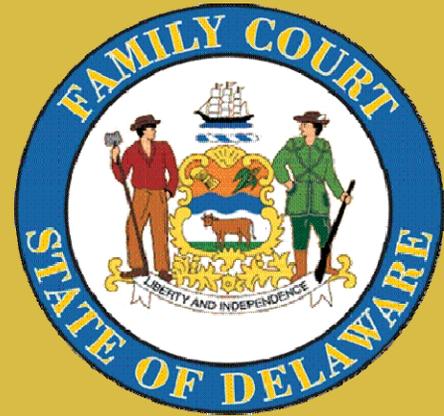


FAMILY COURT



Family Court remains committed to its goal of providing equal access to justice for the families and children under its jurisdiction in a manner that is fair and efficient and that maintains the public's trust and confidence in an independent and accountable judiciary.

The impact of the work of the Family Court to Delaware's residents is significant. Last Fiscal Year, Family Court's civil filings came from approximately 29,538 Delaware families. Family Court received more than 46,000 civil filings, more than 5,500 juvenile delinquency filings, and over 4,300 criminal filings. During this same period, the court disposed of more than 50,000 civil matters, more than 6,000 juvenile delinquency cases, and over 4,300 criminal matters.



*Chief Judge
Chandlee Johnson Kuhn*

Approximately one third of Family Court's civil cases were scheduled for mediation hearings facilitated by court employed mediators. The mediation process recognizes the importance of empowering individuals to make decisions regarding their families in a non-adversarial setting. In FY13, 13,800 matters were scheduled for mediation statewide.

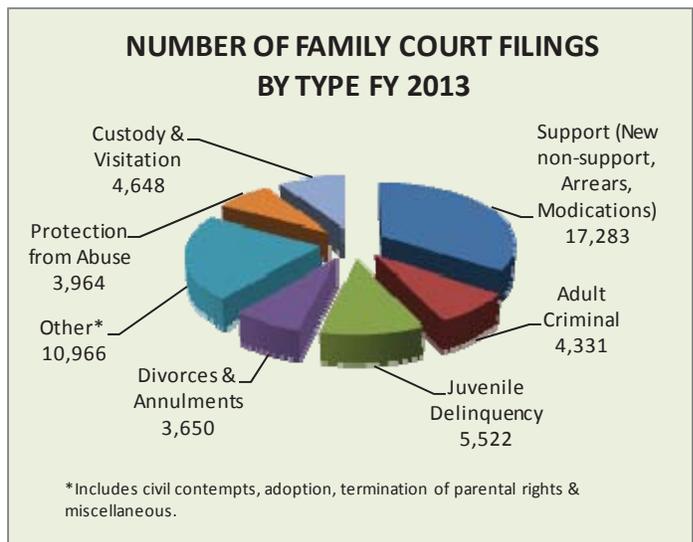
In the delinquency area, Family Court offers arbitration for eligible first time juvenile offenders. Arbitration allows eligible juveniles that accept responsibility for their conduct and who comply with specific conditions, to have their charges dismissed.

Family Court continues to preside over several specialty courts designed to meet the special needs of the populations they serve. These specialty courts include, Gun Court, Juvenile Drug Court, and Mental Health Diversion Court.

The Court Appointed Special Advocate program continued its efforts in Fiscal Year 2013 to recruit, train, and assign volunteers to represent the best interests of children in the child welfare system under the direction of its new statewide director, Gwen Stubbulo, a former CASA Coordinator.

Family Court continues to increase the resources available to its self-represented population both on its website and in its Resource Centers. These resources help ensure that the services of Family Court are accessible and fair for all of Delaware's residents.

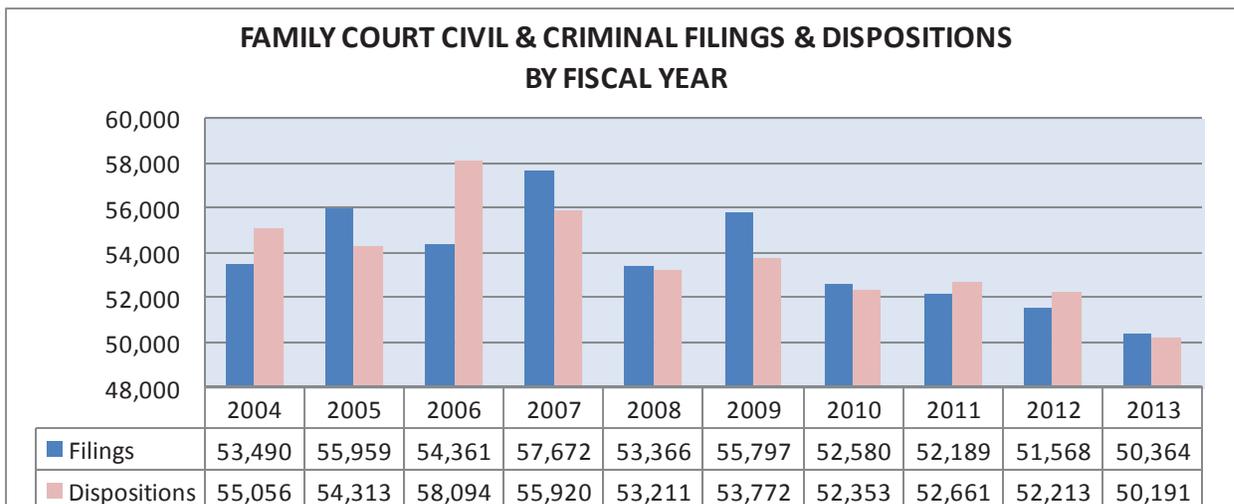
This year, the Family Court focused significant effort to enhancing security in its facilities to ensure that justice is served in a safe environment. To that end, in November 2012, Family Court asked that the United States Marshal Service for the District of Delaware complete a security audit for the court's facilities in Kent



Continued on next page

FAMILY COURT

County and in Sussex County. A survey of Family



Court's facilities in the New Castle County Courthouse was completed in 2011. As a result of the Marshal Service's reports, Family Court identified its security needs.

In partnership with the Administrative Office of the Courts, the Division of Facilities Management, and Capitol Police, Family Court began to implement the recommendations of the U.S. Marshal's reports. These efforts include increased Capitol Police presence in the Family Court buildings, security training and resources for Family Court staff, and physical security enhancements to the facilities.

During Fiscal Year 2013, more than 99,660 people came into the Family Court in Sussex County. In Kent County's Family Court building, more than 76,890 people entered. The security projects that Family Court has begun to undertake will ensure that Delaware's residents, Family Court staff and its Judges and Commissioners are as safe as possible in its current facilities.

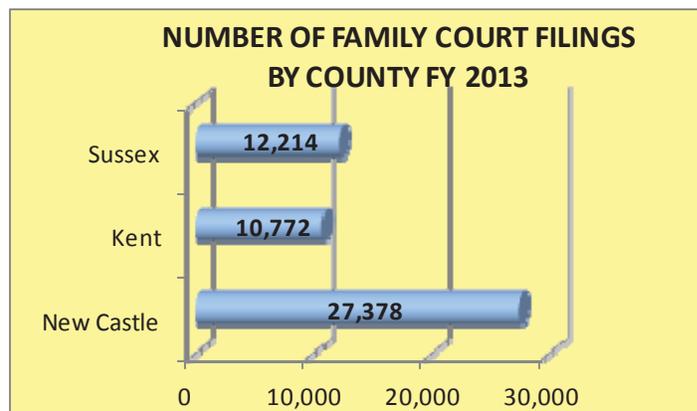
Fiscal Year 2013 brought many new faces to Family Court's bench and administration.

In January, Family Court welcomed a new Judge and two new Commissioners to its bench. The Honorable Paula T. Ryan joined Family Court as a Judge for Sussex County. The Honorable James J. Maxwell and the Honorable Dawn M. Williams joined Family Court as Commissioners serving in New Castle County. All three were confirmed unanimously by the 147th General Assembly during a Special Session in December 2012. While new to Family Court's bench, both Judge Ryan and Commissioners Maxwell and Williams were not strangers to the court. Judge

Ryan and Commissioner Maxwell came from Delaware's Department of Justice, where both tried cases in Family Court. Commissioner Williams served as the Supervising Attorney for the Family Court Unit in the Office of the Public Defender.

Family Court's Administrator, Guy Sapp, retired on October 31, 2012, ending a distinguished 42 years of service in Delaware's criminal justice community, eleven of which were served at Family Court. Leann M. Summa became Family Court's Administrator on November 1, 2012. In addition, Family Court welcomed Carrie Hyla as Director of Special Court Services; Mary Crabbe as Director of Case Processing; Warren Cook as Director of Human Resources; Renee Cicone as Director of Operations in New Castle County; and Ron Mattox as Director of Operations in Sussex County.

Finally, in FY13, Heather Morton, serving as a Judicial Case Processor for Sussex County, was named the Judicial Branch Employee of the Year.



FAMILY COURT



Front row (sitting left to right)

Judge Aida Waserstein
 Judge Mark D. Buckworth
 Judge William M. Nicholas
 Judge Jay H. Conner
 Judge Kenneth M. Millman
 Judge William J. Walls, Jr.
 Judge William L. Chapman, Jr.
 Judge Barbara D. Crowell

Back row (standing left to right)

Judge Robert B. Coonin
 Judge Alan N. Cooper
 Judge Peter B. Jones
 Judge Arlene Minus Coppadge
 Chief Judge Chandlee Johnson Kuhn
 Judge Mardi F. Pyott
 Judge Joelle P. Hitch
 Judge Michel K. Newell

COMMISSIONERS:

Standing (left to right)

Dawn Williams
 Mary Ann Herlihy
 David Jones
 Pamela Holloway
 Lester Blades
 Chief Judge Kuhn
 Janell Ostroski
 Susan Tussey
 John Carrow
 Sonja Wilson
 Loretta Young

Seated middle row (left to right)

Mary Much
 DeSales Haley
 Louann Vari
 Jennifer Mayo

Seated front (left to right)

Andrew Southmayd
 James Maxwell

