

First Judicial District of Pennsylvania

2001-2002

BIENNIAL REPORT





“Justice is justly represented blind, because she sees no difference in the parties concerned. She has but one scale and weight, for rich and poor, great and small. Her sentence is not guided by the person, but the cause... Impartiality is the life of justice, as that is of government.”

Architectural detail on the inner arch of the south portal of Philadelphia City Hall.

– William Penn

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Supreme Court of Pennsylvania



Seated, left to right:
Justice Stephen A. Zappala,
Chief Justice John P. Flaherty
(retired 2001), and Justice Ralph
J. Cappy.

Standing, left to right:
Justice Sandra Schultz Newman,
Justice Ronald Castille, Justice
Russell M. Nigro, and Justice
Thomas G. Saylor.



Seated, left to right:
Justice Ralph J. Cappy, Chief
Justice Stephen A. Zappala, and
Justice Ronald Castille.

Standing, left to right:
Justice Russell M. Nigro, Justice
Sandra Schultz Newman, Justice
Thomas G. Saylor, and Justice
Michael Eakin.

Greetings From the Chair of the Administrative Governing Board (AGB)

The Courts of Philadelphia are advancing into the exciting realm of the future. While First Judicial District (FJD) judges, administrators, and employees are stepping boldly forward, we are nonetheless progressing deliberately from solid foundations. Our commitment to uphold, cultivate, and proclaim the principals of justice was made long before our time. Modern automation initiatives, as remarkable as they may be, are simply tools to allow us to better execute our duties. We are honored to be charged with the stewardship of that promise.

Our Court of Common Pleas, Municipal Court, and Traffic Court are leaders in providing innovative programs aimed to meet the demands for justice for our citizens with fairness, efficiency, and effectiveness. Our hard work and dedication have produced impressive results. We have gained the remarkable achievements contained in this report aided by innovative thinking supported by technology. The result: FJD judges and employees have built and instituted many creative solutions to problems that had once seemed insurmountable. While problem solving is an important aspect of justice delivery, affirmative steps are required to attain the envisioned court model. The standards for judicial administration are constantly being raised. In the First Judicial District, we not only respond to those demands but also aim toward even greater successes.

At this time, it is appropriate to acknowledge the many contributions of the former First Judicial District Court Administrator Joseph J. DiPrimio, Esquire. From 1996 through most of 2002, he led the District to new heights of technological advancement and management efficiency, aspiring toward and reaching a level of excellence in the performance of judicial administration. We salute his energy, initiative, and vision that have made the First Judicial District a leader in the Commonwealth and the nation.

And now, as we look to the future with our current FJD Court Administrator, Joseph A. Cairone, the District is poised to achieve even greater levels of performance in the endeavor to dispense justice to the people of Philadelphia. The District benefits from having high-caliber personnel in all areas. With their drive and determination, the very positive results of the past *and* the future arise from a collaborative effort – the judges, the administrators, and the FJD staff all joining together – to make the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania the model that exemplifies justice in America.

– Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson

Greetings From the Court Administrator

This Biennial Report marks an important chapter in the rich history of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania (FJD). Significant among the many accomplishments described in the report are advances made in the field of technology designed to improve court operations and enhance citizen access to justice in our city. Indeed, the District is poised to realize, through implementation of new business systems, the benefits of much hard work and planning during this notable period by District judicial and administrative leadership and their staff, in partnership with developers from the FJD Data Processing Department and technicians from within the District's Management Information System Office.

Under the able leadership and direction of former FJD Court Administrator Joseph J. DiPrimio, Esquire, during this Biennium period the District laid down the plan for 2003 migration to a new network infrastructure from which to run many of our existing and new major programs. While the implementation of such sweeping change, affecting in excess of 2,500 FJD users, promises to be a daunting task, the research, evaluation, and planning – arguably the bulk of the work – were completed during the 2001-2002 Biennium. Similarly, opportunities for technological improvements in the Common Pleas Criminal Trial Section's operations were identified and developed for 2003 implementation, including an enhanced criminal case management system (CCMS) along with other case management efficiency solutions.

Further technological improvements affecting the District's several courts were developed and implemented during the course of the Biennium:

- The Trial Division's Adult Probation and Parole Department developed a computerized offender risk assessment tool for use by Probation and Parole Officers in the supervision of more than 51,000 offenders.
- The Court Reporter's Unit implemented a system for the on-line delivery of notes of testimony which, when fully operational in 2003, will provide electronic access to all parties from remote locations.
- The Juvenile Branch of the Common Pleas Court Family Division implemented a new case management system (JACS) to better serve the needs of the families and neighborhoods of the City. This comprehensive system reflects the design input

of the many juvenile justice stakeholders in the community and their efforts to better serve court-involved youth, their families, schools, institutions, and neighbors.

- The Common Pleas Orphans' Court Division instituted several changes, including the invigoration of that court's on-line presence by providing docket information and forms through the Internet.
- In Municipal Court, a new automated civil e-filing system and improvements in criminal statistical reporting will reap continuing beneficial efficiencies for years to come.
- The Philadelphia Traffic Court leadership made several changes, including an on-line credit card payment system to enhance collections of fines, fees, and costs.

This Biennial Report includes more details on these and other accomplishments. We hope the report proves helpful to those seeking information concerning the role of the Judicial Branch of government and the operation of the justice system.

— Joseph A. Cairone

Executive Summary

This Report follows the organizational structure of the First Judicial District during the 2001-2002 Biennium. The District's three constituent courts and their component parts are described, with judicial portraits arranged according to court assignment during the Biennium. Highlighted are some of the many accomplishments of the period, with certain themes flowing across the various courts.

William Penn said, "Impartiality is the life of justice, as that is of government." William Gladstone added a further guiding sentiment: "Justice delayed, is justice denied." Combined, these important principles lay at the core of the First Judicial District's mandate under the Commonwealth's Unified Judicial System to deliver justice to the citizens of Philadelphia in a fair and prompt manner. Fair solutions to literally tens of thousands of cases are wrought in the many courtrooms of the District each year, touching the lives of people tenfold that number often in unimaginably personal ways. Within these pages, you'll find statistical data reflecting the tremendous volume of new filings received by our courts in 2001 and 2002, as well as a record of the court's stunning productivity. Impartiality and efficiency guide us in all that we do so as not to fail the promise of our democratic government.

The theme of the inaugural District-wide report published as a 1996-1997 Biennial embraced the notion of Access to Justice, and promised to build on the foundation of access established during that earlier period. This 2001-2002 FJD Biennial Report describes the varied ways in which the Courts of Philadelphia fulfilled that promise through the establishment of new court programs and services and innovative, state-of-the-art technological advancements. Moreover, much research and development in preparation for expansion of the District's electronic presence in 2003 was performed during this period, thereby ensuring the District's continued commitment to improving avenues of public access to our courts.

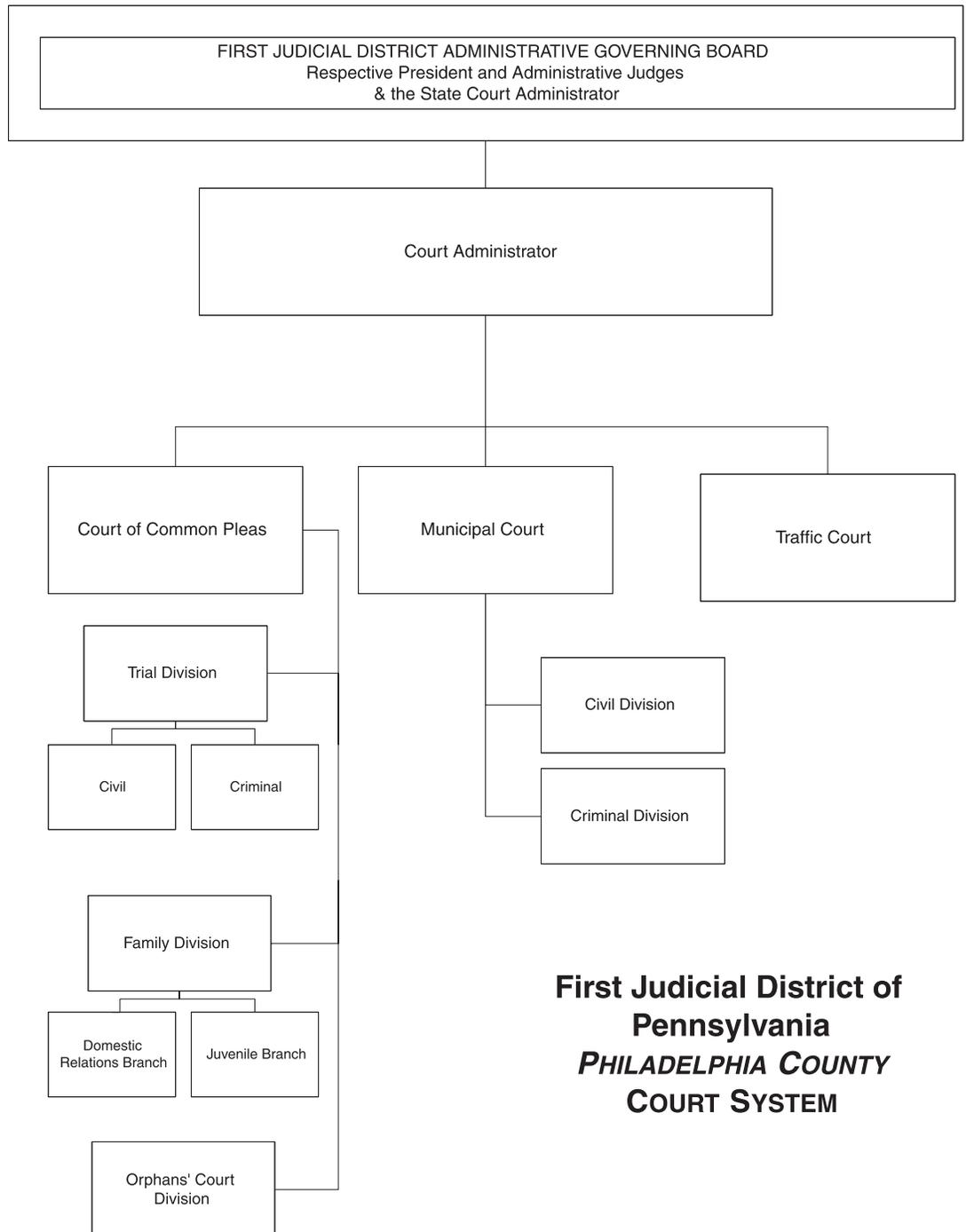
Improved public safety also is reflected throughout this Report as a further theme driving the District's Criminal Trial and Family Courts of Common Pleas, and our Municipal and Traffic Courts. The 2001-2002 highlights of the many and varied, new and successful initiatives designed to enhance public safety on our streets, in our neighborhoods, and for our families and youth are contained in this Report. Partnerships with other criminal justice and public welfare agencies and community groups remain central to the District's efforts in this vein.

First Judicial District



Courtroom 296 City Hall (artist Noël G. Miles)

Organization



First Judicial District

The origin of the Philadelphia courts coincided with the birth of the nation and our legal system of government. Within a year of drafting his original plan for the City of Philadelphia in 1682, William Penn presided over an early session of Orphans' Court. The Courts of Philadelphia had been functioning for close to 100 years when the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776, and for more than a century by the time the United States Constitution was ratified in 1789. Soon after, the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania (FJD) – along with four other Commonwealth District Courts – were organized through the Judicial Reorganization Act of 1791.

Today, judicial services are administered through 60 Judicial Districts of the Commonwealth. In Philadelphia, the FJD structure comprises three courts: 1) the Court of Common Pleas; 2) the Philadelphia Municipal Court; and 3) the Philadelphia Traffic Court. Each court is led by a President Judge and at least one Administrative Judge. Common Pleas and Municipal Court President Judges are elected by their peers, but the President Judge of Traffic Court is appointed by the governor. Administrative Judges are appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

The largest court, the general jurisdiction Common Pleas Court, is divided into three Divisions: 1) the Trial Division, with Criminal and Civil components; 2) the Family Division, consisting of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Branches; and 3) the Orphans' Court Division with jurisdiction over probate and cases involving incapacitated individuals. Each of the Common Pleas divisional elements is overseen by an Administrative Judge.

Philadelphia Municipal Court is configured with two constituent divisions: 1) the Civil Division; and 2) the Criminal Division. Municipal Court has one Administrative Judge.

Traffic Court benefits from the leadership of a President and an Administrative Judge.

Altogether, there are three President Judges and five Administrative Judges. They, along with the State Court Administrator, form the nine-member FJD Administrative Governing Board – the central management authority for the District.

Management Overview

The decisions made at the uppermost levels of FJD management affect business throughout the Courts of the District. The FJD is led by the Administrative Governing Board; the Office of the Common Pleas Court President Judge; and the Office of the Court Administrator.

The Administrative Governing Board: Composed of the three President and five Administrative Judges with the State Court Administrator, the Administrative Governing Board manages the business of the Courts of Philadelphia.

The Office of the President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas: The services of this office affect the judiciary throughout the courts and divisions of the District. In addition, President Judge Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson is the Chair of the Administrative Governing Board.

The Office of the Court Administrator: Joseph J. DiPrimio, Esquire, (1996-2002) was the 2001-2002 Court Administrator of the First Judicial District. Joseph A. Cairone was appointed the FJD Court Administrator on October 25, 2002 and assumed his current responsibilities on November 4, 2002. The Office of the Court Administrator oversees many of the FJD administrative and management services such as Data Processing, Human Resources, Management Analysis, Facilities, Financial, and Administrative Services. The Court Administrator attends meetings of the Governing Board, develops solutions to problems, and conceives and implements improvement measures throughout the District.

The First Judicial District
at the Time of the
American Civil War

An Historical Perspective

DEFENCE
OF THE
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA



Office of the Mayor of the City of Philadelphia.

BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY vested in me, by the Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled, "An Act relating to the Home Guard of the City of Philadelphia, Approved the Sixteenth day of May Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty one.

I do hereby require Brigadier General A. J. PLEASONTON, Commander of the HOME GUARD, to order out (and into the service of the City of Philadelphia,) THE WHOLE OF THE SAID GUARD, for the preservation of the public peace AND THE DEFENCE OF THE CITY. And I hereby call upon all persons within the limits of the said City, to yield a PROMPT AND READY OBEDIENCE to the Orders of the said Commander of the HOME GUARD, and of those acting under his authority in the execution of his and their said duties.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Corporate Seal of the City of Philadelphia, to be affixed, this sixteenth day of June, A. D., one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

ALEXANDER HENRY,
Mayor of Philadelphia.

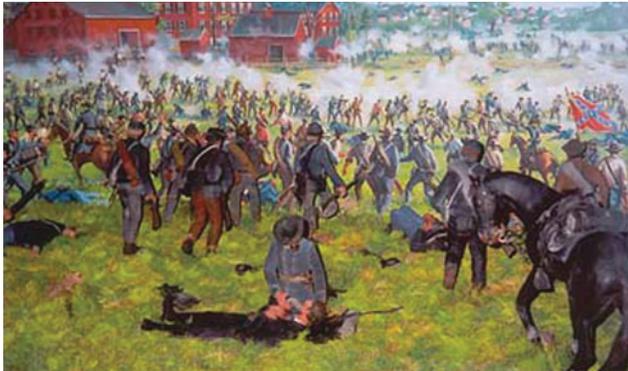
Historical Perspective

The first of July, 1863, and Oswald Thompson, President Judge of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, moved away from the half-written opinion on his desk and peered out his open chambers window on the warm and humid morning. “So much noise and so many distractions,” he thought. Directly below his window, large companies of Union soldiers, militia, and able-bodied Philadelphia men drilled in the early shadow of the courthouse located near the Independence Hall. The sound of drums and fifes could be heard from all directions.

Judge Thompson’s great city was much different now. Not at all like the days following the first shots on Fort Sumter in April, 1861, when patriotic fervor was the order of the day. In Philadelphia, as everywhere throughout the North, homes, stores, hotels, and horse-drawn streetcars were bedecked with red, white and blue bunting. Stirring military parades featuring the adolescent Boys in Blue, the First City Troop, and the colorful Zouave Corps were commonplace as thousands upon thousands of flag-waving Philadelphians looked on. Fiery pro-Union speeches and rallies were delivered from high atop hotel balconies and at every street corner. The raging and divisive politics, brought on by events leading up to the war, had ended and Philadelphia truly became a Union city. But by mid-1863, the city had settled into the more serious business of war and of defending herself. Once a jewel in the eyes of the South because of its trade and commerce, Thompson’s Philadelphia was now a border town gripped by a savage and tragic civil war. The bunting of 1861 had faded and the parades had ended. The flag-waving crowds were replaced by throngs of soldiers marching through on the way to Washington and by sailors waiting for ships to be built or repaired. Many of Judge Thompson’s courtrooms, along with most businesses, factories, and the city stock exchange, had taken on the air of recruiting stations. Court business had slowed almost to a halt since so many lawyers and litigants had enlisted in the armed forces.

The judge’s morning walks to the courthouse and evening walks back to his home at 716 Pine Street were now detoured by the Union encampment which ran East from Fifth Street to the river, and South from Walnut Street to Washington Avenue. At Washington Avenue and Swanson Street, the encampment connected with the great Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon, a facility which was equipped to feed as many as five hundred service men at a time. Thompson’s midday strolls in and around

Independence Square brought him face-to-face with the enemy as long grey lines of battle-fatigued Confederate prisoners limped passed him toward trains departing for the prison camp at Fort Delaware. His city's landscape, already dotted with almost fifty



The hell of Gettysburg — the bloodiest battle in American history.

medical centers dedicated to the war effort, was now torn and scarred by the picks and shovels of hundreds of volunteers digging entrenchments at strategic locations throughout the city. Sleepless were the judge's nights as the awakening roar of cannon fire from the foot of Washington Avenue called volunteers to their posts. Adding to his insomnia was the nightlong sound of the hoarse whistles and bells from locomotives as their trains arrived with Union wounded, then departed with newly-minted Union troops. Now, to make matters worse, the war was closing in on the city. Lee and his 75,000 men of the Army of Northern Virginia were less than a hundred miles away at a little crossroads town in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The battle of Gettysburg had begun and Oswald Thompson, Joseph Allison, and James R. Ludlow, the only members of the FJD judiciary in 1863, were attempting to cope with the administration of justice in Philadelphia in an era of uncertainty, panic, and desperation.

Thompson, Allison, and Ludlow. Although seemingly unheralded in the annals of the FJD, much can be said about these three heroic jurists and what they had to contend

with during their terms on the bench of Philadelphia. Oswald Thompson was born at Philadelphia on December 17, 1809. He studied law under Joseph R. Ingersall, Esquire, and was admitted to the bar on March 28, 1832. He was elected a Common Pleas Court judge in 1851, and was made President Judge at that time. Joseph Allison was born at Harrisburg in 1820, read law under John B. Adams, Esquire, and was admitted to the bar on November 20, 1843. In 1851, he was elected associate judge of Common Pleas Court. Both Thompson and Allison were reelected in 1861. James R. Ludlow was born at Albany, New York, on May 3, 1825. He removed to Philadelphia in 1834. He studied law under William M. Meredith, Esq., and was admitted to the bar on July 24, 1846. He was elected associate judge of the Court of Common Pleas in 1857. These three lawyers were among the foremost civil law practitioners in Philadelphia prior to assuming their judgeships. It was to be then that Thompson and Allison would ultimately leave their judicial legacies in the fields of civil law and Orphans' Court matters. Ludlow would leave his mark on criminal matters as he had the proud distinction of not having a single one of his decisions reversed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court during his thirty years in the Criminal Court. In *Commonwealth vs. Sayres*, 88 Pa. 291, 1879 WL 11354 (1879), Judge Ludlow laid down the principles which governed the investigation of insanity as a plea against a conviction of murder. The Supreme Court confirmed Ludlow's law in this case and his opinion became recognized authority. Insane asylums throughout the country published the Sayres opinion as canon law on the subject.

*B*y 1863, the city of Philadelphia had a population of more than 565,500 people. It was the second-largest city in the United States and the fourth-largest in the world. Forced to follow a fifty-three-year old legislative mandate which provided only three judges to the First Judicial District, these judges were faced with the fullest of dockets and caseloads crowded beyond imagination (in 1863, the ratio of FJD judges to Philadelphia population was one judge per 188,509 residents, compared with one judge per 11,673 residents in 2002). Conducting their business in a trial court of general jurisdiction, Thompson, Allison, and Ludlow toiled incessantly to meet the demands of a large industrial city embroiled in a horrific civil war. The judges alternated routinely among the most diverse court matters. They tried and decided every variety of civil



It's over! It's over! Lee surrenders to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse.

causes and every grade of criminal offense. They decided upon the validity of marriages, and for cause dissolved the bonds of matrimony while protecting the best interest of children involved in those disputes. They had jurisdiction in all Orphans' Court matters, landlord and tenant issues, election contests, insolvency, and all plans presented by the survey department of the City for the extension of the City Plan. They made appointments to tax revision and health boards and various other City commissions. As judges of the Court of Quarter Session they tried all the lower grades of crime. As judges of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, they tried all felonies and capital cases. Sitting alone or in panels, there was nothing the three FJD judges could do to stop the onslaught of the overlapping jurisdictional diversity which accompanied their caseloads. The three "civil war" judges were men who were far removed from the twenty-one registered millionaires who resided in Philadelphia in 1863. They maintained households, raised families and educated their children on salaries of \$4,000 a year. The courthouse had fallen on hard times and was no longer fit to house the First Judicial District: ice cold in the winter, oppressively hot in the summer; too close and confined in a bad atmosphere; and ill-ventilated criminal courtrooms of the Quarter Sessions Court, where the tainted air had long-term hazardous effects on the health of the judges who labored there every day.

Judges Thompson, Allison, and Ludlow had all earned the highest respect and admiration of the public. Their keen sense of duty and of justice, united with the highest quality of judicial temperament, commanded alike the esteem and the affection of those who were their co-laborers in the administration of the law. At one time or another during their judicial careers, each judge held the office of President Judge of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania. The judges ruled not only by the letter of the law, but by their own hearts as well. Judge Allison was known to fund appeals of his own technically sound decisions when, he felt an indigent plaintiff had enough supporting equitable principles to warrant a review by the Supreme Court. Judge Ludlow was the first to alleviate the miseries of those that came before him in the criminal court. Many an unfortunate, professing remorse and reform, left his courtroom with money given him by Judge Ludlow. President Judge Oswald Thompson died on January 23, 1866. Judge James R. Ludlow passed on September 20, 1886. Their deaths were attributed to overwork. Judge Joseph Allison died on February 8, 1896, in his forty-fifth year of judicial service to the bench of Philadelphia. The three “civil war” judges, through their labor and diligence, set the stage for future major legislative improvements in areas of judicial salaries, increased numbers of judges, more manageable caseloads and more modern facilities.

By the time the sun set on July 3, 1863, Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia was in retreat back to Virginia, having been soundly defeated at Gettysburg by Philadelphia native Major-General George Gordon Meade and his Army of the Potomac. The battle of Gettysburg was the bloodiest and largest land battle ever fought on North American soil. Casualties for both sides amounted to an estimated range of 45,000 to 50,000 men. Coupled with the Vicksburg campaign, the victory at Gettysburg turned the tide of the war toward Union victory. It was as close as the Confederate Army would ever come to Philadelphia although the war would continue for almost two more years. In all, 620,000 American lives were lost during the Civil War. This was a loss of life which exceeded all other American wars from the Revolution to the Persian Gulf War. Almost 100,000 Philadelphians served in the Federal Army. Philadelphia was the gateway to the South and the major medical center for troops of the North. During the war almost 157,000

Union troops were treated in Philadelphia hospitals for a Confederate cause best described in the words of General Ulysses S. Grant:

"I felt like anything rather than rejoicing at the downfall of a foe who had fought so long and valiantly, and had suffered so much for a cause thought that was, I believe, one of the worst for which a people ever fought, and one for which there was the least excuse."

2001-2002 Administrative Governing Board

Within the First Judicial District, the Administrative Governing Board represents the final authority for judicial administration. The Board's membership comprises the judicial leaders of the First Judicial District, along with the State Court Administrator. With the help of the First Judicial District Court Administrator, they guide the District through the continuously improving systems for the administration of justice in Philadelphia. The Board's 2002 members are spotlighted beginning immediately below. The Board's former members from 2001 are featured beginning on page 31.



Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson
*President Judge
Court of Common Pleas
Chair, AGB
(2001-Present)*

The Honorable Frederica A. Massiah-Jackson is the President Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia. She was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to serve as Chair of the Administrative Governing Board of the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania. Judge Massiah-Jackson was elected to the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas in 1983. For 18 years she served in the Trial Division Civil Court and in the Major Felony Program of the Trial Division Criminal Court. She was the Secretary of the Board of Common Pleas Judges for six years. A graduate of Chestnut Hill College (A.B. 1971) and the University of Pennsylvania Law School (J.D. 1974), she practiced corporate and civil litigation with the law firm of Blank, Rome, Comisky & McCauley before advancing to the bench. She also worked with the Pennsylvania Senate as Chief Counsel of the Senate Insurance and Business Committee. Judge Massiah-Jackson has been a Lecturer at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania since 1992.

Judge Massiah-Jackson sits on the Board of the Center For Literacy. She is a member of the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges. She was appointed to the American Bar Association's Special Committee on Youth Education from 1988-1991. Judge Massiah-Jackson has been a member of the American Inns of Court, the Board of Managers of the University of Pennsylvania Law Alumni Society, the Board of Directors of Chestnut Hill College, the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association, and the National Catholic Educational Association. She has been active in the civic, educational, and professional communities and is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions of service.



Louis J. Presenta
*President Judge
Municipal Court
(1999-Present)*

Appointed to the Philadelphia Municipal Court bench in 1982, the Honorable Louis J. Presenta was elected to a full term commencing January, 1984. Following that, he was retained in office in 1989 and 1995. In 1996 and 1997, he was appointed Supervising Judge of the Municipal Court Criminal Division. In that capacity he developed many improvements and established the first drug treatment court in the Commonwealth in 1997. In 1999, his colleagues elected him to a five year term as President Judge of the Philadelphia Municipal Court.

During his 18 years on the bench, Judge Presenta has chaired or co-chaired numerous committees, panels, commissions, and boards. Judge Presenta has lectured on the criminal justice system to students at all academic levels and for the District Attorney's Office and the Defenders' Association. He has also lectured at Continuing Legal Education seminars. He's made presentations to the Los Angeles Metropolitan Police Department, the Pennsylvania State Conference of Trial Court Judges, the National Association of Pretrial Agencies, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and the Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association on Drug Treatment Courts. He is a faculty member for the United States Department of Justice Drug Court Programs Office and the Justice Management Institute. Judge Presenta has been a recipient of many awards. In 1990, he was co-recipient of the first Philadelphia Coalition for Victim Advocacy Award, and in 1998, he received the Golden Crowbar Award from the Pennsylvania State Conference of Trial Court Judges. He was honored with the 5th Annual Cesare Beccaria Award from the Philadelphia Bar Association Criminal Justice Section, and by the Justinian Society. The President Judge is a graduate of St. Joseph's University with a law degree from the Villanova University School of Law.



Francis E. Kelly
*President Judge
Traffic Court
(Appointed August 15, 2001)*

Traffic Court President Judge Francis E. Kelly was born in June, 1962, the son of Edward and Eileen Kelly and one of ten children. He is married to Michelle Kelly, and they have one child, Thomas. The judge is a graduate of North Catholic High School, where he achieved four years as an honor student. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Temple University with a degree in Criminal Justice, and was on the Dean's List. President Judge Kelly was previously employed as Chief of Staff for State Representative Taylor, and served as liaison with Philadelphia Delegation and House Majority Leader Perzel. He was appointed as Judge of Philadelphia Traffic Court by Governor Thomas Ridge in October, 1996, and successfully ran for City-wide election as Traffic Court Judge in May, 1997. He was appointed by Governor Ridge to serve as President Judge of the Philadelphia Traffic Court, in August, 2001, and as such is a Member of the FJD Administrative Governing Board. He was certified and trained at Wilson College, is a Member of the Special Court Judges Association of Pennsylvania, and a Member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. President Judge Kelly is an avid sports fan and golfer.



James J. Fitzgerald, III
Administrative Judge
Trial Division
(Appointed February, 2002)

James J. Fitzgerald, III was born June 4, 1939 in Boston, Massachusetts. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania (B.A.) in 1962, and from Villanova University School of Law (J.D.) in 1966. He was Vice President of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce from 1986 to 1989, and Chief Counsel for the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board in 1980 and 1981. He was a City Controller candidate in 1979, and an Assistant District Attorney from 1967 to 1979. Administrative Judge Fitzgerald is a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association, the St. Thomas More Society, and the Brehon Law Society. He received the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Merit Award in 1989. He was elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas in November, 1989. The judge is married to Carol Fitzgerald; and they have three children — Melissa, James J., IV, and Craig.

James J. Fitzgerald, III has been a judge for the past thirteen years. He has served seven years in the Major Criminal Trial Program, four of which were spent in the Homicide Division. He most recently served as supervisor of the Major Criminal Case Calendar Program. He was appointed Administrative Judge of the Common Pleas Court Trial Division by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in February, 2002.



Myrna P. Field
*Administrative Judge
Family Division
(Appointed February, 2002)*

The Honorable Myrna Field was appointed Administrative Judge of Family Court in February, 2002 by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Prior to that, she had been a judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County since January, 1992, with experience sitting in Criminal, Civil, and Family Court Divisions. The Administrative Judge has been a practitioner, lecturer and television commentator on issues of family law. She has additional experience as President of the Mid-Atlantic Legal Foundation and the Founder and Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Consumer Services. She was District Counsel to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and an Assistant District Attorney.

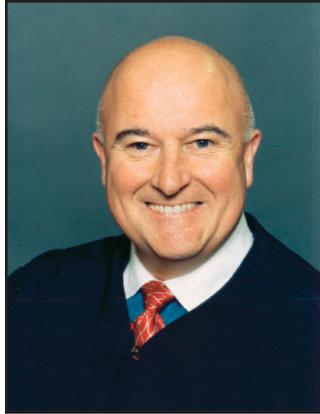
In addition, Administrative Judge Field counts among her notable professional associations: her membership in the Society Hill Historic Certification Task Force; her membership and Executive Committee standing with the Family Law Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association; and her role as the editor of the Executive Committee Newsletter. Additionally, the judge has experience as a Board Member of the Towne Pride Works; Treasurer of the Fairmount Park Advisory Council; Board Member of the Old Pine Community Center; President of the Society Hill Civic Association; and Co-Chair of Civil Conversations Committee of Court of Common Pleas.



Joseph D. O'Keefe
*Administrative Judge
Orphans' Division
(2001-Present)*

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania appointed Judge Joseph D. O'Keefe as Administrative Judge of the Orphans' Court Division in December, 2000. He was elected to the Court of Common Pleas in November, 1983 and re-elected for a second ten-year term in November, 1993. Judge O'Keefe previously served as Supervising Judge of the Complex Litigation Center from January, 1999 to December, 2000 and as a Team Leader for the Day Forward 1997 Program from January, 1997 to December, 1998. Judge O'Keefe has also served as the Civil Motion Judge and spent nearly ten years in the Criminal Section of the Trial Division. As Administrative Judge of the Orphans' Court Division, Judge O'Keefe worked to modernize court processes through technology and the Internet. He implemented a new case management and docketing system and improved access to the court through the addition of forms, materials and references to the Orphans' Court web site. The Judge has sought out the assistance of, and improved relations between, the Probate Bar and the court.

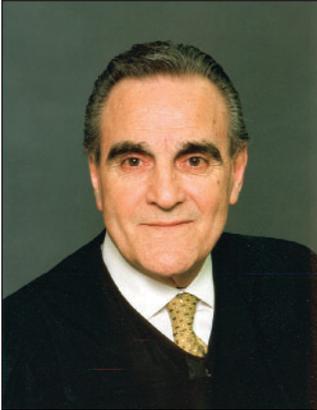
Judge O'Keefe received his B.S. from St. Joseph's University in 1966 and his J.D. from Duquesne University in 1973. The Judge currently sits on the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Orphans' Court Rules Committee and has been a regular participant in continuing legal education seminars.



Séamus P. McCaffery
*Administrative Judge
Municipal Court
(Appointed October, 2001)*

Judge Seamus P. McCaffery was born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, on June 3, 1950, the second of seven children born to Seamus and Rita McCaffery. He graduated from Cardinal Dougherty High School in 1968, and joined the U.S. Marine Corps. He continued to serve in the Marine Corps Reserve, rising to the rank of Captain. He served in the Air Force Reserve, rising to the rank of Colonel. He serves as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer for Homeland Defense to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In 1970, he joined the Philadelphia Police Department as a Vice/Narcotics investigator, and later as a detective, worked in the Homicide and Major Crimes Divisions. Seamus earned a Bachelor's degree from La Salle University, and then his Juris Doctor degree from Temple University School of Law. He is a member of the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Washington, D. C. bars. He became the first retired Philadelphia Police officer ever elected as a trial judge in Philadelphia. He won the John Peter Zenger - Distinguished Jurist Award among many commendations. He has won recognition by appearing on television and on every major radio talk show. He initiated the Nuisance Night Court program, and the court conducted at the stadium during Philadelphia Eagles football home games. He is sometimes called "Philadelphia's Quality of Life Judge." In October, 2001, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court appointed him as the Municipal Court Administrative Judge. He has three sons, Sean, Jimmy, and Brian, and is married to Lise Rapaport, Esquire.



Fortunato N. Perri
*Administrative Judge
Traffic Court
(2001-2002)*

Judge Fortunato N. Perri, Sr. is married to Mary Perri, and they have four children. He served as Administrative Judge of the Philadelphia Traffic Court until November, 2002, after having been appointed on December 22, 2000 by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. Judge Perri served as State Representative from 1972 through 1976, worked for Legislative Field Services for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for 10 years, and worked as the Training and Field Coordinator for the Delaware River Port Authority Police Department for five years. Judge Perri was appointed by Governor Thomas Ridge to fill a judicial vacancy at the Philadelphia Traffic Court in 1997, and later that same year ran successfully for election as Judge of the Philadelphia Traffic Court. He was certified and trained at the Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Zygmunt A. Pines, Esquire
*Court Administrator
of Pennsylvania
(2000-Present)*

Zygmunt A. Pines was appointed acting Court Administrator of Pennsylvania in January, 2000 and was appointed Court Administrator by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in January, 2001. As such, he is a member of the District's Administrative Governing Board. The Office of the State Court Administrator was created by the Pennsylvania Constitution to assist the Supreme Court. He helps to manage the Commonwealth's 1,600 judicial employees, and under the direction of the Chief Justice and Justices, heads the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) in providing the necessary support for the administration of the courts in the Commonwealth. The Court Administrator's Office also acts as a liaison with executive and legislative branches. Mr. Pines was chief legal counsel for the AOPC for eight years before assuming his current post as Pennsylvania's seventh court administrator. Prior to joining the AOPC, he was an assistant chief attorney for the Superior Court of Pennsylvania from 1978 to 1991. He also served as chief legal counsel to the Governor's Commission on Judicial Reform in 1987 and was an adjunct professor at both the University of Pennsylvania from 1986 to 1991 and Villanova Law School from 1984 to 1985. Mr. Pines had previously clerked for the Hon. James R. Cavanaugh and was an associate in the law firm of Raynes, McCarty, Binder & Mundy, 1975-1978. He has degrees from Wilkes University (B.A.), Cleveland State University College of Law (J.D. cum laude) where he was editor of the Law Review, and the University of Pennsylvania Law School (LL.M.). He authored many articles in various publications on criminal justice, appellate procedures and ethics. The State Court Administrator is also a member of the Judicial Counsel of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency; and the Pennsylvania Association of Court Management.

2001 Administrative Governing Board Members



Frank J. Little
*President Judge
Traffic Court
(1998 to August, 2001)*



John W. Herron
*Administrative Judge
Trial Division
(1996-2001)*



Esther R. Sylvester
*Administrative Judge
Family Division
(2000 to February, 2002)*



Robert S. Blasi
*Administrative Judge
Municipal Court
(1997 to October, 2001)*

Office of the Court Administrator

Purpose

The Court Administrator is the highest non-judicial position in the First Judicial District. The Court Administrator meets and consults with the District's equivalent of a Board of Directors: the Administrative Governing Board (AGB). The Court Administrator ensures that the Board's directives are properly executed. The position also requires the conception, creation, development, and implementation of new programs and project solutions to fulfill the District's needs.

Responsibilities

The First Judicial District Court Administrator position is a part of the Unified Judicial System of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Office of the Court Administrator of the First Judicial District was created by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania in 1996. That same year, Joseph J. DiPrimio, Esquire, was appointed FJD Court Administrator. He continued to serve the District in that capacity during 2001 and 2002 until his retirement. Joseph A. Cairone was appointed to succeed Mr. DiPrimio on October 25, 2002. The Court Administrator's Office acts as the central management point for FJD administrative activities. The Office provides oversight for several major service centers that broadly affect the work of the courts throughout the District. These include: Financial Services; Data Processing and Technology; Management Information Systems; Human Resources; Project Management Analysis and Reporting; Administrative Services, including Space and Facilities; Procurement; Legal Services, and Court Reporters. The Court Administrator also directs a team of 13 Deputy Court Administrators located in the various sections of the divisions that make up the Common Pleas, Municipal, and Traffic Court arms of the FJD. Concerned chiefly with those services that come to bear on all of the FJD component courts and divisions, the purview of the Office of the Court Administrator is the most wide-ranging of all the non-judicial positions in the FJD.

Data Processing

The Data Processing Unit of the First Judicial District is responsible for the operation of three computing centers, the development of applications to support major court functions, the maintenance of electronic links to numerous public agencies and statistical analysis of court operations. Major case management systems supported by

the department include: Common Pleas and Municipal Court Criminal; Common Pleas Civil; Jury; Juvenile and Domestic Relations. Ongoing support and development of the court's website is also a responsibility of the Data Processing Department.

Computer operations functions 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year providing critical information to Court personnel and allied justice agencies.

Management Information Systems

MIS is responsible for network management and desktop support (24/7) in the First Judicial District. This includes all network support functions such as applications development, project management, hardware and software standards, maintenance and design. Additionally, MIS produces a number of statistical reports including Judicial Accountability. MIS is currently staffed by 16 network professionals who are responsible for all levels of support.

The First Judicial District Network is a wide area network that interconnects Common Pleas Court, Municipal Court, and Traffic Court and provides additional connectivity to all court mainframes and the City of Philadelphia as well as many outside agencies and organizations. All software and hardware standards are reviewed semi-annually and upgraded accordingly. The FJD network currently has approximately 3,000 connections in 12 locations.

The current major initiative is a complete overhaul of the entire network, including the replacement of all servers and the replacement and/or upgrade of all desktops including a new network operating system, desktop operating systems and software suites. The project is due to be completed by the Fall of 2003. This follows a year of preparation including the upgrade of the network infrastructure in all FJD locations. Support is also provided for ongoing projects such as the new Criminal Case Management System (CCMS), Municipal Court's e-filing system (CLAIMS), JNet and the Juvenile Case Management System (JACS).

Office of Human Resources

The Office of Human Resources administers personnel activities relating to the 2,500 full-time and 150 part-time employees of the First Judicial District. Unit functions include: employee and labor relations; recruitment, applicant processing, testing and

staffing; appointments, transfers, and reclassifications; payroll administration; benefits coordination and processing; review and tracking of leave usage and service connected injuries; maintenance of personnel files; performance appraisal management; training and development; Title VII investigations; review of disciplinary appeals; compliance with employment laws; and maintenance of an automated Human Resource Information System.

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT		
Personnel Transactions		
	2001	2002
Applications	2,996	3,834
Qualifying Tests Administered	1,212	1,093
New Appointments	227	258
Promotions	177	184
Reclassifications	77	108
Transfers Within Divisions	142	81
Transfers Between Divisions	54	51
Pay Increments Processed	948	726
Longevities Processed	363	425
Separations	253	273

Special Human Resource projects in 2001 and 2002 included:

- coordinated mandatory “Sensitivity” training for all employees of the District to enhance respect for the diversity of customers and co-workers;
- initiated a legal review and drafting of minor revisions to Personnel Policies;
- coordinated CPR/Defibrillator Training and Red Cross Blood Drive;
- served as Court Placement Liaison with the Workers In Transition Program; and
- established function-based work teams in the unit to pursue improvements in processing procedures and customer service.

Project Management Analysis and Reporting

Two Senior Staff Advisors work for the Court Administrator providing management analysis and project management capabilities to the FJD. With over 60 years of combined experience throughout myriad court functions and operations, the Senior Staff Advisors can comfortably work with various offices in almost all facets of the FJD business operation. They provide statistical and other reports to Administrative Judges, the FJD Court Administrator, the Chief Deputy Court Administrator and Deputies, and *ad-hoc* management analyses as required by the President and Administrative Judges and other court managers. The office has regular duties of producing the FJD Annual and

Biennial Reports and *The Courterly*, the District newsletter. They frequently research and write position papers and articles. Senior Staff Advisors also provide leadership and other professional management training for the District and for court management organizations like the Pennsylvania Association of Court Management (PACM) and the Mid-Atlantic Association for Court Management (MAACM). Senior Staff Advisors have expertise in project management, automated presentations, information compilation, design, layout, text, graphics, printing, and large document production and management.

Administrative Services

Administrative Services provides a variety of support services throughout the First Judicial District. A primary area of concentration is maintenance and facility management. Coordination is provided for maintenance, renovation, construction, and cleaning services. Complete electrical, carpentry, air conditioning, painting, millshop, and drapery/upholstery services are provided.

Administrative Services provides planning, requisition preparation, and liaison services with the City Communications Department for the telecommunications requirements of the FJD. In addition to the installation and maintenance of telephone equipment, administration is provided for the over 2,000 telephone voice mail boxes now assigned to the FJD.

Administrative Services also processes and provides routing documentation for purchase requisitions submitted by the Offices of the President Judge, Trial Division, and the units under the Court Administrator.

Under the auspices of Administrative Services, the Microfilm Unit provides complete filming, developing, and computerized access for court records.

During 2000-2001, major renovation work was completed in the Prothonotary's Office and Orphans' Court. Several smaller scale renovations were performed in courtrooms, chambers, and office space in City Hall and at 1801 Vine Street.

New telephone systems were installed in Municipal Court (34 S. 11th Street), Traffic Court, and in Family Court Domestic Relations Branch locations. An Automatic Call Director system was also installed for Domestic Relations at 34 S. 11th Street in June, 2001.

Procurement Unit

Located in Room 368 City Hall, the Procurement Unit is under the direction of Joseph DiGuglielmo, who reports to the FJD Court Administrator. The Procurement Unit controls purchasing of supplies, equipment, and services within the First Judicial District. The Unit is also responsible for the negotiation, implementation, and on-going administration of contracts and lease agreements. Marc Flood, Esquire, oversees that aspect of Procurement operations. Payment of court-appointed counsel fees, City of Philadelphia-maintained grant purchases, travel, and training expenditures are processed in Procurement, and Inventory Control and property management functions are also performed here.

Activities of the Procurement Unit are intended to ensure that quality goods and services are expeditiously delivered to judges and staff at reasonable cost.

The Procurement Unit's operational efficiencies reap benefits throughout the FJD. Cost savings fund technology enhancements, training, and space improvements. In 2001 and 2002, Procurement Unit reserves helped finance the following projects: new civil courtrooms to include a high-tech courtroom; a massive Criminal Case Management System; Court Reporter Electronic Transcript Archiving; Enterprise Infrastructure Project (new network); relocations and space renovations; and increased training opportunities for judiciary and staff.

Legal Services

The Deputy Court Administrator for Legal Services is the designated agent for acceptance of service of process in connection with litigation commenced against the First Judicial District, any of its courts, divisions, or employees. Similarly, subpoenas to produce documents or provide testimony directed to the First Judicial District, its judges, or its employees, must be served on the Deputy Court Administrator for Legal Services. The Deputy Court Administrator for Legal Services also monitors litigation commenced against the District and its employees if they are represented by outside counsel. Finally, the Deputy Court Administrator for Legal Services consults with the FJD Court Administrator on all legal matters relevant to the administration of the business of the court in subject areas involving litigation, human resources, technical

assistance to the various courts, and procedural review and amendment of local practice, and assists with review of court functions, selection of vendors and implementation of automated programs.

In addition to the above duties, during the 2001-2002 Biennium, the Office of Legal Services was involved in: providing on-going legal and procedural advice and assistance to the Traffic Court; designing and implementing an Electronic Filing System that provides for the electronic filing, scheduling, and disposition of all Civil Mental Health petitions in Philadelphia County; and developing and installing a state-of-the art Case Management System for the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas.

Office of Financial Services

The Deputy Court Administrator for Financial Services reports to and collaborates with the First Judicial District (FJD) Court Administrator and the members of the Administrative Governing Board to oversee, analyze, and develop financial policies and systems. Direct responsibilities include preparing, implementing, and monitoring of the operating budget totaling \$140 million (general fund *and* grants) and preparation of regular macro-level and micro-level financial reports. Other duties include developing and implementing financial systems and gathering, analyzing and forecasting data for preparation of FJD financial requirements. Through the use of various financial tools, the office prepares impact and variance analyses of staffing and procurement requests against operating resources. The office interacts with: judicial leaders; the FJD Court Administrator and other Deputy Court Administrators; operating and functional units of the FJD, including Human Resources, Data Processing, and Procurement; and the financial and administrative staff of the City of Philadelphia and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC).

The Office of Financial Services employs desktop and mainframe applications for the management and utilization of FJD financial resources. Mainframe applications connect with the FJD Data Processing and Human Resources offices, the City of Philadelphia, and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts. Also, as part of the FJD Criminal Case Management System upgrade, the Office of Financial Services is

working with other FJD staff and contractors to develop and upgrade the counsel fee tracking and payment application.

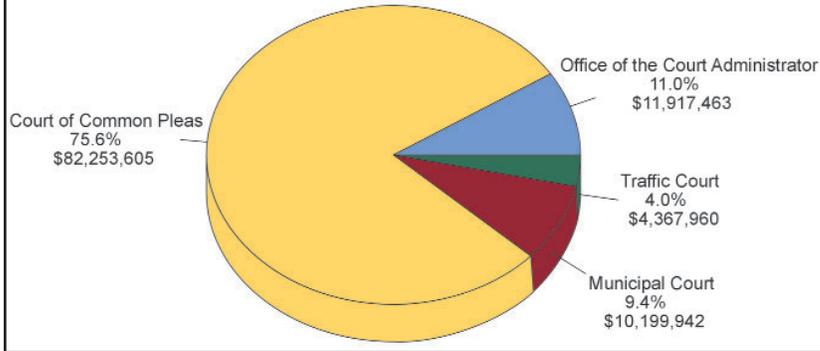
Through the use of these applications and the FJD network, the Office of Financial Services has developed the means for department heads to view budget balances and project the cost of proposed purchases against their respective budgets.

Responsibility for grants administration and FJD records management falls under the auspices of the Office of Financial Services. In November 2001, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania adopted a “Record Retention and Disposition Schedule with Guidelines” that became effective on January 14, 2002. Its purpose is to provide a working schedule for the Unified Judicial System and establish procedures for storing and archiving records, and for the proper disposal of permanent and non-permanent records.

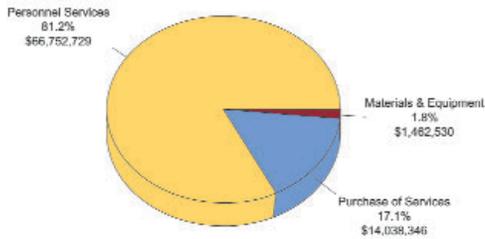
The original schedule was developed by FJD employees Dave Lawrence, Chief Deputy Court Administrator; Janet Fasy Dowds, Deputy Court Administrator for Court Reporting and Interpreter Services; Dominic Rossi, Deputy Court Administrator, Legal Services; Joseph Martucci, Grants Administration and Records Management; and Senior Staff Advisors Carl Divens, and Len Hacking. The schedule establishes a central point of contact for record retention in each of the 60 Judicial Districts: The Record Retention Officer. The Record Retention Officer for the FJD is Joseph Martucci.

Although still in its earliest stages, some the departments in the First Judicial District have already begun to utilize the schedule to dispose of aged non-permanent records, thus freeing up storage space for more current documents. These schedules and guidelines can serve as tools for the review and implementation of effective of record management plans and practices.

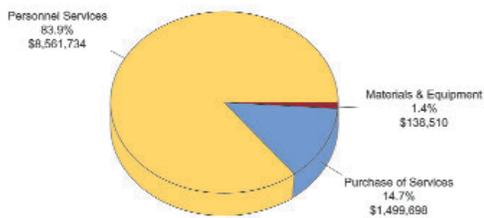
**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



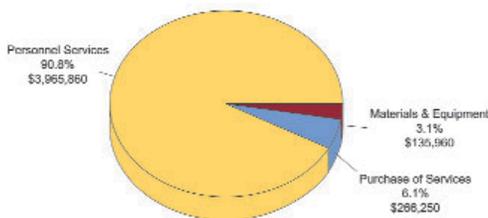
**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



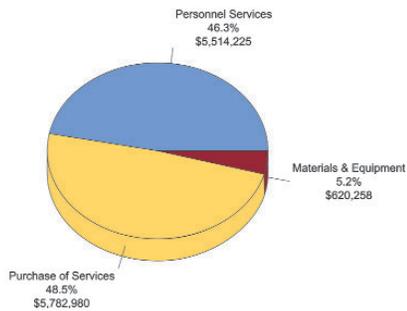
**MUNICIPAL COURT
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



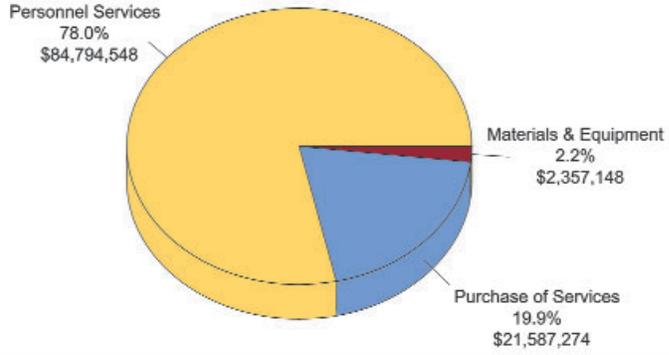
**TRAFFIC COURT
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



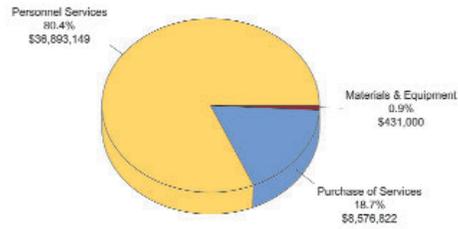
**OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



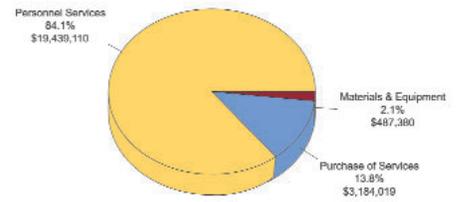
**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



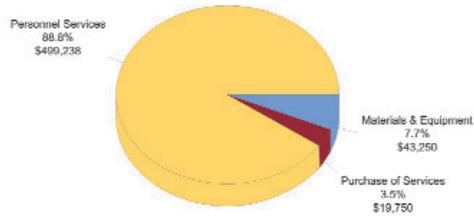
**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - TRIAL DIVISION
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



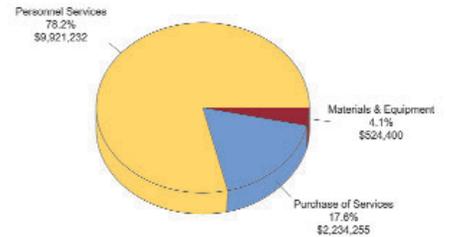
**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - FAMILY DIVISION
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



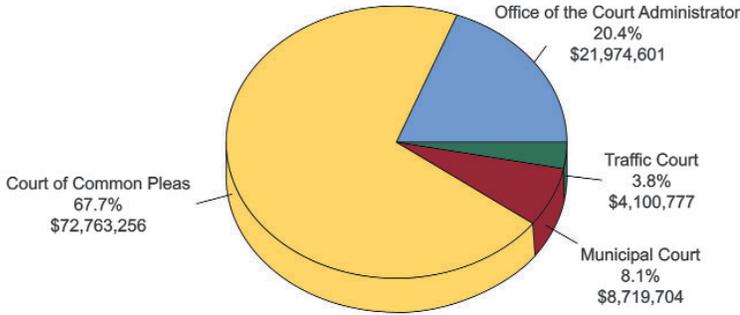
**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - ORPHANS' COURT
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



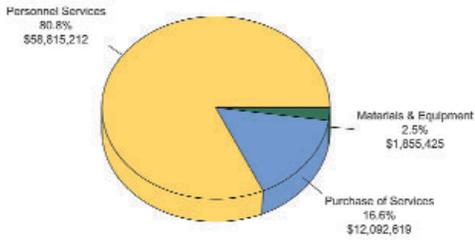
**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - PRESIDENT JUDGE
FY01 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



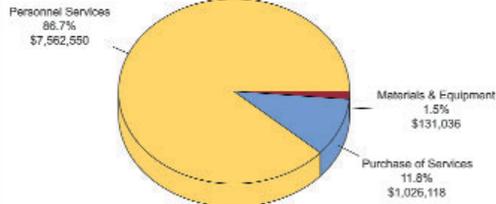
**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT
FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



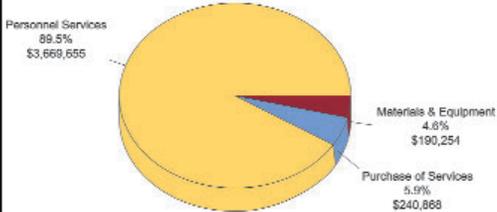
**COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



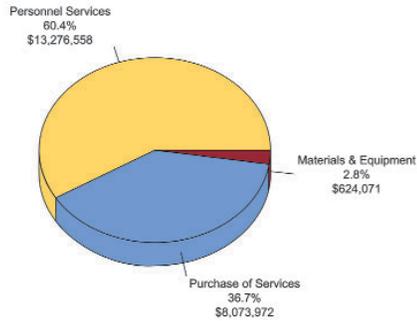
**MUNICIPAL COURT
FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



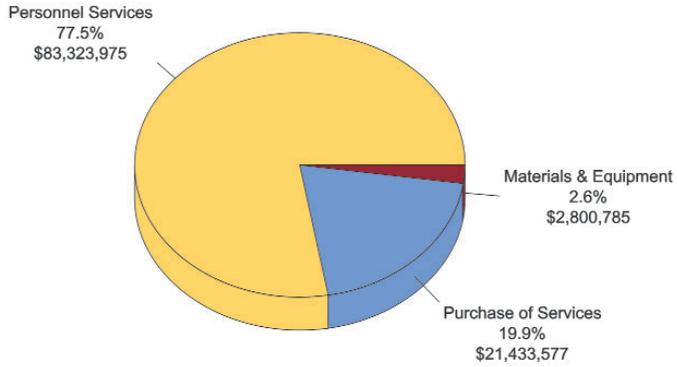
**TRAFFIC COURT
FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



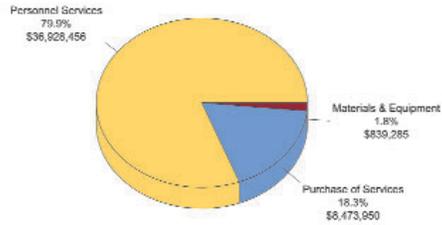
**OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation**



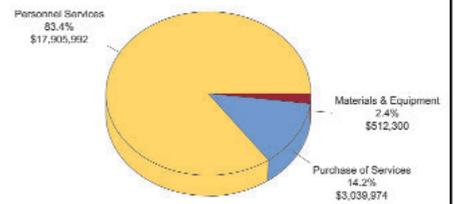
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation



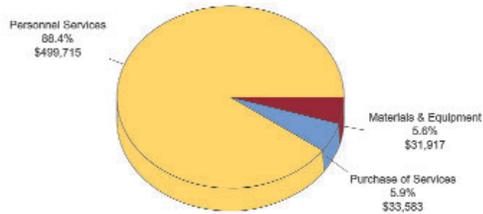
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - TRIAL DIVISION FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - FAMILY DIVISION FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - ORPHANS' COURT FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - PRESIDENT JUDGE FY02 General Fund Budget Appropriation

