanon	89
Bedford	43	Lehigh	176
Berks	303	Luzerne	186
Blair	116	Lycoming	77
Bradford	42	McKean	20
Bucks	201	Mercer	76
Butler	112	Mifflin	22
Cambria	77	Monroe	112
Cameron	3	Montgomery	310
Carbon	31	Montour	12
Centre	76	Northampton	115
Chester	199	Northumberland	45
Clarion	34	Perry	39
Clearfield	45	Philadelphia	2086
Clinton	26	Pike	35
Columbia	29	Potter	17
Crawford	52	Schuylkill	92
Cumberland	94	Snyder	27
Dauphin	246	Somerset	24
Delaware	272	Sullivan	12
Elk	5	Susquehanna	18
Erie	232	Tioga	20
Fayette	104	Union	22
Forest	7	Venango	52
Franklin	59	Warren	41
Fulton	11	Washington	73
Greene	39	Wayne	28
Huntingdon	24	Westmoreland	135
Indiana	27	Wyoming	21
Jefferson	54	York	273
Juniata	10	Total	8201

2006 ANNUAL REPORT STATISTICS

APPEALS BY TYPE OF CASE

Adoption	30	Divorce	288	Premises Liability - Slip/Fall	31
Aggravated Assault	428	Domestic Relations Contempt	24	Protection from Abuse	62
Arbitration	43	Driving Under the Influence	340	Rape	239
Arson	57	Ejectment	43	Receiving Stolen Property	46
Asbestos	30	Equity	96	Recklessly Endanger Another Person	35
Assault	24	Estate/Probate/Wills/Intestate	105	Robbery	319
Assumpsit	72	Forgery	35	Simple Assault	73
Attempted Murder	23	Habeas Corpus	37	Summary Offense/Conviction	49
Burglary	201	Harassment	49	Termination of Parental Rights	76
Child Support	212	Homicide	183	Terroristic Threats	41
Civil Action Law	839	Indecent Assault	96	Theft	145
Contract	102	Involuntary Deviate Sexual Conduct	108	Theft by Unlawful Taking	28
Controlled Substance	606	Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights	161	Trespass	180
Corruption of Minors	71	Medical Malpractice	73	Uniform Firearms Act	124
Criminal	120	Mortgage Foreclosure	61	Vehicle Violation	71
Criminal Conspiracy	121	Motor Vehicle Accident	62	Other Civil*	285
Criminal Mischief	20	Murder	176	Other Criminal*	451
Criminal Trespass	39	Murder 1	217	TOTAL	8201
Custody/Visitation	241	Murder 2	28		
Declaratory Judgment	66	Murder 3	47		
Dependency	136	Possession of an Instrument of Crime	26		
Disorderly Conduct	38	Possession with Intent to Deliver	172		

*Includes appeals originally classified as "other" as well as appeals originally classified in categories with fewer than 20 appeals filed in 2006.

OPINIONS FILED

	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
PUBLISHED OPINIONS 2006	379	208	171
NON-PUBLISHED OPINIONS 2006	4594	1562	3032
TOTAL 2006	4973	1770	3203

DISPOSITIONS BY TYPE

	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL
By Filed Decision	5277	1925	3352
By Order or Discontinuance	2621	1537	1084
TOTAL 2006	7898	3462	4436

**SUPERIOR COURT TREATMENT OF CASES FROM
COURTS OF COMMON PLEAS 2006**

	CASES DECIDED BY PUBLISHED OPINIONS		CASES DECIDED BY UNPUBLISHED OPINIONS		TOTAL ALL CASES	
		%		%		%
Affirmed	258	58.2	3821	79.0	4079	77.3
Reversed	126	28.4	608	12.6	734	13.9
Affirmed in Part, Reversed in Part	39	8.8	157	3.2	196	3.7
Quashed, Dismissed, Transferred	14	3.2	230	4.8	244	4.6
Other	6	1.4	18	0.4	24	0.5
TOTAL	443		4834		5277	

MEDIAN NUMBER OF DAYS TO DISPOSITION FOR APPEALS CONCLUDED IN 2006

From Superior Court docket date for all appeals	270
From Superior Court docket date for appeals disposed by order or discontinuance	73
From Superior Court docket date for appeals disposed by filed decision	324
From original record filing date for appeals disposed by filed decision	248
From filing date of last brief filed	140

**SUPREME COURT TREATMENT OF
SUPERIOR COURT CASES**

**ALLOCATURS: PETITIONS FILED &
CONCLUDED IN 2006**

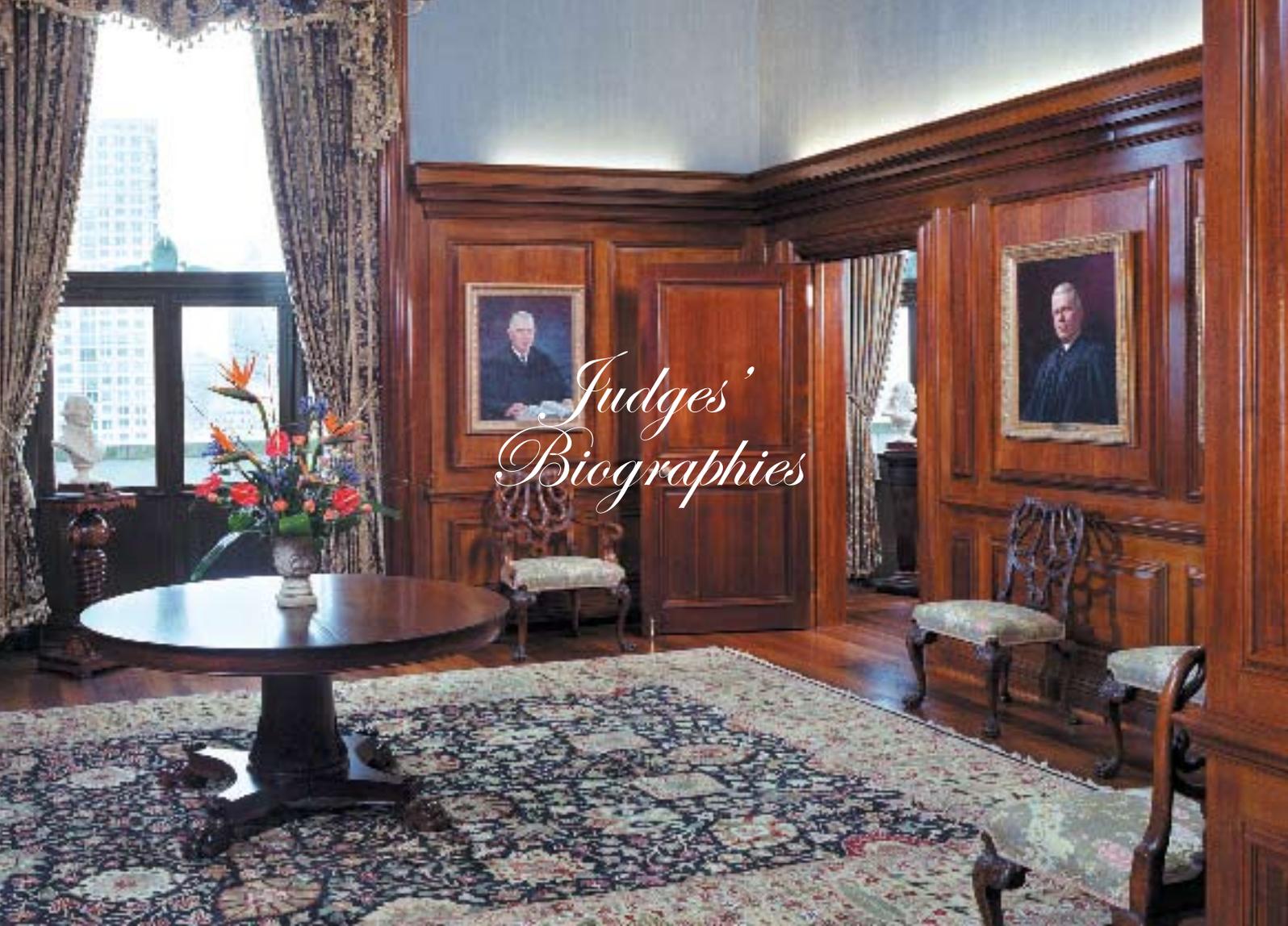
Total Allocatur Petitions Filed In 2006 from Superior Court Decisions 1976

Number Granted	84
Number Denied	1640
Number Voided	4
Other Disposition	71
Open	1022

**DISPOSITION OF APPEALS FROM
SUPERIOR COURT CASES**

Reversed	28
Affirmed	33
Other*	27
Total	88

*Includes affirmed/reversed, dismissed, improvidently granted, vacated and withdrawn.

A formal wood-paneled room, likely a study or office. The room features dark wood paneling on the walls and ceiling. A large window on the left is covered with heavy, patterned curtains. In the foreground, a round wooden table holds a vase of colorful flowers. Two ornate chairs with upholstered seats are positioned in the room. Two framed portraits of men in judicial robes are mounted on the wall. The floor is covered with a large, patterned rug.

*Judges'
Biographies*

Kate
Ford Elliott



RESIDENT JUDGE KATE FORD ELLIOTT was born June 8, 1949, in Pittsburgh. She attended the University of Pittsburgh, where, in 1971, she earned a B.A. in Education; Duquesne University, M.S. in Education, 1973; Duquesne University School of Law, J.D. 1978.

A member of the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and American Bar Associations, Judge Ford Elliott is also Past Chairperson of the Allegheny County Appellate Practice Committee, a member of the ABA Judicial Administration Division, Vice Chair of the Pennsylvania Futures Commission on Justice in the 21st Century established by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and is a member of the PBA Commission on Justice Initiatives.

She is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, a member of the National Association of Women Judges, and the American Judicature Society. She has served on the Executive Board of the ABA Committee of Appellate Staff Attorneys and is a frequent lecturer on issues of Appellate Practice and Procedure. She was elected Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in November 1989 and retained in 1999. Judge Ford Elliott became President Judge of the Superior Court on January 9, 2006.



Joseph A. Del Sole



JOSEPH A. DEL SOLE was born on November 16, 1940, in Pittsburgh. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University); an LL.B. from Duquesne University School of Law; and a L.L.M. from the University of Virginia School of Law. He is a member of the Century Club of Distinguished Alumni of Duquesne University and received the 1988 President's Award from the Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association.

Judge Del Sole co-authored "The Demise of Fair Trade in Pennsylvania" which appeared in the Duquesne University Law Review and is the author of "Appellate Review in a Sentencing Guidelines Jurisdiction: The Pennsylvania Experience." 31 Duq. L. Rev. 479 (1993). He was instrumental in spearheading the Superior Court's computerization and statistical development programs. He was a member of the former Judicial Inquiry and Review Board and was the first Chairman of the Judicial Conduct Board.

He was appointed to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas in 1978 and elected to a full term in 1979. He was elected to the Superior Court in 1983, and retained for a third term in 2003. He served as President Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania from January 2001 to January 2006. He retired from judiciary service September 1, 2006 and is now associated "Of Counsel" with the Pittsburgh Law firm Del Sole Cavanaugh LLC.

He and his wife, Karen, have three children and five grand children.

Joseph A. Hudock



JUDGE JOSEPH A. HUDOCK was born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania on November 21, 1937. He was educated at St. Vincent College (B.A.) and Duquesne University School of Law (J.D.). He served in the United States Navy Judge Advocate Generals Corps from 1963 to 1967, and then practiced law in Greensburg for 11 years.

He was elected to the Court of Common Pleas of Westmoreland County and served for 12 years before being elected to the Superior Court in November, 1989. He was retained for another term in 1999.

He has been actively involved for many years with the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army, Rotary Club, Boy Scouts, Community Nursing Service, and the United Way of Central Westmoreland, serving at one time as campaign manager and president of the latter.

He has been a member of the Regional Planning Council of the Governor's Justice Commission, the Latrobe Area Task Force of the Diocese of Greensburg, and the Alumni Council of St. Vincent College. In 1987, he was awarded the St. Vincent College "Alumnus of Distinction Award". He was a member of the Editorial Board of "The Practical Litigator" for ten years. He was a founding member and past president of the Westmoreland American Inn of Court. He was the Past Chairman of the Supreme Court Appellate Procedural Rules Committee.

Judge Hudock is married to the former Rita Giegerich, and they have four children, Joseph, Jr., Ann, Daniel and Mary. His chambers are in Greensburg.

Michael T. Joyce



JUDGE MICHAEL T. JOYCE was born February 24, 1949 in Pittsburgh. He received his B.A. from the Pennsylvania State University in 1973 and was awarded a J.D. from the Franklin Pierce Law Center in 1977. From 1967 to 1970 Michael Joyce served in the U.S. Army. After graduating from Army Intelligence School, he attended the Defense Language Institute from January 1968 to January 1969 where he learned to read, write and speak the three main dialects of Vietnamese. Judge Joyce served 13 months in Vietnam with the 25th Infantry Division. He attained the rank of Staff Sergeant at the age of 20 and was awarded the Bronze Star medal and two Army Commendation Medals. He was a Presidential Law Clerk in The White House in 1975, and maintained a private practice from 1977-85. He was appointed judge, Erie County Court of Common Pleas in July 1985 after winning both the Republican and Democratic primaries. He was then elected to a ten-year term in November 1985, and retained for an additional term in November 1995. He was elected a judge of the Superior Court in November 1997. Judge Joyce is a member of the Pennsylvania Trial Judges Association, American Judicature Society, American Judges Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association, Penn State Behrend Athlete's Hall of Fame, Erie County Bar Association, Penn State Alumni Association, the Domestic Relations Association of Pennsylvania, Vietnam Veterans of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vietnam Veterans of Pennsylvania, American Legion, Millcreek Youth Athletic Association and served as an Explorer leader, Boy Scouts of America. Judge Joyce is a licensed SCUBA diving instructor certified by both the Professional Association of Dive Instructors (PADI) and the National Association of Dive Instructors (NAUI) and a member of the Erie County Sheriff's Scuba Rescue and Recovery Dive Team. He is also a private pilot and a member of the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA).

Judge

Correale F. Stevens



JUDGE CORREALE F. STEVENS was born in Hazleton. Judge Stevens graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree and from Dickinson School of Law with a J.D. While in law school, he was an associate editor of the Dickinson Law Review.

Judge Stevens was engaged in the private practice of law, served as Hazleton City Solicitor and Hazleton City Authority Solicitor. He was named Outstanding Young Pennsylvanian by the state Jaycee organization and served on the executive board of the Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association.

In 1980, Judge Stevens was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and was re-elected in 1982, 1984 and 1986. In 1987 he was elected District Attorney of Luzerne County, and in 1991 he was appointed to the Court of Common Pleas of Luzerne County and elected to a full term that same year. In November 1997, Judge Stevens was elected to the Superior Court.

Judge

John L. Musmanno



JUDGE JOHN L. MUSMANNO was born in Stowe Township, Pa. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Washington & Jefferson College in 1963, graduating magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, and a Juris Doctor from Vanderbilt University School of Law in 1966, where he was an assistant editor of the Vanderbilt Law Review.

Judge Musmanno is a member of the American, Pennsylvania and Allegheny County Bar Associations. He received the President's Award, Pennsylvania Trial Lawyers Association in 1991, and the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County award in 1993. He served on the Pennsylvania Judicial Conduct Board 2001-2005 and presently serves on the Pennsylvania Court of Judicial Discipline.

He maintained a private law practice, 1966-81, was elected district justice, 1970-81; elected judge, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, 1981, where he served in the Family, Criminal and Civil divisions. He was re-elected in 1991; and was the administrative judge, Civil division, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, 1990-97. In November 1997, he was elected to the Superior Court.

Joan
Orie Melvin



JUDGE JOAN ORIE MELVIN was born in Pittsburgh. She attended the University of Notre Dame, where she received a B.A. in Economics in 1978, and Duquesne University School of Law, where she was awarded a J.D. in 1981. From 1981 to 1985 Judge Orie Melvin served as corporate counsel and was engaged in a private law practice, concentrating in civil litigation before she was appointed Magistrate for the City of Pittsburgh Municipal Courts, in 1985. She was then named Chief Magistrate in 1987 for the City of Pittsburgh Municipal Courts. In this position Judge Orie Melvin established Pennsylvania's first Domestic Violence Court.

In 1990, Judge Orie Melvin was appointed Judge to a vacancy on the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas and later was elected to a full term in 1991. There, she served in the civil, criminal and family divisions.

Judge Orie Melvin is a member of the American Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Allegheny County Bar Association. She is also a member of the American Judicature Society and the Federal Circuit Bar Association. She is a past member of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Inns of Court and the Allegheny County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Advisory Board. She is past President of the Allegheny County Prison Board. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Passavant Hospital and VOICE. She also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Vincentian Home and as a member of the United Way Community Problem Solving Troubled Youth Committee and STOP Violence Task Force.

Judge Orie Melvin was the recipient of Carlow College's Woman of Spirit Award; Duquesne University School of Law Women's Law Association Woman of the Year; the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh-A Tribute to Women Leadership Award in Government/Public & Civic Service; Anne B. Anstine Excellence in Public Service Award-2004; the Berks County Bar Association Liberty Bell Award-2005; and the Pennsylvania Business & Professional Women-Women in Government Award-2005.

She was elected to the Superior Court in November 1997.

Maureen E. Lally-Green



JUDGE MAUREEN E. LALLY-GREEN was born in Sharpsville, Mercer County. She graduated from Duquesne University with a B.S. in Secondary Education, Mathematics (1971) and its School of Law (1974) (Law Review).

In 1998, Judge Lally-Green was appointed by Governor Tom Ridge to the Superior Court, and confirmed by the State Senate. In 1999, Judge Lally-Green was elected for a term of ten years.

Judge Lally-Green has been an associate with a private law firm in Pittsburgh (1974-75), counsel to Commodity Futures Trading Commission (Washington, D.C.) (1975-78), counsel to the former Westinghouse Electric Corporation (1978-83), a consultant to Justices of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court (1985-87; 1988-98), and a Professor of Law at Duquesne University's School of Law (1983-98). She continues as an adjunct professor of law at Duquesne's Law School and annually teaches in various law-related programs. She is published in various law reviews.

The Judge is, among other things, a member of: The Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee (appointed by the Court); Secretary and Member of the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Commission on Race, Gender and Ethnic Fairness (appointed by the Supreme Court); Board of Directors, Epilepsy Foundation of Western/Central Pennsylvania; Board of Trustees, Auberle, McKeesport, Pa.; Board of Regents, St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, Pa.; Board of Directors, St. Thomas More Society of Allegheny County; Board of Directors, Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA; Board of Directors, Ireland Institute, Pittsburgh, Pa; National and International Associations of Women Judges; and the Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession. She has also served as: Chair of the Supreme Court's Gender Fairness Implementation Committee; Chair of the PBA's Quality of Work Life Committee; elected member and Secretary of the Board of the Allegheny County Bar Association; and member and Chair of the Zoning Hearing Board of Cranberry Township. She is also a former President of the Western Pennsylvania Partners of the Americas.

She has been recognized for her achievements: Anne X. Alpern Award, the highest honor given by the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession (2006); St. Thomas More Award, St. Thomas More Society (2002); Duquesne University Law School Distinguished Alumna Award (2001); Chatham College's President's Medal (2000); Fellow in International Development, Kellogg Foundation; and, Duquesne University School of Law Women's Law Association Woman of the Year. In 1997, Governor Tom Ridge nominated her for Supreme Court. Finally, she has been recognized in: Who's Who in the World; Who's Who in America; Who's Who in American Law; Who's Who Among American Women; Who's Who in Emerging Leaders; Who's Who in Executives and Professionals.

Debra
Todd



JUDGE DEBRA McCLOSKEY TODD was born in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania on October 15, 1957, the daughter of the late Harry and Blanche McCloskey. She is a 1979 Honors graduate of Chatham College (B.A.) and a 1982 Law Review graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law (J.D.). In 2004, Judge Todd was awarded the LL.M. Degree in the Judicial Process by the University of Virginia School of Law.

From 1982 through 1987, Judge Todd was an in-house litigation attorney for U.S. Steel Corporation. She maintained a trial practice in the City of Pittsburgh from 1987 through 1999 with an emphasis in complex civil litigation. From 1989 through 1999, she also served as a Court-Appointed Special Master for the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas.

Judge Todd is an elected member of the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County and an alumna and former board member of the Leadership Pittsburgh Program. She is a member of the Allegheny, Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations, and is a fellow of the Allegheny County Bar Association Foundation. Judge Todd has been a lecturer and panelist for continuing legal education programs on trial and appellate practice and procedure.

The Judge presently serves as a board member of Pittsburgh Action Against Rape and the Finnegan Foundation, a foundation established to provide internships in Pennsylvania government to outstanding accredited college and university students. She also is a member of the American Judicature Society, the National Association of Women Judges, the International Association of Women Judges, and the Women's Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania.

Judge Todd was elected to the Superior Court in November 1999, and commenced service on the Court in January 2000. Her chambers are in Pittsburgh.

Richard B. Klein



JUDGE RICHARD B. KLEIN was born in Philadelphia, the son of the late Philadelphia Orphans' Court Judge Charles Klein and Rosalie Benson Klein. He received his BA from Amherst College in 1961, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude. He graduated with honors from Harvard Law School in 1964.

Judge Klein served for 28 years as a trial judge in the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County until his election to the Superior Court in 2001. He was the youngest judge in the history of Pennsylvania when he first assumed the bench. Prior to assuming the bench, he was in private practice and served as a Special Assistant Attorney General.

He has been active in numerous education and justice improvement projects. Judge Klein founded and co-chairs the Pennsylvania Bar Association "Plain English" committee. He serves in the House of Delegates of the Pennsylvania Bar and is on its ADR and Appellate Advocacy committees. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee. He is an active member of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Alternate Dispute Resolution, State Civil, and Appellate Advocacy committees, Judge Klein was founding chair of the Philadelphia Bar's "LUG-PC," the Lawyers User Group for Personal Computing, and is on the Superior Court technology committee. He chaired the Jury Selection Committee of the Philadelphia Common Pleas Court.

Judge Klein is also active in comparative international law. He has served as education leader for legal-study tours to over a dozen countries, most recently, Greece, China; Russia; Poland and the Czech Republic; and Chile and Argentina.

Judge Klein is co-author of the West Book, *Trial Communication Skills*, written with Julius Fast, author of the original *Body Language* book. He has written and lectured widely, on topics such as Appellate Advocacy, Legal Writing, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Trial Techniques, Technology, Ethics, etc. He served as an adjunct Lecturer in Law at the James Beasley School of Law of Temple University for fifteen years, teaching Trial Advocacy and Legal Writing.

John T. Bender



JUDGE BENDER received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the School of Journalism of the Pennsylvania State University. He later attended the Institute for Paralegal Training in Philadelphia and worked as a paralegal at the Pittsburgh law firm of Reed Smith Shaw & McClay. In 1976, he was awarded a J.D. degree from Duquesne University Law School.

Judge Bender served as a law clerk to President Judge Emeritus William F. Cercone while attending law school. He later was employed as a law clerk to former Justice Rolf Larson. Judge Bender also served as an Allegheny County Assistant District Attorney before entering into the private practice of law as a sole practitioner and as a partner in a small law firm. For over 25 years Judge Bender primarily represented individuals in criminal and civil proceedings. In 1997, Judge Bender was elected to the position of District Justice in Magisterial District 05-2-04. He was then elected to a ten-year term on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in November 2001. In the Summer of 2003 Judge Bender completed the Appellate Judges Seminar at New York University.

He is a member of the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and American Bar Associations. His chambers are located in Pittsburgh.

Mary Jane Bowes



JUDGE MARY JANE BOWES was born on July 18, 1954, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Georgetown University in 1976 and, upon graduation, was selected for the James Fulton Internship with Congressman John Heinz. In 1979, she earned her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

After graduating from law school, Judge Bowes served as Judicial Law Clerk to Chief Justice Henry X. O'Brien of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and to Judges Harry Montgomery and John P. Hester, both of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania. From 1986 to 1998, she was engaged in the private practice of law. In 1994, Judge Bowes founded her own firm, specializing in construction and commercial litigation. While in private practice, she was chosen as arbitrator in numerous matters in both federal and state court arbitration programs as well as in private arbitrations. Judge Bowes was elected to membership in the Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County in 1996. She joined an environmental remediation company as corporate counsel in 1998.

Judge Bowes is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association, served on its Professional Ethics Committee for four years, and is currently a member of the Appellate Practice Committee. She is also a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association and serves as Co-Chair of the Appellate Advocacy Committee. She joined the National Association of Women Judges in 2002 and is co-president of the Women's Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania.

Judge Bowes sits on the Board of Trustees of the Allegheny County Medical Society Foundation, is secretary to the board of St. Anthony School Programs, serves on the Advisory Board of Angel's Place and The University of Pittsburgh Law Alumni Association. She is a former Board member of the Allegheny County Finance and Development Commission, St. Clair Memorial Hospital, Duquesne University, DePaul Institute and Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera. Judge Bowes previously served as president of the Board of Directors of the Parental Stress Center, the St. Thomas More Society, and the Georgetown University Alumni Club of Pittsburgh. In 1997, she was honored by Governor Tom Ridge with Pennsylvania's Best 50 Women in Business Award.

Judge Bowes was elected to a ten-year term on the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in November 2001.

Judge

Susan

Peikes Gantman



JUDGE SUSAN PEIKES GANTMAN is a cum laude graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where she received her Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees in 1974. Judge Gantman graduated from the Villanova School of Law in 1977. Following graduation from law school, Judge Gantman served as law clerk to the Honorable Richard S. Lowe, of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas. Judge Gantman has also served as Solicitor for the Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth and the Montgomery County Housing and Community Development. Her career includes additional public service as an Assistant District Attorney for Montgomery County, where she worked in the major crimes unit.

In 1981, Judge Gantman entered private practice. Her extensive legal experience includes litigation, domestic law, juvenile law, Orphans' Court actions and appellate practice. In 1991, Judge Gantman joined the law firm of Sherr, Joffe & Zuckerman, P.C. as Partner and Chair of the Domestic Relations Section. In 1998, she became a senior member and served as Co-chair of the Family Law Section of the law firm of Cozen O'Connor.

Throughout her career, Judge Gantman has been a tireless advocate on behalf of children and other victims of abuse. During her years in practice, Judge Gantman appeared as a frequent lecturer and instructor, conducting numerous classes and seminars for the Pennsylvania State Police Academy, the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, the Montgomery County Bar Association, and the Department of Public Welfare. Judge Gantman is currently a frequent lecturer on issues of Appellate Practice and Procedure for the Pennsylvania Bar Association, Montgomery Bar Association and the Lawyers' Club of Philadelphia. She has also served on the Board of Directors for Women's Philanthropy, the Federation of Allied Jewish Appeal, and Women of Vision. Judge Gantman has been recognized by the Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth for her achievements and outstanding service. She is a current member of the National Association of Women Judges. Other honors include the Bond of Faith and the Juvenile Advisory Association Award.

Judge Gantman is a member of the American Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association and Montgomery County Bar Association. She is also a member of the Pennsylvania Bar's Commission on Women in the Profession, the Appellate Practice Committee, the National Association of Women Judges, and the Montgomery County Bar Foundation Taxic Circle. She is a Fellow of the Pennsylvania Bar Foundation and a Master of the Villanova University School of Law Inns of Court. Judge Gantman's election to a ten-year term on the Superior Court was confirmed in January 2004. Her Chambers are in Montgomery County.

Seamus P. McCaffery



JUDGE SEAMUS P. MCCAFFERY Judge Seamus P. McCaffery was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on June 3, 1950. In 1955, his parents, Seamus and Rita McCaffery, brought the family to the United States and since that time Judge McCaffery has called Philadelphia his home. Judge McCaffery has made a career of serving his city, commonwealth and country, for a combined 72 years of public service.

Judge McCaffery began his 38-year military career immediately upon his graduation from Cardinal Dougherty High School in 1968, when he joined the United States Marines. After his tour of active duty, Judge McCaffery became a reservist, serving in the Marine Corps Reserve for 15 years, rising to the rank of Captain. He then transferred to the United States Air Force Reserve, where he became the Commanding Officer of the 913th Security Police Squadron. Judge McCaffery still serves in the Air Force Reserve, where he has attained the rank of Colonel. Judge McCaffery was mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle after the September 11th attacks, and currently serves as the Regional Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer for Homeland Defense. He is the recipient of numerous military honors and medals, including 5 Meritorious Service Medals and the War on Terrorism Service Medal.

After completing his active military service, Seamus returned home and joined the Philadelphia Police Department. During his 20 years on the police force he served as a patrolman, a plainclothes Vice/Narcotics investigator, and as a detective in the Homicide and Major Crimes Divisions. His distinguished law enforcement career included several high-profile murder investigations, and he rose to the rank of supervisor before retiring as a highly-decorated veteran in 1989.

While working full-time as a police officer, Judge McCaffery also earned a Bachelor's degree from La Salle University, and then his Juris Doctor degree from Temple University School of Law. Upon entering the legal profession, he joined the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Washington, D. C. bars, and worked as a litigator at one of Philadelphia's premier law firms.

(continued)



Seamus P. McCaffery, continued

In 1993, Judge McCaffery became the first retired Philadelphia Police officer ever elected as a trial judge in Philadelphia County. During his decade on the trial court bench, Judge McCaffery won local and national acclaim for creating and volunteering his services for such innovative programs as Nuisance Night Court, Graffiti Court and “Eagles Court,” the National Football League’s first and only court, conducted during the Philadelphia Eagles’ home games. These accomplishments earned him the label of “Philadelphia’s Quality of Life Judge.”

In October 2001, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed him the Administrative Judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court, one of the largest courts in the country. In his capacity as Administrative Judge, Judge McCaffery introduced new programs for drug and domestic violence offenders, and those with mental health issues. He streamlined the operations of the court and structured court-wide procedural reforms which improved the court’s efficiency and the delivery of its services to the citizenry.

Judge McCaffery was elected to the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in 2003, where he hears appeals from civil and criminal cases throughout the Commonwealth. Judge McCaffery is a regular keynote speaker across Pennsylvania for professional, civic, military, law enforcement and fraternal organizations, addressing topics such as appellate advocacy, the role and function of the Superior Court, and judicial independence. He is a faculty member of the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, a frequent guest lecturer at the Philadelphia Police Academy, and gives generously of his time to numerous charitable organizations. He is an advisory member of the Philadelphia Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum, and a board member of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Committee and the Pennsylvania March of Dimes.

Judge McCaffery is the proud father of three sons, Sean, Jim, and Brian, and the devoted grandfather of Morgan and Delaney. The Judge is also an avid motorcycle enthusiast. Judge McCaffery has been the recipient of numerous military and law enforcement awards, medals and decorations, as well as civic and professional awards. Judge McCaffery and his wife, Lise Rapaport, Esquire, continue to make their home in Philadelphia.

Jack A. Panella



JUDGE JACK A. PANELLA was elected to the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in November 2003, and sworn into office as an appellate judge on January 9, 2004. He now presides over appeals from civil, criminal and family law cases. He is also the statewide Administrative Judge for Wiretap & Electronic Surveillance in Pennsylvania.

His election to the appellate court followed twelve years as a trial judge. He was initially sworn in as a trial judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County in October 1991, and was subsequently elected to a ten-year term commencing January 1, 1994. He presided over civil and criminal trials and was also the Administrative Judge for Asbestos Litigation, which involved complex mass tort litigation.

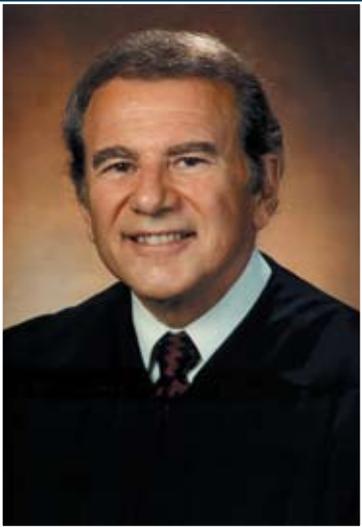
Judge Panella was admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1980. He was selected to serve as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Michael V. Franciosa, a position he held until August 1982. From 1982 to 1991, he maintained his law practice as a sole practitioner. He had a diverse private practice with an emphasis in civil and criminal litigation. His clients included Larry Holmes, the former world's heavyweight boxing champion, and the late Albert Loquasto, a former champion professional race car driver.

After the completion of his judicial clerkship, Judge Panella returned to public service in December 1982, when he was appointed an Assistant County Solicitor for Northampton County, a position he held until May 1987. In May 1987, he was the youngest attorney in Northampton County history to be appointed County Solicitor. He served in that capacity until his appointment to the Northampton County Bench in 1991 by Governor Robert P. Casey. He then became the second youngest judge in the history of Northampton County.

Judge Panella is a member of the American Bar Association as well as the Pennsylvania and Northampton County Bar Associations. He is also a member of the American Judges Association. In 2004, he was appointed by Chief Justice Ralph J. Cappy to the Commission For Justice Initiatives in Pennsylvania, a committee organized to coordinate and recommend judicial outreach and specialized court programs. He is the Chair of the Public Education and Community Outreach subcommittee of the Commission. He also is a member of the Justinian Society, an organization concerned with maintaining the highest standards of the legal profession.

Senior Judge

Patrick R.
Tamilia



JUDGE PATRICK R. TAMILIA was born in Pittsburgh. He attended Duquesne University, where he received his B.S., did graduate work, and received his J.D. from the School of Law. Judge Tamilia served with the U.S. Marine Corps at the end of World War II, and received a commission as an officer in the U.S. Army Artillery during the Korean War.

He has served as Chairman of the Family Law Sections of the Pennsylvania and Allegheny County Bar Associations and the Juvenile Judges section of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges; and member of the Supreme Court Domestic Relations Committee. Judge Tamilia was instrumental in the creation of the Neuropsychiatric Assessment Unit for Violent Children, the Parental Stress Center, and Infant Abuse Agency; Booth Parenting Program for unwed mothers and numerous other treatment programs for delinquent and dependent children. He has authored numerous articles on juvenile delinquency, mental health and family court. In 2000, he authored *Keystone of Justice, The Pennsylvania Superior Court*, published by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.

Judge Tamilia was an adjunct Professor of Family Law, Duquesne University School of Law for 30 years. Among his numerous awards are the Duquesne University Distinguished Alumnus Award, College of Arts and Science; Charter Membership in the original 100 members of the Century Club of Distinguished Alumni of Duquesne University; the Columbus 500 Distinguished Citizen Award; and the ACBA Juvenile Justice Award, 1991. He was chairman of the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Task Force of the Allegheny County 2001 Project. He holds the position of Honorary National President of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America. He served as a member of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Juvenile Court Procedural Rules Committee.

Judge Tamilia was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in 1969. In 1983 he was elected to a ten-year term on the Superior Court and won retention in 1993. Judge Tamilia's chambers are in Pittsburgh.

John T. J.
Kelly, Jr.



JUDGE JOHN T. J. KELLY, JR. is a graduate of LaSalle University (B.S., 1956) and Creighton Law School (LL.B., 1961); he is admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and Nebraska.

Before coming to the bench, Judge Kelly served as Deputy Secretary, of Labor and Industry (1980-1985); trial lawyer, Philadelphia Public Defenders Association (1972-1978); Assistant to the Lieutenant Governor of Pa., Assistant to the President of the Pa. Constitutional Convention (1967-1971); Assistant Attorney General, Chief Counsel Department of Public Welfare (1963-1966). He has also been a private attorney, political consultant, and campaign director.

Judge Kelly is a member of The Pennsylvania Society, The Brehon Society, YMBA Society, American Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association, the Montgomery County Bar Association, the Nebraska Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges, and Knights of Columbus. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army (1952-1954).

Judge Kelly was elected to the Superior Court as the nominee of both the Republicans and the Democrats in 1985 and was retained for a second term in 1995. He was appointed to a four year term on the Judicial Inquiry and Review Board commencing on December 9, 1988. His chambers are in Philadelphia.

Senior Judge

Zoran Popovich



JUDGE ZORAN POPOVICH was born on February 4, 1931, in Akron, Ohio. He received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Pittsburgh in 1954 and his LL.B. from the University of Pittsburgh Law School in 1957. He was on active duty with the United States Air Force from 1951-53. Judge Popovich was elected to the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County in 1973. In 1980, he was appointed to the Superior Court, and he was elected to a full ten-year term in 1985.

Stephen J. McEwen, Jr.



JUDGE MCEWEN commenced service on the Pennsylvania Superior Court in 1981, and was President Judge from 1996-2001. In 1996 he was appointed by Governor Tom Ridge to the Court of Judicial Discipline, and was elected President Judge of that Court, having been twice appointed by the Supreme Court in the 1980s to the Judicial Inquiry and Review Board.

The Supreme Court appointed him in October 2005 to serve with Chief Justice Emeritus John P. Flaherty as co-chair of the Pennsylvania Judicial Independence Commission.

Judge McEwen pursued his study of the law at St. Joseph's College and the University of Pennsylvania Law School, was in 1986 awarded the degree of Master of Laws by the University of Virginia Law School, and has received Honorary Doctorates from DeSales University, Widener University Law School, and the University of Scranton.

Judge McEwen, a trial lawyer for 23 years, was the elected District Attorney of Delaware County from 1967-1976, and thereafter served as General Counsel for the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association. He was a Professor of Trial Advocacy at Villanova University Law School for 10 years, and recently served as Editor of the "Appellate Judges News" section of the ABA Judicial Division Record and on the Editorial Board of the *ABA Judges Journal*.

Judge McEwen is a Past President of the Council of Chief Judges of State Courts of Appeal, is on the Board of Advisors of the ABA United Nations Development Project, and is a member of the American Law Institute. During the summers of 2000-2002, he was a USAID lecturer in Bulgaria, and in July 2004 was appointed by the Republic of Bulgaria to serve as Honorary Consul.

Justin M. Johnson



JUDGE JUSTIN MORRIS JOHNSON was appointed to the Superior Court in 1980 and elected to a ten-year term in 1985. He was retained for another term in 1995. His chambers are in Pittsburgh.

Judge Johnson was born at Wilksburg on August 19, 1933. He received his A.B. and J.D. degrees from the University of Chicago and has attended the Graduate Program for Judges at the University of Virginia. His active military duty, 1954-59, and his reserve duty 1963-73, including two active duty flights into Vietnam during 1971, were with the United States Air Force as an aircraft commander.

In March, 1989, Judge Johnson completed twenty years service on the Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners, the last six as its chairman. He served on the Board of Managers of the National Conference of Bar Examiners from 1984 to 1989. From 1977 until his appointment to the bench, he was a member of the Pennsylvania Crime Commission. Judge Johnson sat upon the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) from 1981 to 1989. He completed a six-year term on the Advisory Committee on the Constitution of that national, churchwide body in June, 1996. In August, 1993, Judge Johnson was appointed to a two-year term on the newly-established Court of Judicial Discipline by then Acting Governor Mark S. Singel.

Judge Johnson served for five years as an Adjunct Professor, Duquesne University School of Law. He has served as chairman of Hearing Committee 4.11, Disciplinary Board of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and is a Past President and Director of Neighborhood Legal Services Association (Pittsburgh). He is an active member of the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Bar Association, the Homer S. Brown Law Association and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

Robert E. Colville



JUDGE ROBERT E. COLVILLE was born in Pittsburgh in 1935. After graduating from North Catholic High School in 1953, Judge Colville joined the United States Marine Corps, and, upon discharge attended Duquesne University, obtaining his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963. From 1959 to 1963, he was Teacher and Head Coach of the North Catholic High School football team.

Judge Colville served the City of Pittsburgh for fifteen years as a Patrolman, Homicide Detective and Chief of Police. While serving as a Police Officer, Judge Colville enrolled in evening classes at Duquesne University School of Law where he earned his Juris Doctor degree in 1969. In 1976 he was elected District Attorney of Allegheny County, a position he held until 1997 when he was elected a Judge in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County. Judge Colville now serves as a Senior Judge for the Superior Court, being assigned to that position by the Supreme Court in March of 2006.

Judge Colville is a member of the Allegheny County Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He served on the Supreme Court's Criminal Procedural Rules Committee; Chaired the Allegheny County Victim/Witness Services Committee and the Allegheny County Drug Initiative; served on the Board of Trustees of Community College of Allegheny County. He is a member of the distinguished Duquesne University Century Club and received the "Outstanding Law Alumnus" Award from the Duquesne University Law Alumni Association.

Judge Colville and his wife, Janet, have six children and five grandchildren and make their home in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



In 1895, the Pennsylvania General Assembly established the Superior Court to hear appeals from decisions of the Courts of Common Pleas of the Commonwealth. From time to time, the legislature has expanded the Court's jurisdiction, and today it decides appeals touching almost every aspect of life and commerce in the state, including family matters, such as child custody, visitation, adoption, divorce, and support; criminal cases; issues concerning wills and estates; property disputes; and cases involving damages for breach of contract or personal injury. The judges of the Court are also responsible for hearing applications made by the Attorney General and district attorneys under the Wiretapping and Electronic Surveillance Control Act.

The Superior Court is often the final arbiter of legal disputes in Pennsylvania. Although the Supreme Court may grant a petition for allowance of appeal from a decision of the Superior Court, in the large majority of cases, such petitions are denied. Appeals allowed to the United States Supreme Court are even more infrequent.

The Superior Court was originally composed of seven judges who gathered in Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh as well as Scranton and Williamsport. The Supreme Court, in 1978, citing the "exceedingly heavy volume of appeals coming to the Superior Court," exercised its constitutional supervisory powers over Pennsylvania courts to order the Superior Court to begin sitting in panels of three judges composed of a Supreme Court justice, a Superior Court judge, and a Common Pleas judge. By rule, the Supreme Court provided that each panel would constitute a quorum and speak for the entire Superior Court.

In 1979, the voters approved an amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution providing that the Superior Court be enlarged permanently. Pursuant to this constitutional change, the General Assembly in 1980 provided for the gubernatorial appointment of eight additional judges. By the start of 1986, all fifteen Superior Court seats had been filled by election.

Under statute, judges gain seniority by length of continuous service on the Court, and judges elected or appointed together determine seniority by lot. The president judge is chosen by election of the Court to serve a five-year term. Except for cases in which the Court specially orders consideration by an en banc panel of nine judges, the Court continues to sit in three-judge panels, assisted by senior judges specially appointed by the Supreme Court.



PRESIDENT JUDGES

Charles E. Rice	1895-1915	Chester H. Rhodes	1947-1965	Edmund B. Spaeth, Jr.	1983-1986
George B. Orlady	1915-1925	Harold L. Ervin	1965-1968	Vincent A. Cirillo	1986-1991
William D. Porter	1925-1930	J. Colvin Wright	1968-1974	James E. Rowley	1991-1996
Frank M. Trexler	1930-1935	G. Harold Watkins	1974-1978	Stephen J. McEwen, Jr.	1996-2001
William H. Keller	1935-1945	Robert Lee Jacobs	1978-1979	Joseph A. Del Sole	2001-2006
Thomas J. Baldrige	1945-1947	William F. Cercone	1979-1983	Kate Ford Elliott	2006-

JUDGES OF THE COURT

Charles E. Rice	1895	John G. Whitmore	1930	John B. Hannum	1968	James R. Melinson	1988
James A. Beaver	1895	James B. Drew	1931	William F. Cercone	1969	Joseph A. Hudock	1990*
Howard J. Reeder	1895	Joseph Stadfeld	1931	Israel Packer	1971	Kate Ford Elliott	1990*
George B. Orlady	1895	William M. Parker	1932	Edmund B. Spaeth, Jr.	1973	Thomas G. Saylor	1994
John J. Wickham	1895	Arthur H. James	1933	Gwilym A. Price, Jr.	1974	D. Donald Jamieson	1995
Edward N. Willard	1895	Chester H. Rhodes	1935	Robert Van der Voort	1974	J. Michael Eakin	1996
Henry J. McCarthy	1895	William E. Hirt	1939	Donald E. Wieand	1978	Berle M. Schiller	1996
Peter P. Smith	1896	Charles E. Kenworthy	1941	John P. Hester	1978	Michael T. Joyce	1998*
William W. Porter	1897	Claude T. Reno	1942	James R. Cavanaugh	1979	Correale F. Stevens	1998*
William D. Porter	1898	F. Clair Ross	1945	John G. Brosky	1980	John L. Musmanno	1998*
Dimner Beeber	1899	W. Heber Dithrich	1945	Richard B. Wickersham	1980	Joan Orié Melvin	1998*
John I. Mitchell	1900	John C. Arnold	1945	Richard DiSalle	1980	Maureen E. Lally-Green	1998*
Thomas A. Morrison	1902	John S. Fine	1947	Justin M. Johnson	1980**	Debra McCloskey Todd	2000*
John J. Henderson	1903	Blair F. Gunther	1950	Frank J. Montemuro, Jr.	1980	Richard B. Klein	2002*
John B. Head	1906	J. Colvin Wright	1953	Zoran Popovich	1980**	John T. Bender	2002*
John W. Kephart	1914	Robert E. Woodside	1953	Perry J. Shertz	1980	Mary Jane Bowes	2002*
Frank M. Trexler	1914	Harold L. Ervin	1954	Phyllis W. Beck	1981	Robert A. Graci	2002
J. Henry Williams	1916	Phillip O. Carr	1956	Stephen J. McEwen, Jr.	1981**	Susan Peikes Gantman	2004*
William H. Keller	1919	G. Harold Watkins	1957	Vincent A. Cirillo	1982	Seamus P. McCaffery	2004*
William B. Linn	1919	Harry M. Montgomery	1960	James E. Rowley	1982	Jack A. Panella	2004*
Robert S. Gawthrop	1922	Gerald F. Flood	1961	Peter Paul Olszewski	1984	Robert E. Colville	2006**
Jesse E.B. Cunningham	1926	Robert Lee Jacobs	1965	Joseph A. Del Sole	1984		
Thomas J. Baldrige	1929	J. Sydney Hoffman	1965	Patrick R. Tamilia	1984**		
J. Frank Graff	1930	Theodore O. Spaulding	1966	John T.J. Kelly, Jr.	1986**		

*Currently serving

**Currently serving as Senior Judge



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

The Executive Administrator is the chief administrative officer of the Court and is directly responsible to the President Judge for the performance of administrative assignments necessary for the efficient operation of the Court. He manages the business and judicial operations of the Court and oversees the various administrative offices within the Court. He also is the liaison between the Superior Court and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, the other appellate courts, and the public in general.

The Executive Administrator is responsible for all of the fiscal operations of the Court. This includes preparing the Court's annual budget and monitoring the Court's expenditures of its appropriations, functions overseen by the Budget/Fiscal Coordinator. The Executive Administrator also supervises the daily processing of invoices for goods and services applied to the Court, and the procurement of supplies. Business responsibilities also extend to other operations within the Court such as the administration of the 214 individuals who serve the Court, and include maintenance of all personnel records, preparation of all personnel transaction forms, and resolution of questions and problems relating to personnel. In addition, the Executive Administrator is responsible for the administration of telecommunications within the Superior Court, including all staff and judicial offices, and the management of the facilities used by the Court.

OFFICE OF THE PROTHONOTARY

As the filing office of the Court, the Prothonotary's Office is responsible for: docketing appeals, petitions and ancillary papers; collecting appropriate fees; docketing, maintaining and circulating original records; corresponding with judges, litigants and attorneys; processing and distributing court orders, opinions and judgments; and scheduling argument and submit panels sessions as well as hearings on emergency petitions. The office also functions as a liaison between the Court and the public by providing status information concerning pending matters and answering inquiries.

This office is also responsible for the efficient management of the Court's case flow, which directly impacts appeals. Monitoring the filing of records and curing any deficiencies are primary components of case flow management.

The Criers of the Court, as members of the staff of the Prothonotary, are responsible for: indexing, maintaining, and distributing all briefs filed with the Court; preparing the courtrooms; collecting and distributing materials for each court session; and providing assistance to the judges as well as the public during argument sessions.

The Prothonotary's Office has a staff of 44 individuals and its three offices in Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh are centrally located.



CENTRAL LEGAL STAFF

The Central Legal Staff is composed of 22 attorneys who assist the Court in procedural and substantive matters under the direction of the President Judge. The Staff has offices in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Harrisburg under the immediate supervision of the Chief Staff Attorney. Staff responsibilities include screening all appeals for jurisdictional defects prior to listing before the Court; reviewing and screening cases for the Court's special treatment programs; assisting the Court in the processing of miscellaneous motions, applications for relief, and petitions for reargument; preparing bench memoranda on selected cases listed before the Court; reviewing panel decisions to assist the Court in avoiding the issuance of conflicting opinions; maintaining a computerized issue-tracking index of the Court's opinions for both conflict clearance and legal research purposes; preparing position papers and memoranda of law on various substantive and procedural issues before the Court, and, conducting seminars for new law clerks.

Through the Chief Staff Attorney, the Staff may advise the Court and President Judge, either upon request or upon the Staff's own initiative, of recommended changes in court operations and procedures due to changes in the law or administrative policy.

OFFICE OF LEGAL SYSTEMS

The Legal Systems Coordinator is responsible for the Court's computer operations and related data and information processing activities. With the help of the Legal Systems staff, which is located in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, he advises and assists the President Judge, individual judges, and the various administrative offices of the Court in all aspects of the acquisition, installation, programming and use of computers and office automation equipment, both hardware and software.

The Legal Systems staff sets up new computer accounts when new staff join the Court, assists in training of new staff, provides orientation and training for existing staff when new software and hardware are installed, and coordinates all hardware and software maintenance, resolving problems whenever possible and referring other problems to the appropriate outside source.

The Legal Systems Coordinator and other members of the Legal Systems staff work with staff from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and the other appellate courts on shared projects including the high speed data network that links all of the offices of the three courts and AOPC with each other and the Internet (PACNET), the appellate case management system (PACMS) and the shared electronic mail system.

The Legal Systems Coordinator serves as the Superior Court's representative on the Architectural Standards Committee that has been charged by the Supreme Court with making decisions affecting the Microsoft Active Directory network that is also shared by the three courts and AOPC.

The Legal Systems Coordinator is also responsible for using the Court's computer resources to generate and analyze caseload statistics and to prepare statistical reports as requested for use by the Court and for submission to the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.



OFFICE OF THE REPORTER

From the time a judge receives a case assignment until the decision is filed, the Reporter is responsible for the maintenance of all records pertaining to the judges' assignments. The Reporter's office uses computer-housed records to prepare statistical information for the Court. The Reporter also monitors late votes, file letters, en banc cases and cases 60 days or older.

The Reporter is the liaison with Thomson West, the official publisher of the Court's opinions. The Reporter provides Thomson West with filed opinions, a memorandum decisions table, whose text is not published, and a table identifying those cases in which a petition for reargument is pending.

Correction letters are sent to Thomson West before final publication in the event an error is discovered or at the request of a judge. The Reporter forwards to Thomson West transcripts of special ceremonial sessions of the Court for publication.

The Reporter adds the universal citation to the opinions before they are sent for filing. These filed opinions are electronically transmitted daily to the Superior Court Home Page, Lexis, West Law, the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts' Home Page and The Legal Intelligencer. Revisions, withdrawal of opinions and rearguments pending on opinions are updated and sent to the publishing research companies when the mentioned situations occur.

In addition to providing information from the Court to the legal publishing/research companies, the Reporter also provides the Court with information from the publishers identifying the citations where the Court's recently published decisions can be found.

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September 30, 2006.*



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