

United States Courts for the First Circuit



2024 Annual Report

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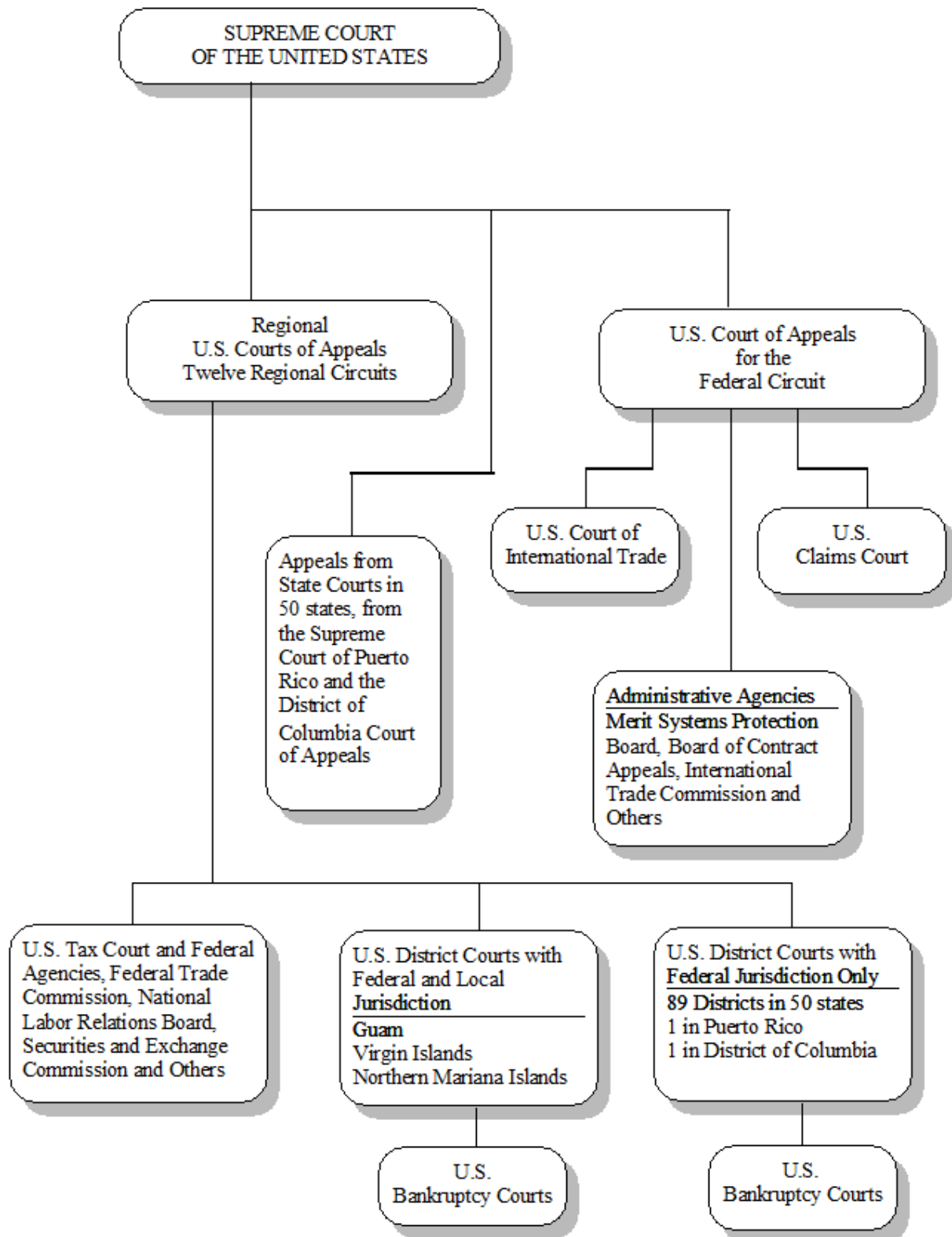
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Foreword**Susan J. Goldberg**
Circuit Executive

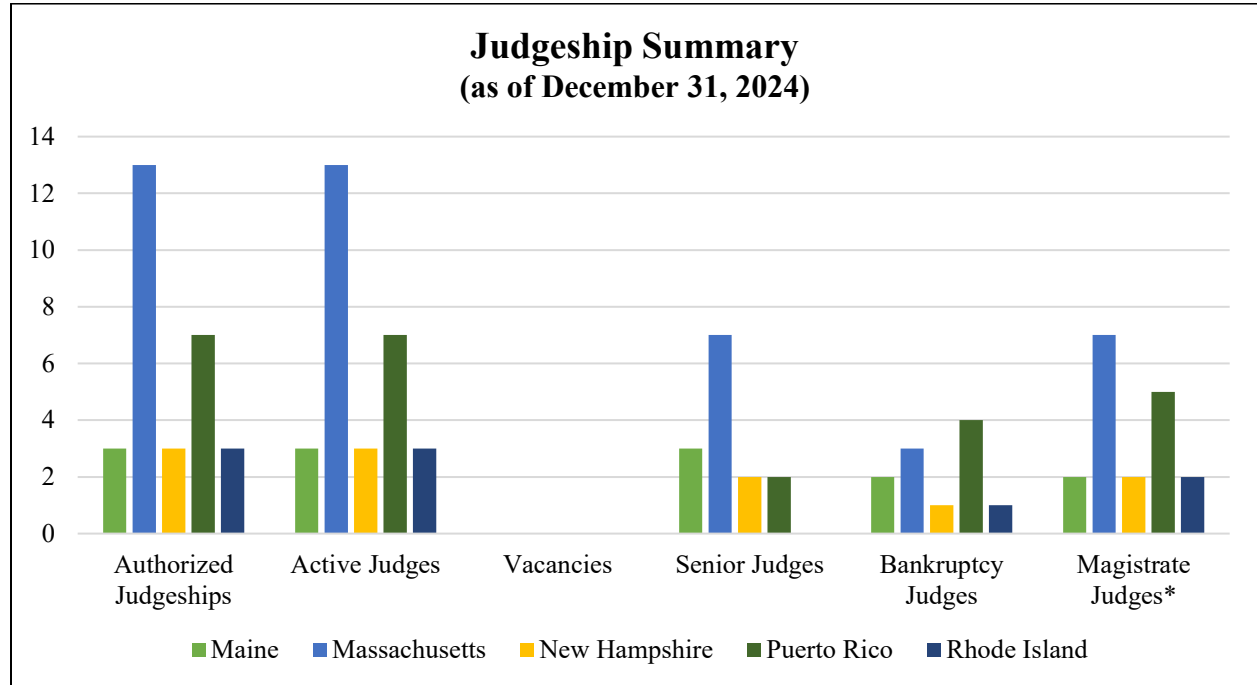
I am pleased to present the 2024 Annual Report of the United States Courts of the First Circuit, which highlights the work of the judges and staff in each of our five districts and in the Court of Appeals. The information catalogued here — from case filings to defenders' appointments to presentencing investigations and post-conviction supervision rates, as well as court participation in many local and national working groups and outreach activities — makes clear the depth and breadth of activities in which our personnel are engaged. I hope that you will share my view that this work reflects the substantial contribution made to our democracy by the members of the Third Branch. I wish to thank all judges and staff circuit-wide for their deep commitment to the judiciary, which is reflected in these pages. I also wish to recognize, in particular, those who prepared the information and compiled the material in this report, including the unit executives circuit-wide and staff of the Office of the Circuit Executive: Amy Campbell, Kristen Callahan, Sierra Dennison, Jessica Pace, Gina Riccio, and Paige Young.

Thank you for your interest in the First Circuit.

Structure of the Federal Judiciary



Judges and Judicial Milestones



Judgeship Summary (as of December 31, 2024)						
Districts	Authorized Judgeships	Active Judges	Vacancies	Senior Judges	Bankruptcy Judges	Magistrate Judges*
Maine	3	3	0	2	2	2
Massachusetts	13	13	0	7	3	7
New Hampshire	3	3	0	2	1	2
Puerto Rico	7	7	0	2	4	5
Rhode Island	3	3	0	0	1	2
Total Dist. Ct.	29	29	0	13	11	18
Total Court of Appeals	6	5	1	6	-	-
Total 1st Cir.	35	30	1	19	11	18

* Does not include recalled judges.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIRST CIRCUIT

Honorable David J. Barron, Chief

Honorable Bruce M. Selya
Honorable Sandra L. Lynch
Honorable Kermit V. Lipez
Honorable Jeffrey R. Howard
Honorable O. Rogeriee Thompson

Honorable William J. Kayatta, Jr.
Honorable Gustavo A. Gelpí
Honorable Lara E. Montecalvo
Honorable Julie Rikelman
Honorable Seth R. Aframe

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

Honorable Lance E. Walker, Chief
Honorable Nancy Torresen
Honorable Stacey D. Neumann

Honorable George Z. Singal
Honorable John A. Woodcock, Jr.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE

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

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

Honorable John C. Nivison
Honorable Karen Frink Wolf
Honorable David M. Cohen (recalled)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Honorable F. Dennis Saylor IV, Chief	Honorable Myong J. Joun
Honorable Nathaniel M. Gorton	Honorable Julia E. Kobick
Honorable Richard G. Stearns	Honorable Brian E. Murphy
Honorable Denise J. Casper	Honorable Rya W. Zobel
Honorable Indira Talwani	Honorable Mark L. Wolf
Honorable Mark G. Mastroianni	Honorable William G. Young
Honorable Leo T. Sorokin	Honorable Douglas P. Woodlock
Honorable Allison D. Burroughs	Honorable Patti B. Saris
Honorable Angel Kelley	Honorable Michael A. Ponsor
Honorable Margaret R. Guzman	Honorable George A. O'Toole, Jr.

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Honorable Elizabeth D. Katz, Chief	Honorable Janet Bostwick
Honorable Christopher J. Panos	

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

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

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Honorable Landya B. McCafferty, Chief	Honorable Paul J. Barbadoro
Honorable Joseph N. Laplante	Honorable Steven J. McAuliffe
Honorable Samantha D. Elliott	

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Honorable Kimberly A. Bacher, Chief

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

Honorable Andrea K. Johnstone
Honorable Talesha L. Saint-Marc

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

Honorable Raúl Arias-Marxuach, Chief	Honorable Camille L. Vélez-Rivé
Honorable Aida M. Delgado-Colón	Honorable Gina R. Méndez-Miró
Honorable Pedro A. Delgado Hernández	Honorable Jay A. García-Gregory
Honorable Silvia Carreño-Coll	Honorable Francisco A. Besosa
Honorable Maria Antongiorgi-Jordán	

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

Honorable Mildred Cabán, Chief	Honorable Edward A. Godoy
Honorable Enrique S. Lamoutte	Honorable María de los A. González

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

Honorable Bruce J. McGiverin	Honorable Giselle López-Soler
Honorable Marcos E. López	Honorable Héctor L. Ramos-Vega
Honorable Marshal D. Morgan	

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

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

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

Honorable Diane Finkle, Chief

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

Honorable Lincoln D. Almond
Honorable Patricia A. Sullivan

Judicial Milestones and Other Highlights

Court of Appeals

On May 29, 2024, Judge Aframe was sworn in as a circuit judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

On October 31, 2024, Judge Kayatta assumed senior status.

Bankruptcy Appellate Panel

In August 2024, Judge Harwood, of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire, retired after serving over ten years on the United States Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the First Circuit (BAP).

District of Maine

Chief Judge Walker became Chief Judge for the District of Maine on March 18, 2024. In 2024, he chaired the District's Criminal Law Committee and was a member of the First Circuit Judicial Council, the First Circuit Judicial Council Alternative Sentencing Committee, the First Circuit Judge's 2026 Workshop Planning Committee, the Judicial Conference of the United States (JCUS) Committee on Financial Disclosure, and the Employment Dispute Resolution (EDR) Appeals Panel. Chief Judge Walker was also the chair of the selection committee for the 2024 Morton A. Brody Distinguished Judicial Service Award. Further, he presented to hundreds of high school students as part of the District of Maine's Ask a Judge! Program and volunteered regularly at the Long Creek Youth Development Center.

Judge Torresen chaired the District of Maine Court Security Committee.

Judge Singal served on the United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court and

was a member of the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council.

Judge Woodcock served on the faculty for the Department of Justice's Basic Criminal Trial Advocacy seminar and was a member of the JCUS Committee on the Budget, on behalf of which he made a presentation at the First Circuit Judges Conference in Puerto Rico. He was also a visiting judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

On May 6, 2024, Judge Levy retired from regular active judicial service.

Judge Neumann was sworn in as a district judge for the District of Maine on August 22, 2024 and is the District of Maine's 20th district judge and second female judge.

Magistrate Judge Nivison served on the District's Criminal Law Committee and was a member of the Maine State/Federal Judicial Council, the First Circuit Judicial Council, and the EDR Mediator Panel for the First Circuit. He spoke to two classes at the University of Maine on the topic of "Unmasking the Fate of American Democracy 2024" and presented at the Maine State Bar Association's Employment Law Conference on "Practice Pointers from the Judiciary" in May 2024.

Magistrate Judge Frink Wolf was the vice-chair of the Maine Justice Action Group (JAG), the chair of JAG's Pro Bono Committee, and was a member of the First Circuit Judicial Council Access to Justice Committee and its Mediation Working Group. She served as the judicial liaison to the Court's Local Rules Advisory Committee and coordinated the Court's civic education programs for high school students.

Magistrate Judge Cohen was recalled for an additional year.

District of Massachusetts

Chief Judge Saylor served on the JCUS Committee on Judicial Resources.

In 2024, Judge Gorton served on the Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation.

Judge Casper served on the JCUS Committee on Defender Services and the Judiciary Bureau of Prisons Working Group.

Judge Sorokin served on the JCUS Committee on Court Administration and Case Management (CACM).

Judge Burroughs served on the JCUS Committee on Information Technology (IT).

The formal investitures for Judge Joun and Judge Kobick were held on March 14, 2024 and June 6, 2024, respectively.

On December 6, 2024, Judge Murphy was sworn in as a district judge for the District of Massachusetts.

In 2024, Judge O'Toole served on the JCUS Committee on Judicial Security.

On July 25, 2024, Judge Hillman retired from judicial service.

Chief Magistrate Judge Cabell served on the JCUS Committee on Judicial Security.

On July 30, 2024, Magistrate Judge Dein retired and was recalled. Her portrait ceremony was held on October 8, 2024.

Magistrate Judge Boal served on the Civil Rules Advisory Committee.

Magistrate Judge Hedges was sworn in as a magistrate judge for the District of Massachusetts on August 1, 2024.

District of New Hampshire

Chief Judge McCafferty served as a member of the Federal Judicial Center (FJC) Education Advisory Committee and the New Hampshire Bar Law Related Education Committee, and as the chair of the Federal Court Advisory Committee and the Facility Security Committee. She also continued to oversee the District's educational outreach program, worked with a high school for a mock trial competition, and presided over off-site naturalization ceremonies. Chief Judge McCafferty received the Marilla M. Ricker Achievement Award from the New Hampshire Women's Bar Association in October 2024.

Judge Laplante served on the JCUS Committee on Criminal Law, the First Circuit Judicial Council and its IT and Alternative Sentencing Committees, and the New Hampshire Supreme Court Access to Justice Commission. In 2024, he also chaired the First Circuit Judicial Council Access to Justice Committee; taught statutory interpretation at Boston College Law School, Georgetown Law School, and the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law; and served on the board of the Federal Judges Association. In December 2024, Judge Laplante gave a presentation to a middle school class on the judicial branch, the jury duty process, and legal arguments.

Judge Elliott served on the JCUS CACM, chaired CACM's Records Management subcommittee, and acted as liaison to the Bureau of Prisons Working Group. She also served as a member of CACM's Cameras and Broadcasting, Courtroom Technology, Criminal Case Administration, Case Management/Electronic Case Files

(CM/ECF), and Private & Public Access subcommittees.

Judge Barbadoro served on the JCUS Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Magistrate Judge Johnstone continued to serve as a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association's Committee on Cooperation with the Courts and the Daniel Webster-Batchelder Inn of Court. In 2024, she completed her third year of a three-year term with the Magistrate Judges Advisory Group.

Magistrate Judge Saint-Marc served on the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' (AO) Human Resources Advisory Council and was a member of the Diversity Committee and the Civics Education and Outreach Committee for the Federal Magistrate Judge Association. She also served on the selection committee for the Morton A. Brody Distinguished Judicial Service Award and the First Circuit Conference Planning Committee.

District of Puerto Rico

Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach served as co-chair of the First Circuit's Post-Pandemic Operations Committee and served as a member of the JCUS Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System. Further, Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach completed his term on the First Circuit Judicial Council in September 2024.

Judge Carreño-Coll was a member of the JCUS Committee on Space and Facilities and the First Circuit's Alternative Sentencing Committee and Workplace Conduct Committee. Further, Carreño-Coll was appointed to the First Circuit Judicial Council in September 2024.

Magistrate Judge Morgan served on the First Circuit's Access to Justice Committee District Courts' Subcommittee.

District of Rhode Island

Judge McElroy was inducted into the Rhode Island Criminal Justice Hall of Fame in recognition of her exceptional contributions to the criminal justice system, integrity, and professional excellence.

Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine

In 2024, Chief Judge Cary served as the chair of the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges' (NCBJ) Academic Recognition Committee and as a board member of the Nathan and Henry B. Cleaves Law Library. He served on the Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group to the AO, State-Federal Judicial Council's Executive Committee, the First Circuit Judicial Council Workplace Conduct Committee, the First Circuit Artificial Intelligence Working Group, the First Circuit Judicial Council Workplace Conduct Committee, and the First Circuit Judicial Council Access to Justice Committee and on its Bankruptcy Court Subcommittee. Additionally, in 2024, Chief Judge Cary presented at various educational seminars, including, but not limited to, those hosted by the First Circuit, the U.S. District Court for the District of Maine, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine, the University of Maine School of Law, the American Bankruptcy Institute (ABI), the Vermont State Bar Association, and the Maine State Bar Association.

In 2024, Judge Fagone served on the JCUS Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction and the First Circuit Judicial Council IT Committee. Judge Fagone also was a speaker at the 2024 Massachusetts Continuing Legal

Education's (CLE) Evidence and Controversial Topics seminar in Boston, Massachusetts, and the FJC's seminar on evidence in Kansas City, Missouri, and was a guest lecturer for a business law course at Husson University in Bangor, Maine.

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

In 2024, Chief Judge Katz served as chair of the Building Security Committee at the Springfield Courthouse, co-chair of the Court's Local Rules Advisory Committee, and as a member of the Court's Technology Committee. She also served as co-chair of the Western Massachusetts Bankruptcy Conference, a member of the NCBJ and its Public Outreach Committee, and as a member of the ABI Northeast Conference Planning Committee. Also, in 2024, Chief Judge Katz served as a judge liaison for the Massachusetts CLE's Annual Bankruptcy Conference and as a fellow for the Massachusetts Bar Foundation.

In 2024, Judge Panos served as co-chair of the Court's Local Rules Advisory Committee and the Diversity Initiative Task Force; chair of the First Circuit Access to Justice Committee's Bankruptcy Subcommittee; and Judicial Chair of the M. Ellen Carpenter Financial Literacy Program, a collaboration between the Boston Bar Association and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts. He was also a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association Complex Commercial Litigation Section Council and the Court's Technology Committee. He served as a member of the JCUS Committee on Administration of the Bankruptcy System and its Recruitment and Outreach, Judgeships, Strategic Planning, and Technology and Statistics Subcommittees. Additionally, Judge Panos served as a member of the ABI Northeast Conference Planning Committee and as a liaison for the JCUS

CACM's Broadcasting and Bankruptcy Noticing Subcommittees. In 2024, he was a member of the District of Massachusetts' Central Division Courthouse Security Committee.

Judge Bostwick served as co-chair of the Court's Pro Bono Committee, as Director of the American College of Bankruptcy, and as the American Bar Association (ABA) co-chair for the Business Bankruptcy Committee's Subcommittee on Administration and Courts. In 2024, she was also a member of the following: the First Circuit Post-Pandemic Operations Committee and its Civil & Bankruptcy and Access to Justice Subcommittees; the Court's Technology Committee; the American College of Bankruptcy (ACB) Judicial Nominating Committee; the ACB Foundation Pro Bono Committee; and the NCBJ's Next Gen and Elections Committees.

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

Chief Judge Harwood continued to serve on the ABI Board of Directors and the Executive and Management Committees and became President-Elect of the ABI in April 2024. He spoke on several panels at the ABI's Annual Spring Meeting and at its Northeast Conference. He also served as a member of the AO's Bankruptcy Judges Advisory Group and the First Circuit's Access to Justice Committee's Bankruptcy Court Subcommittee. Chief Judge Harwood retired from the bench on August 11, 2024.

Judge Bacher was appointed as a bankruptcy judge and assumed the role of Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the District of New Hampshire on August 12, 2024. Chief Judge Bacher attended the NCBJ and the FJC's Phase One Orientation for Newly Selected Bankruptcy Judges and served as a panelist at

the Vermont Bar Association Bankruptcy Section's holiday luncheon and CLE.

Chief Judge Cary and Judge Fagone, both of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine, along with Chief Judge Panos, of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts, continued to preside over bankruptcy matters in the District of New Hampshire.

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

In 2024, Chief Judge Cabán served as an observer member of the First Circuit Judicial Council, the First Circuit Judicial Council Civics Outreach and Education Committee and Judicial Security Committee, and the Committee on the Federal Bar Examination for the District of Puerto Rico. She continued to serve on the Board of the FJC and its Education Committee for Bankruptcy Judges and served as a member of the NCBJ Public Outreach Committee and as the NCBJ liaison for the Hispanic National Bar Association. Further, Chief Judge Cabán served as a member of the Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association - Hon. Raymond L. Acosta Chapter, the ABA, the ABI, the Ibero-American Institute of Bankruptcy, the Commercial Law League, and the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation. During 2024, she also served as a volunteer coordinator and member of the Advisory Board for C.A.R.E. (Credit Abuse Resistance Education), participated in panels for the ABI Caribbean Insolvency and Ninth Bankruptcy Symposium, and judged one of the Duberstein Moot Court Competitions for the ABI and St. John's Law School. Chief Judge Cabán attended the First Circuit Judges Workshop, the National Leadership Conference for Chief Judges, the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks, and the NCBJ, and helped

plan educational programs for the FJC National Bankruptcy Judges Workshops.

Judge Lamoutte continued to serve as a member of the Federal Bar Examination Committee for the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico; the Caribbean Insolvency Committee for the ABI; the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the American College of Bankruptcy; the Puerto Rico Bar; the Federal Bar Association – Hon. Raymond L. Acosta Chapter; the Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Bar; the ABA; the American College of Bankruptcy; the ABI; and the Ibero-American Institute of Bankruptcy. In 2024, he participated in panels for the Tenth Circuit Bankruptcy Symposium and the National Workshops for Bankruptcy Judges of the FJC and attended the 98th annual conference of the NCBJ.

Judge Godoy continued to serve as co-chair of the NCBJ Schwartz Roundtable Committee, until September 2024, and then as a member for the remainder of the year, and as a member of the First Circuit Judicial Council IT Committee and the First Circuit Judicial Council Access to Justice Committee's Bankruptcy Subcommittee. He served as a speaker at the Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Symposium and participated in the Justice Riders 2024 federal and state judicial educational civil rights trip to Montgomery, Alabama. Judge Godoy attended various conferences and workshops during 2024, including at the FJC and NCBJ.

In 2024, Judge de los Ángeles González continued to serve as a member of the Planning Committee for the 2024 First Circuit Judges Workshop and served as a panelist at the ABI's Caribbean Symposium, the Puerto Rico Tenth Bankruptcy Symposium, and the ABI's Northeast Bankruptcy Conference and Northeast Consumer Forum. She also attended the First Circuit Judges Workshop and the

FJC's National Workshop for Bankruptcy Judges.

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

In 2024, Chief Judge Finkle continued to serve as the Chief Judge of the BAP and as a member of the panel. In 2024, she served as a member of the NCBJ and as the chair of its Ethics Advisory Committee. She also served on the First Circuit Judicial Council Access to Justice Committee's Bankruptcy Subcommittee. Also, in 2024, Chief Judge Finkle attended the FJC Annual Bankruptcy Judges Workshop, the First Circuit Judicial Conference, ABI's Annual Northeast Bankruptcy Conference and served on its educational panel about Developments in Distressed Real Estate, and the Connecticut Bar Association's Annual Bankruptcy Seminar and served on its educational panel about Subchapter V of Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code.

Work of the Courts

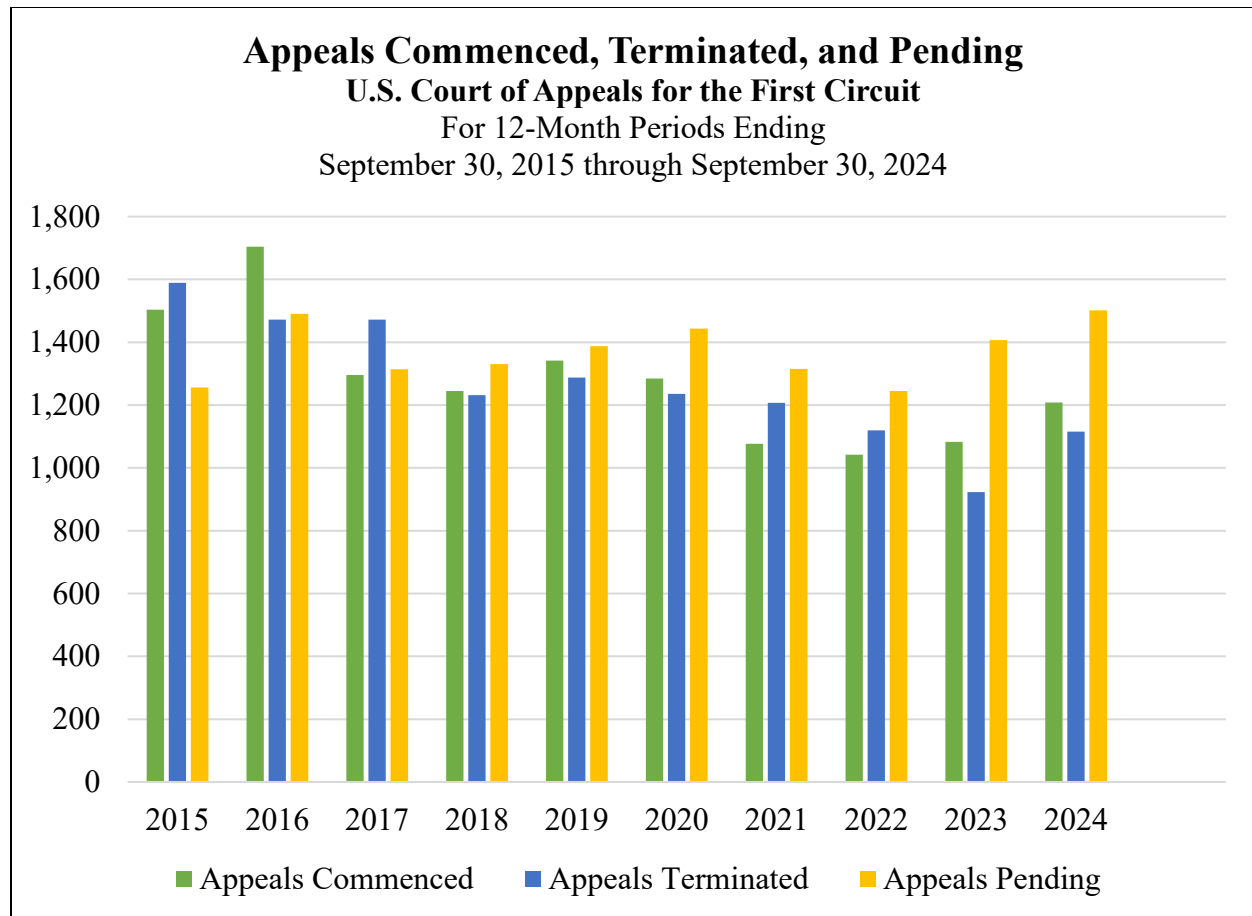
Court of Appeals
Statistical Report

Courts of Appeals Caseload Summary									
Appeals Commenced, Terminated, and Pending, by Circuit									
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2023 and September 30, 2024									
Circuit	<u>Commenced</u>			<u>Terminated</u>			<u>Pending*</u>		
	2023	2024	% Change	2023	2024	% Change	2023	2024	% Change
Total	39,987	39,788	0.5%	40,636	40,086	-1.4%	32,039	31,972	-0.2%
D.C.	1,050	1,098	4.6%	768	1,051	36.8%	1,433	1,480	3.3%
First	1,083	1,208	11.5%	923	1,115	20.8%	1,407	1,502	6.8%
Second	3,573	3,681	3.0%	3,501	3,477	-0.7%	3,729	3,920	5.1%
Third	2,513	2,392	-4.8%	2,540	2,426	-4.5%	1,920	1,886	-1.8%
Fourth	3,671	3,421	-6.8%	3,865	3,642	-5.8%	2,848	2,626	-7.8%
Fifth	5,568	5,379	-3.4%	5,864	5,542	-5.5%	3,429	3,266	-4.8%
Sixth	3,366	3,371	0.1%	3,307	3,301	-0.2%	2,519	2,638	4.7%
Seventh	2,555	2,414	-5.5%	2,501	2,300	-8.0%	1,792	1,906	6.4%
Eighth	2,843	2,618	-7.9%	2,788	2,760	-1.0%	1,736	1,597	-8.0%
Ninth	7,784	8,145	4.6%	8,581	8,150	-5.0%	7,053	7,052	0.0%
Tenth	1,742	1,823	4.6%	1,726	1,775	2.8%	1,103	1,050	4.3%
Eleventh	4,239	4,238	0.0%	4,272	4,547	6.4%	3,070	2,949	-3.9%

* Pending caseloads for 2023 as revised by the AO.

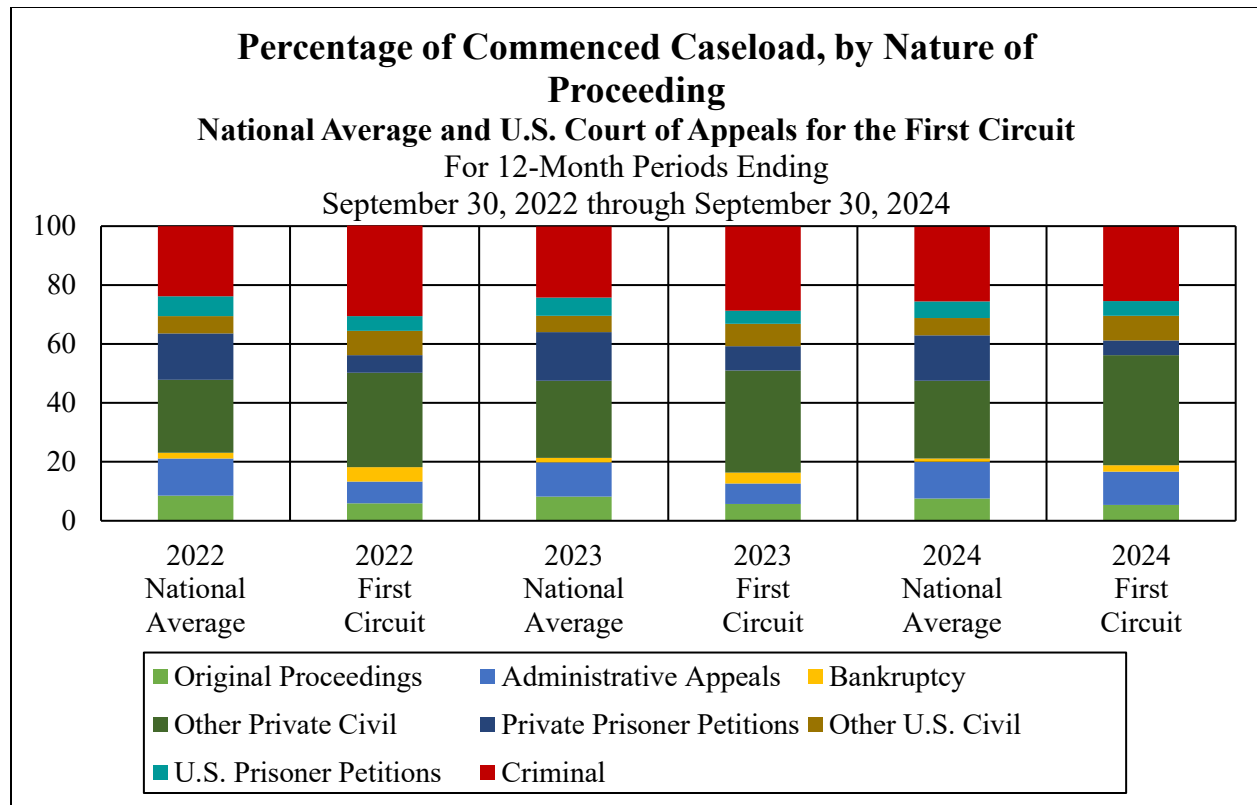
Source of Appeals and Original Proceedings U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2017 through September 30, 2024								
Source	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
First Circuit Totals*	1,296	1,245	1,342	1,284	1,077	1,042	1,083	1,208
Maine	116	102	103	97	113	78	87	88
Massachusetts	377	464	486	448	341	359	404	444
New Hampshire	90	82	78	67	61	71	67	56
Puerto Rico	372	284	376	329	295	269	263	285
Rhode Island	87	71	66	65	78	76	85	106
Bankruptcy	33	39	40	45	34	51	39	27
U.S. Tax Court	2	3	0	1	0	3	2	2
National Labor Relations Board	6	3	3	8	5	2	1	3
Board of Immigration Appeals	68	84	76	106	93	65	73	115
Administrative Agencies (Total)	88	100	88	122	104	77	76	137
Original Proceedings	133	103	105	111	51	61	62	65

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



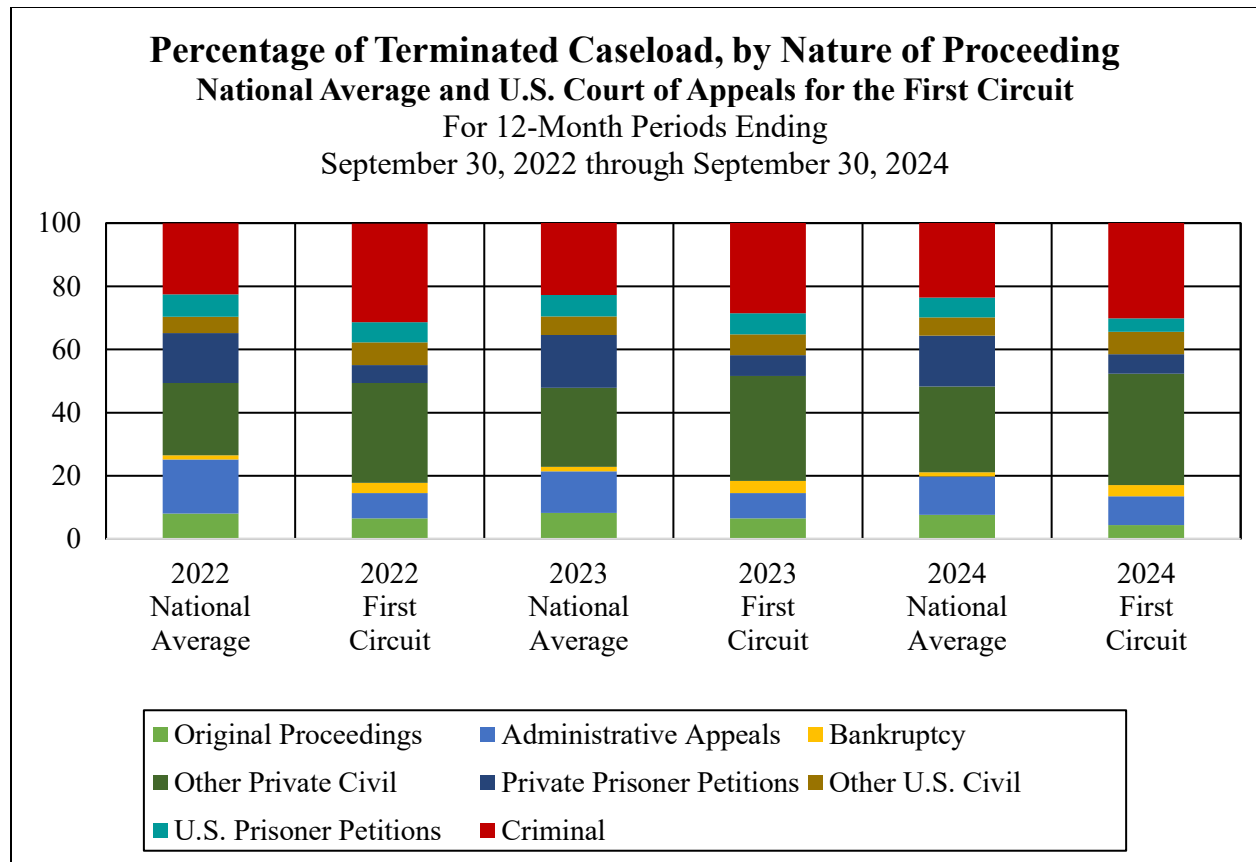
Appeals Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2015 through September 30, 2024										
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Appeals Commenced	1,504	1,704	1,296	1,245	1,342	1,284	1,077	1,042	1,083	1,208
Appeals Terminated	1,589	1,472	1,472	1,232	1,288	1,236	1,207	1,119	923	1,115
Appeals Pending*	1,256	1,490	1,317	1,330	1,387	1,443	1,315	1,245	1,407	1,502

*Pending caseloads for 2015 - 2023 as revised by the AO.



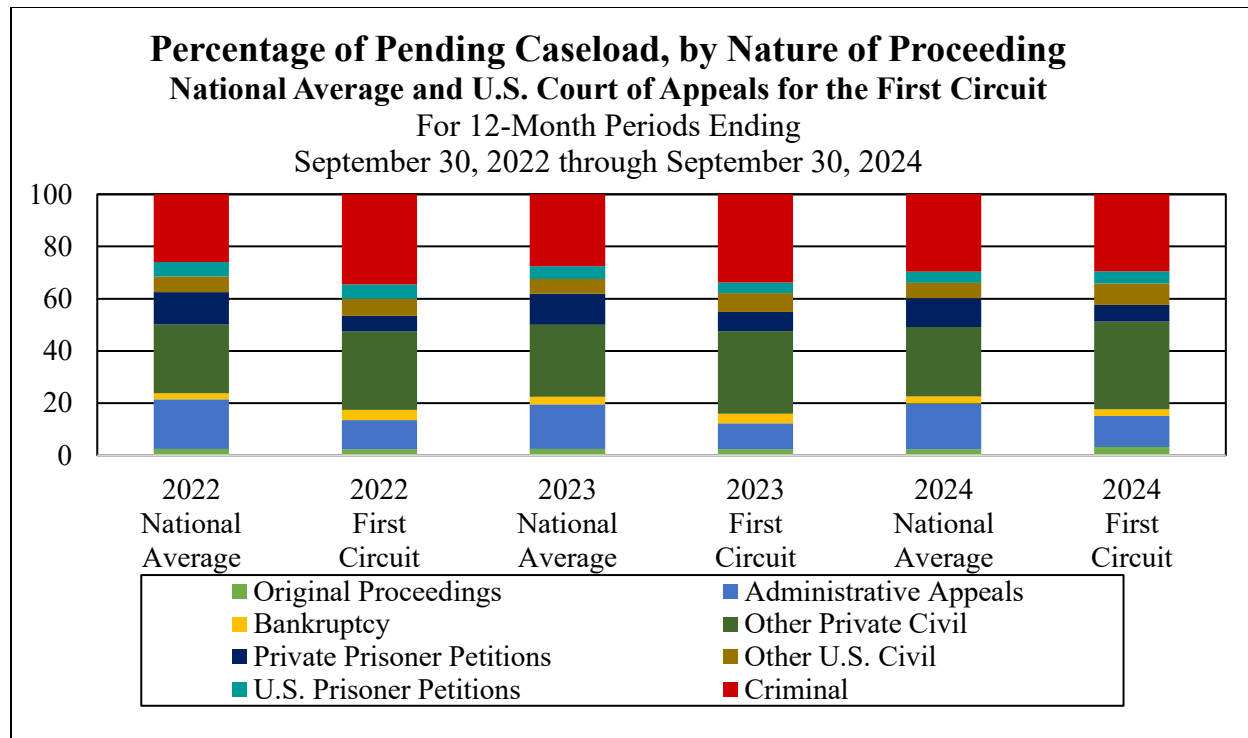
Percentage of Commenced Caseload, by Nature of Proceeding
National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2024

	2022		2023		2024	
	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit
Criminal	23.8	30.7	24.1	28.6	25.3	25.2
U.S. Prisoner Petitions	6.7	5.0	6.2	4.5	5.7	5.0
Other U.S. Civil	5.9	8.3	5.6	7.6	5.9	8.4
Private Prisoner Petitions	15.8	6.0	16.5	8.2	15.4	5.0
Other Private Civil	24.7	32.0	26.1	34.7	26.4	37.3
Bankruptcy	2.0	4.9	1.6	3.6	1.1	2.2
Administrative Appeals	12.6	7.4	11.6	7.0	12.5	11.3
Original Proceedings and Miscellaneous Applications	8.5	5.9	8.2	5.7	7.5	5.4



Percentage of Terminated Caseload, by Nature of Proceeding
National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2024

	2022		2023		2024	
	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit
Criminal	22.5	31.2	22.8	28.5	23.7	30.2
U.S. Prisoner Petitions	7.1	6.4	6.7	6.7	6.3	4.2
Other U.S. Civil	5.1	7.1	5.9	6.6	5.7	7.1
Private Prisoner Petitions	15.8	5.7	16.7	6.6	16.1	6.2
Other Private Civil	22.9	31.6	25.1	33.2	27.2	35.2
Bankruptcy	1.3	3.3	1.4	3.9	1.3	3.6
Administrative Appeals	17.2	8.0	13.2	8.0	12.2	9.1
Original Proceedings and Miscellaneous Applications	8.0	6.5	8.2	6.5	7.6	4.4



Percentage of Pending Caseload,* by Nature of Proceeding
National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
 For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2024

	2022		2023		2024	
	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit	National Average	First Circuit
Criminal	25.9	34.5	27.5	33.8	29.7	29.5
U.S. Prisoner Petitions	5.6	5.6	5.0	4.1	4.3	4.7
Other U.S. Civil	6.0	6.4	5.6	7.2	5.9	8.2
Private Prisoner Petitions	12.3	6.0	11.9	7.3	11.0	6.3
Other Private Civil	26.4	30.1	27.6	31.7	26.7	33.7
Bankruptcy	2.4	3.9	2.9	3.6	2.7	2.5
Administrative Appeals	19.0	11.2	17.1	10.0	17.5	11.9
Original Proceedings and Miscellaneous Applications	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	3.2

*Pending caseloads for 2022 and 2023 as revised by the AO.

U.S. Courts of Appeals Median Time Intervals in Months, by Circuit, For Cases Terminated After Hearing or Submission For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2024 (From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition)		
Circuit	No. of Cases	Interval
National Average	23,460	9.7
D.C.	468	12.7
First	720	13.5
Second	1,833	13.3
Third	1,507	9.7
Fourth	2,415	9.0
Fifth	2,989	7.9
Sixth	2,109	8.7
Seventh	1,206	9.5
Eighth	1,911	5.1
Ninth	4,840	12.7
Tenth	1,113	9.1
Eleventh	2,349	9.7

Percentage of Terminations on the Merits National Average and U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
After Oral Hearing	1st Cir.	22.4	30.0	29.2	29.4	32.3
	Nat'l	17.7	20.1	19.6	20.1	21.3
After Submission	1st Cir.	72.2	61.2	63.5	65.2	59.6
	Nat'l	74.0	73.0	73.5	72.6	71.2
By Consolidation	1st Cir.	5.4	8.8	7.3	5.3	8.2
	Nat'l	8.3	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.4

Clerk's Office

Human Resources/Staffing

Anastasia Dubrovsky was selected as the Clerk of Court, effective October 1, 2024, replacing Maria Hamilton, who had served as Clerk of Court since 2018 and served the First Circuit for over 25 years, upon her retirement.

Federal and Local Rules Amendments

In December 2024, the Local Rules and the Internal Operating Procedures were amended in accordance with the updated Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Rules Advisory Committee

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2077, five new members were selected to the Court's Rules Advisory Committee to make recommendations regarding the rules of practice and internal operating procedures for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and the First Circuit Judicial Council. The five new members are Kaitlin Caruso, of the District of Maine; David J. Zimmer, of the District of Massachusetts; Nilda M. Navarro-Cabrer and Roberto Prats Palerm, both of the District of Puerto Rico; and Lauren S. Zurier, of the District of Rhode Island.

Statistics

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, the Court of Appeals reported 1,208 filings, compared with 1,083 filings in FY 2023, an 11.5% increase in filings. Case terminations increased by 20.8%, from 923 in FY 2023 to 1,115 in FY 2024. During the same period, pending cases increased by 6.8%, from 1,407 in FY 2023 to 1,502 in FY 2024. See supra p. 16. The largest sources of appeals were the Districts of Massachusetts (444) and Puerto Rico (285). The number of appeals from the Districts of

New Hampshire Maine, and Rhode Island, were 56, 88, 106, respectively. There were 137 appeals from administrative agencies, most of which were from the Board of Immigration Appeals (115). The remaining cases were original proceedings and miscellaneous applications (65) and bankruptcy appeals (27). See supra p. 15.

In FY 2024, civil cases (including prisoner petitions) represented 55.9% of the appeals commenced in the First Circuit, and criminal appeals represented 25.2% of appeals commenced. The remaining 18.9% consisted of agency appeals, bankruptcy appeals, original proceedings, and miscellaneous applications. See supra p. 17.

Office of the Staff Attorneys

The Office of the Staff Attorneys (Staff Attorneys' Office) performs research for the judges of the Court of Appeals. During calendar year 2024, the office consisted of one senior staff attorney, one supervisory staff attorney, approximately 16 staff attorneys, and one support staff.

The following numbers of matters were referred by the Clerk's Office to the Staff Attorneys' Office for processing in 2024 (159 more matters than in 2023):

January	187
February	178
March	151
April	239
May	219
June	216
July	210
August	124
September	148
October	228
November	147
December	213
Total	2,260

In addition, there were 114 pro se or social security submitted cases (15 more than in 2023) and 33 sua sponte summary dispositions assigned in counseled, briefed cases (25 fewer than in 2023).

Types of matters referred to the Staff Attorneys' Office included: applications for certificate of appealability; applications for leave to file second or successive habeas petitions; motions for summary affirmance or dismissal; mandamus petitions; Anders briefs; motions for stay or bail; section 1292(b) petitions; applications to file an interlocutory appeal under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(f); and other miscellaneous matters.

Civil Appeals Management Program

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

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

Appellants are required to submit electronically copies of the orders, memoranda, or opinions from which the appeal has been taken. If the parties choose,

they may also file a confidential memorandum containing, inter alia, the history of any settlement negotiations, the major points of error on appeal, factors which may affect a party's chances of prevailing upon appeal, and the terms and conditions upon which the case may reasonably be settled. The attorneys are also informed that their clients are required to attend the conference unless excused.

Conferences can last from a few hours to a full day or more. If a case does not settle during the initial conference, settlement counsel will follow up with counsel by telephone. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, most conferences were conducted in person; however, due to the pandemic, most conferences are now conducted via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. In the District of Puerto Rico, most conferences continue to be conducted in person.

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

Throughout 2024, the Honorable Patrick J. King (ret.) mediated all of the eligible civil appeals in the First Circuit.

In FY 2024, of the 384 cases that were either opened or remained pending from the prior FY, one or more conferences were held in 137 cases, which produced 67 settlements (approximately 49% of mediated cases).

Library

Overview

The First Circuit U.S. Court Library system provides services to the judges and court staff of the First Circuit Court of Appeals, and the district and bankruptcy courts in the Circuit. There are four libraries in the system: the

headquarters Library, located in the John Joseph Moakley U.S. Courthouse in Boston, Massachusetts; and satellite libraries in the district courthouses in Concord, New Hampshire; Hato Rey, Puerto Rico; and Providence, Rhode Island. There is no satellite library in Maine. The Satellite Librarian in Concord, New Hampshire, provides services to the Maine District and Bankruptcy Courts located in Portland and Bangor.

Personnel

On-board staff at the end of FY 2024 was distributed among the libraries as follows: five full-time in Boston (including the Circuit Librarian), two full-time staff in Hato Rey, one full-time staff in Concord, and one full-time staff working between Providence and Boston. The Boston library has a larger staff due to the centralized budget and financial responsibilities, a larger collection, and the need to provide services to the public. The Boston library is open to the public three days a week and allows for scheduled appointments five days a week.

Legal Research Resources

The Library's FY 2024 legal research resources allotment increased by 10.6% from FY 2023, while prices for both print and electronic resources continued to rise. Spending in electronic resources was approximately 18.5% of the legal resources budget, an increase from the previous year (16.1%). The Library continued to work with chambers in reducing print subscriptions.

Space and Facilities

Construction of the Justice Stephen G. Breyer Community Learning Center on Courts and the Constitution was completed in 2024.

Bankruptcy Appellate Panel

Overview

The BAP, which employs a clerk, a law clerk, and a part-time case manager, is located at the John Joseph Moakley U.S. Courthouse. In 2024, the BAP conducted oral arguments in person in Puerto Rico, the first in-person hearings since 2020.

Conferences/Outreach

In May 2024, Judge Godoy, along with BAP staff, presented a session on appeals practice at the Puerto Rico 10th Bankruptcy Conference sponsored by Instituto de Educación Práctica.

Clerk of Court Leslie Storm contributed to community legal education in July 2024 by serving on a panel with Judge Wedoff (ret.), of the Northern District of Illinois, and Professor Hampson, from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, at the Northeastern Conference & Consumer Forum. Additionally, in November 2024, Clerk Storm joined Chief Judge Katz, of the District of Massachusetts, and others in a presentation for district court law clerks regarding bankruptcy basics.

In 2024, the BAP formed a Pro Se Rules Committee, comprised of Chief Judge Finkle, of the District of Rhode Island, Judge Lamotte, of the District of Puerto Rico, Judge Cary, of the District of Maine, Chief Judge Katz, of the District of Massachusetts, and BAP staff. As a result of the Committee's efforts, in December, the BAP adopted Amended General Order No. 2, which expanded the filing methods available to unrepresented litigants.

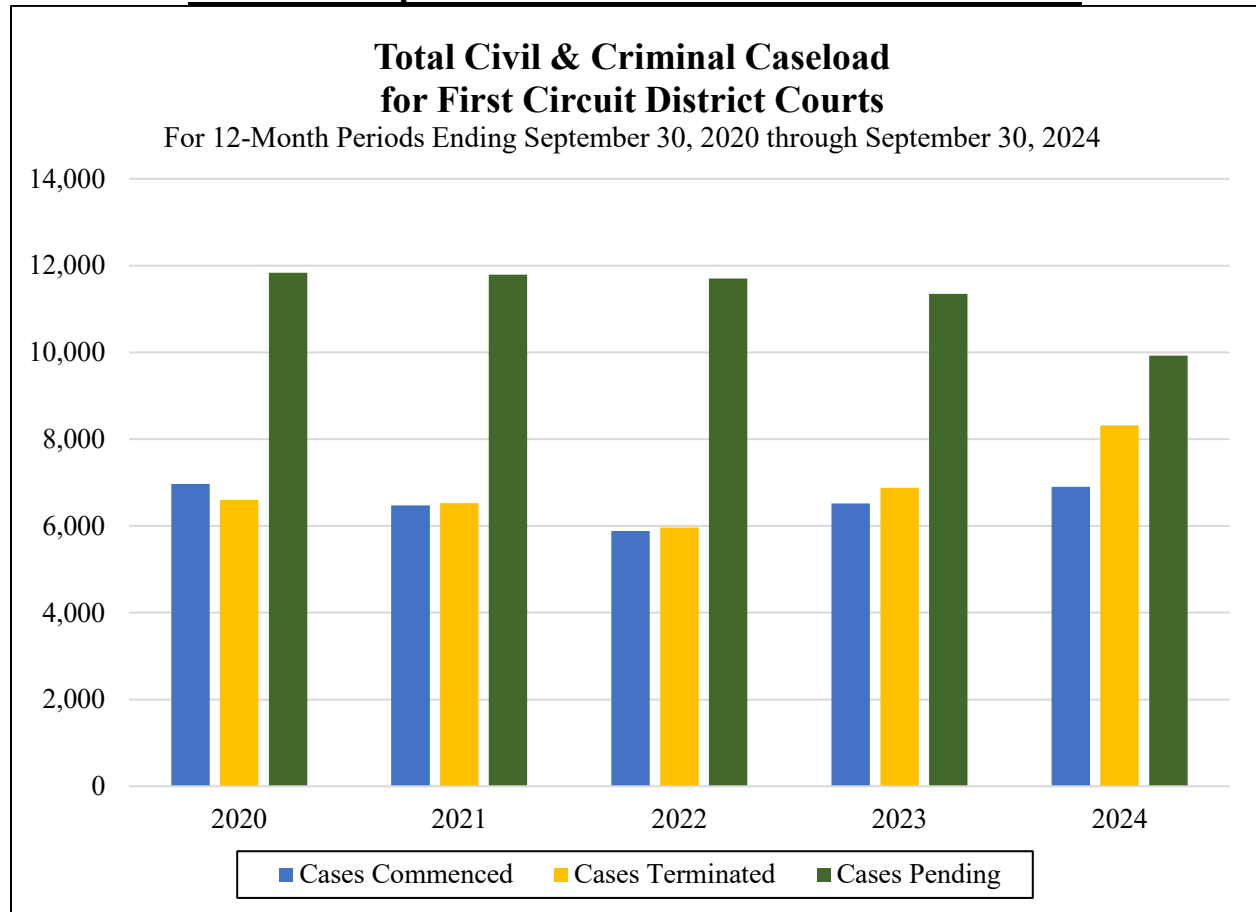
Statistics

The BAP's caseload totaled 31 in 2024. The majority of cases received by the BAP in 2024 came from the District of Massachusetts' bankruptcy courts (45%), followed by the bankruptcy courts of the Districts of Puerto Rico (35%), Maine (10%), and New Hampshire (10%). The BAP did not receive any cases from the District of Rhode Island. Pro se litigants continued to file appeals in the BAP regularly, accounting for 45% of the total cases filed during this reporting period.

U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panels									
Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending, by Circuit									
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2023 and September 30, 2024									
Circuit	Filed			Terminated			Pending*		
	2023	2024	% Change	2023	2024	% Change	2023	2024	% Change
First	35	37	5.7	39	30	-23.1	14	21	50.0
Sixth	27	28	3.7	29	26	-10.3	21	23	9.5
Eighth	11	12	9.1	13	6	-53.8	2	8	300.0
Ninth	217	207	-4.6	241	179	-25.7	86	114	32.6
Tenth	30	31	3.3	29	36	24.1	14	9	-35.7
Total	320	315	-1.6	351	277	-21.1	137	175	27.7

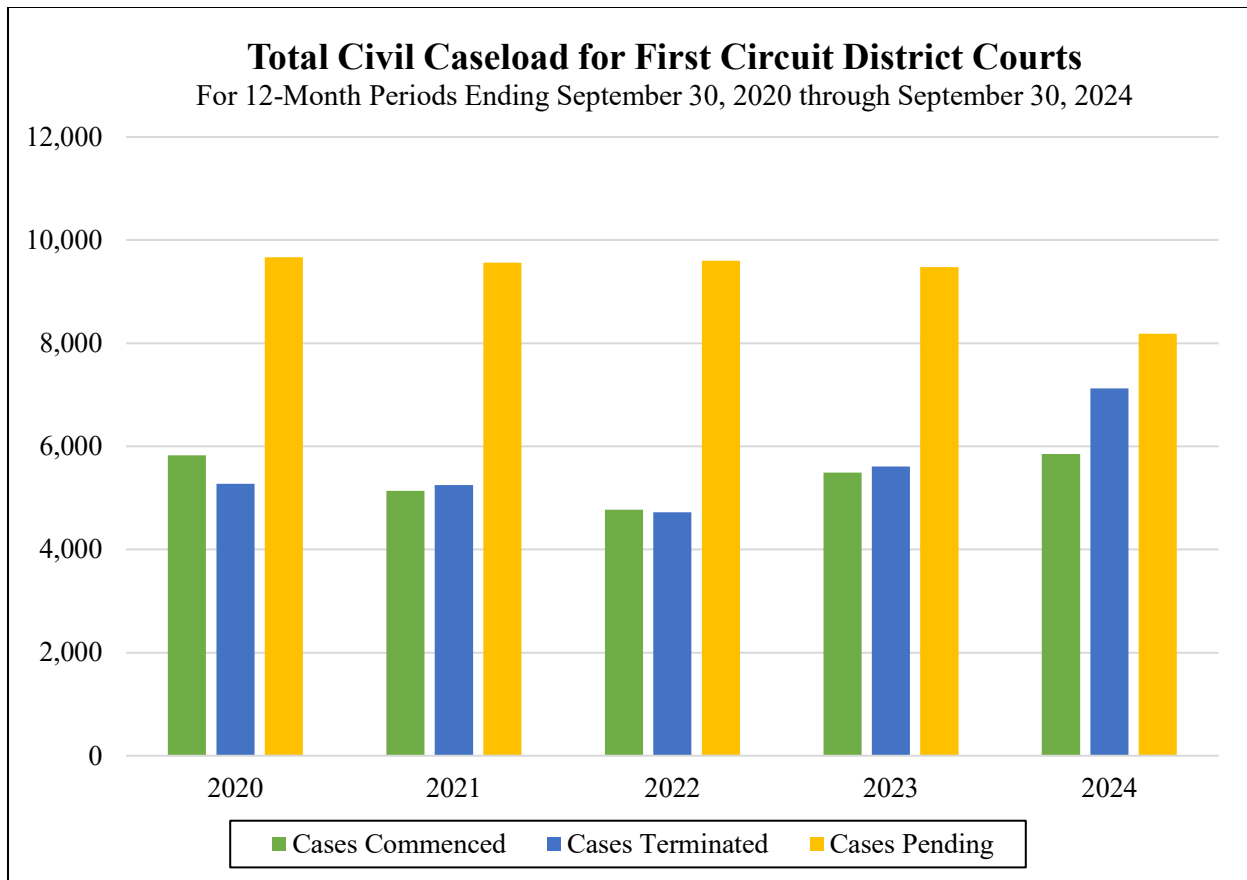
* Pending caseloads for 2023 as revised by the AO.

Statistical Report for District Courts in the First Circuit



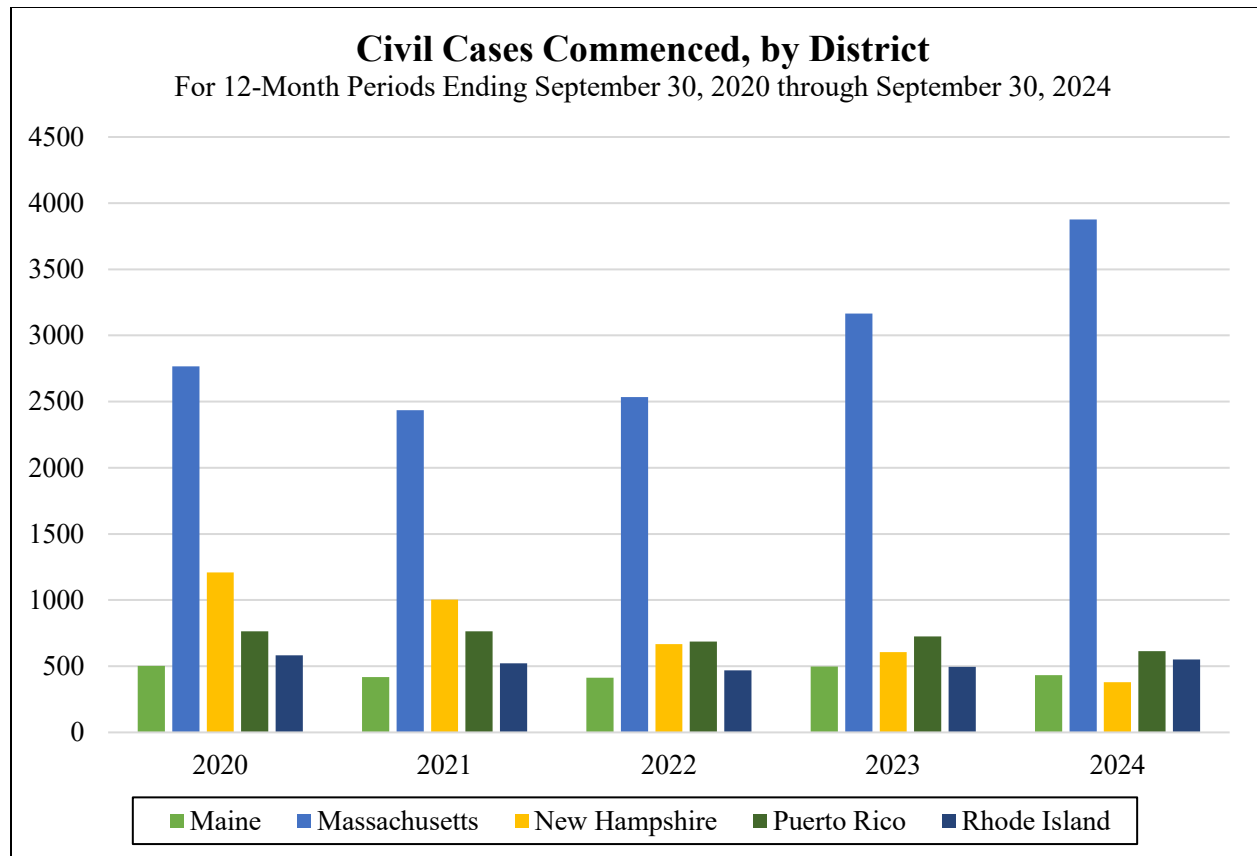
Total Civil & Criminal Caseload for First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	6,968	6,476	5,884	6,519	6,901
Cases Terminated	6,601	6,525	5,967	6,877	8,321
Cases Pending*	11,832	11,794	11,705	11,348	9,922

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

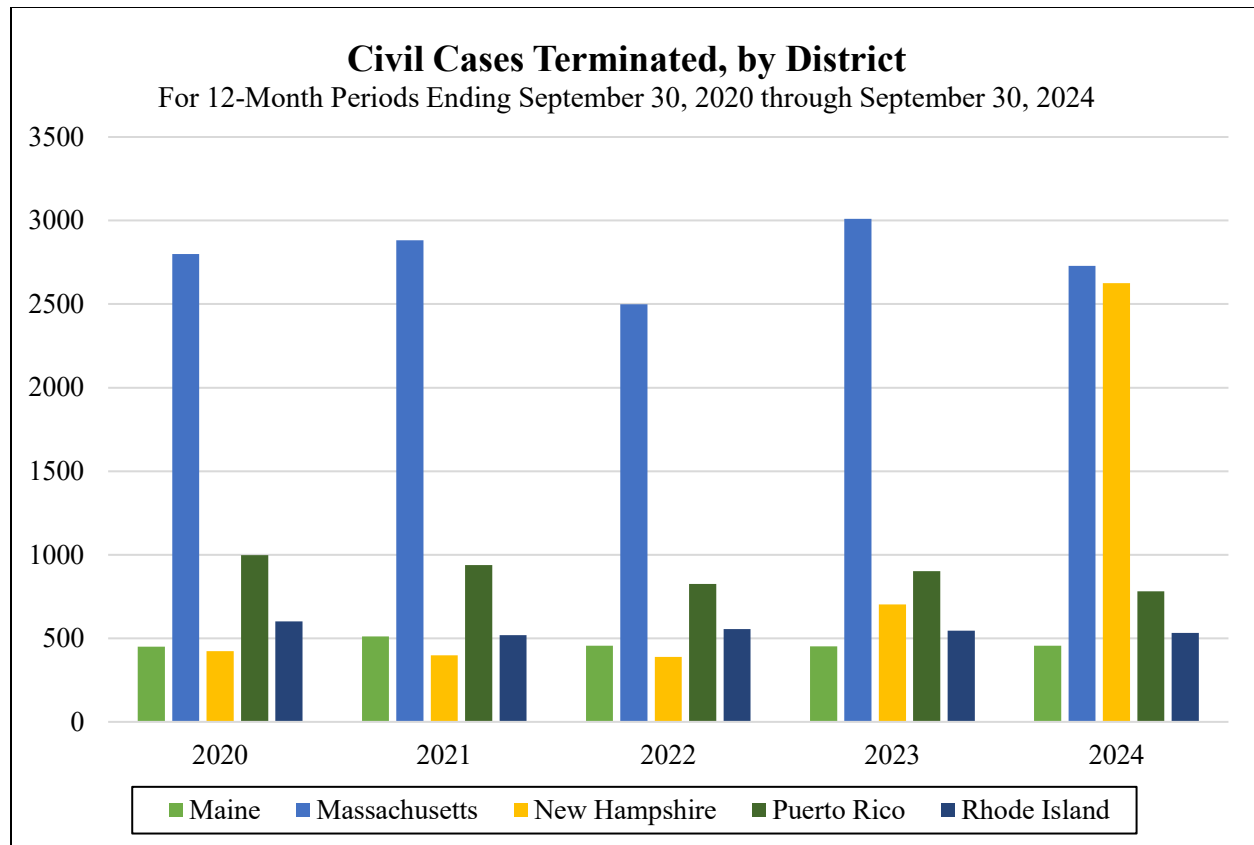


Total Civil Caseload for First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	5,824	5,139	4,769	5,493	5,853
Cases Terminated	5,274	5,247	4,724	5,612	7,123
Cases Pending*	9,669	9,561	9,599	9,475	8,183

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.



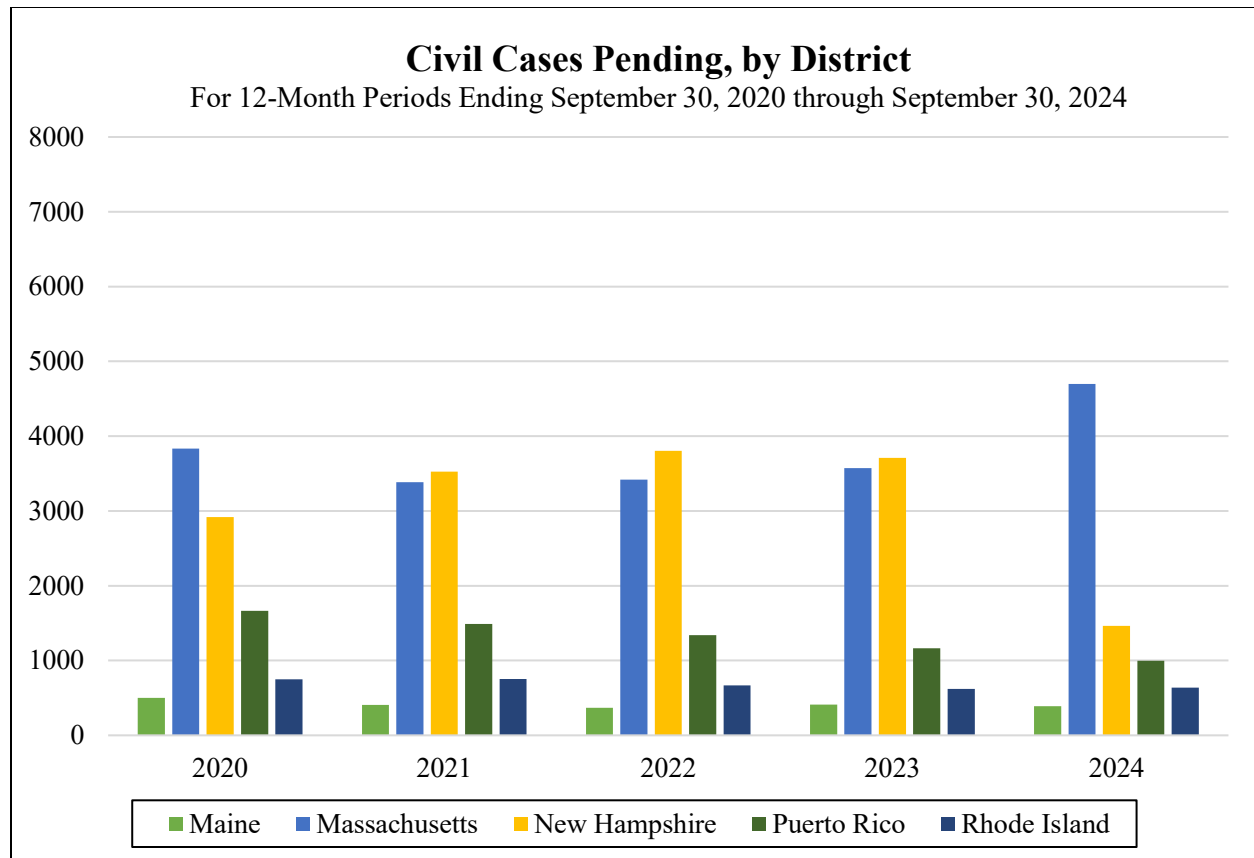
Civil Cases Commenced, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	502	417	414	499	433
Massachusetts	2,767	2,434	2,534	3,166	3,876
New Hampshire	1,209	1,004	667	606	379
Puerto Rico	764	763	686	726	615
Rhode Island	582	521	468	496	550



Civil Cases Terminated, by District

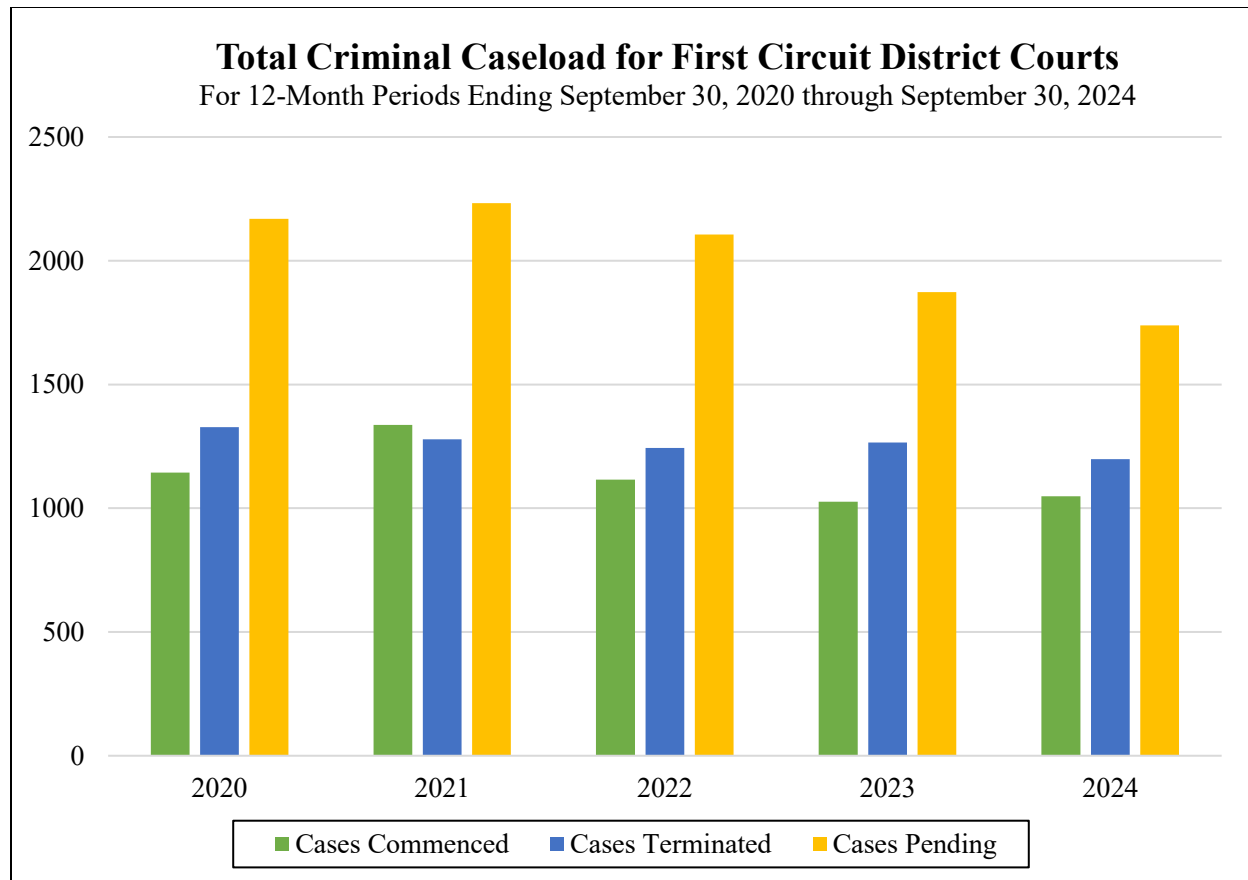
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024

District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	450	511	456	452	455
Massachusetts	2,800	2,882	2,498	3,011	2,728
New Hampshire	424	398	389	702	2,626
Puerto Rico	998	938	826	902	781
Rhode Island	602	518	555	545	533

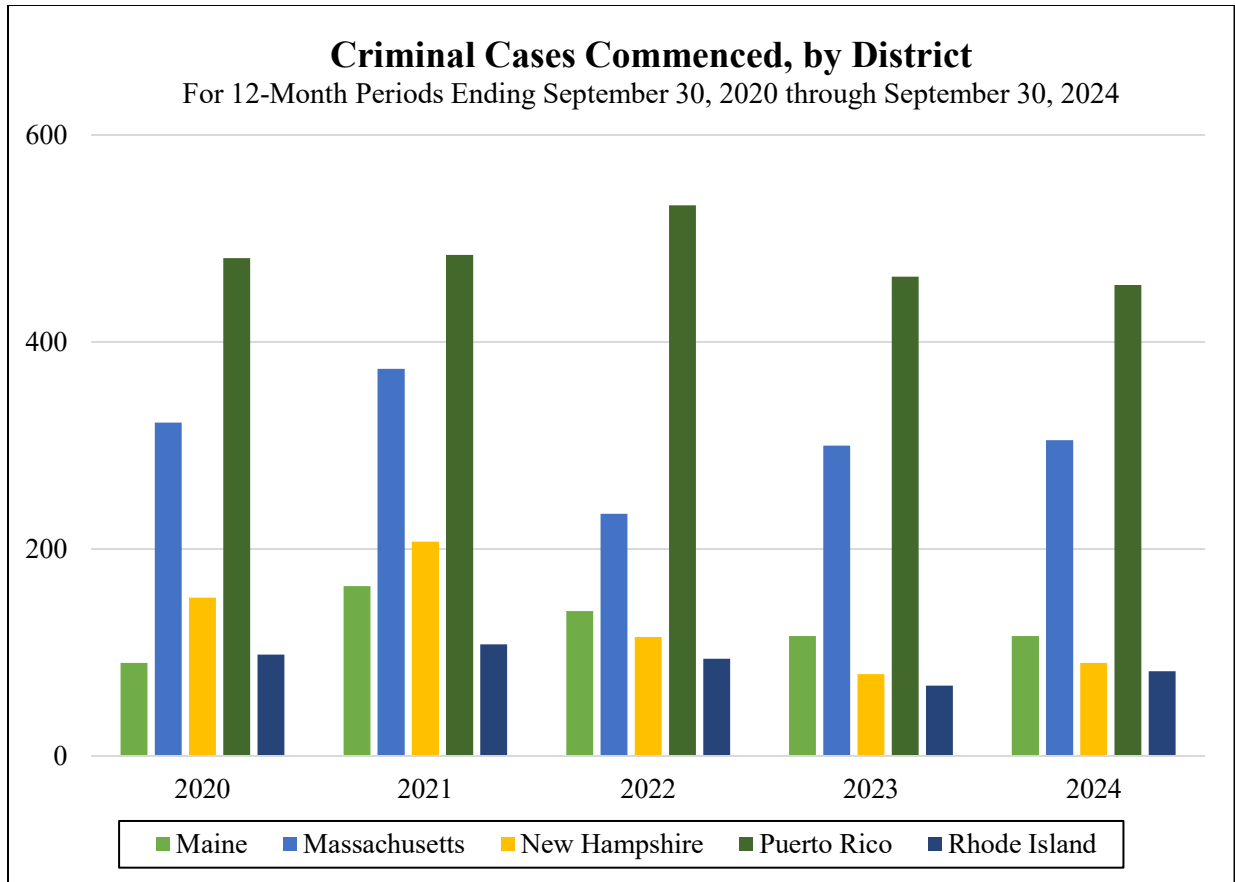


Civil Cases Pending,* by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	501	407	367	411	388
Massachusetts	3,834	3,386	3,419	3,752	4,697
New Hampshire	2,919	3,525	3,804	3,708	1,462
Puerto Rico	1,664	1,489	1,341	1,163	999
Rhode Island	751	754	668	621	637

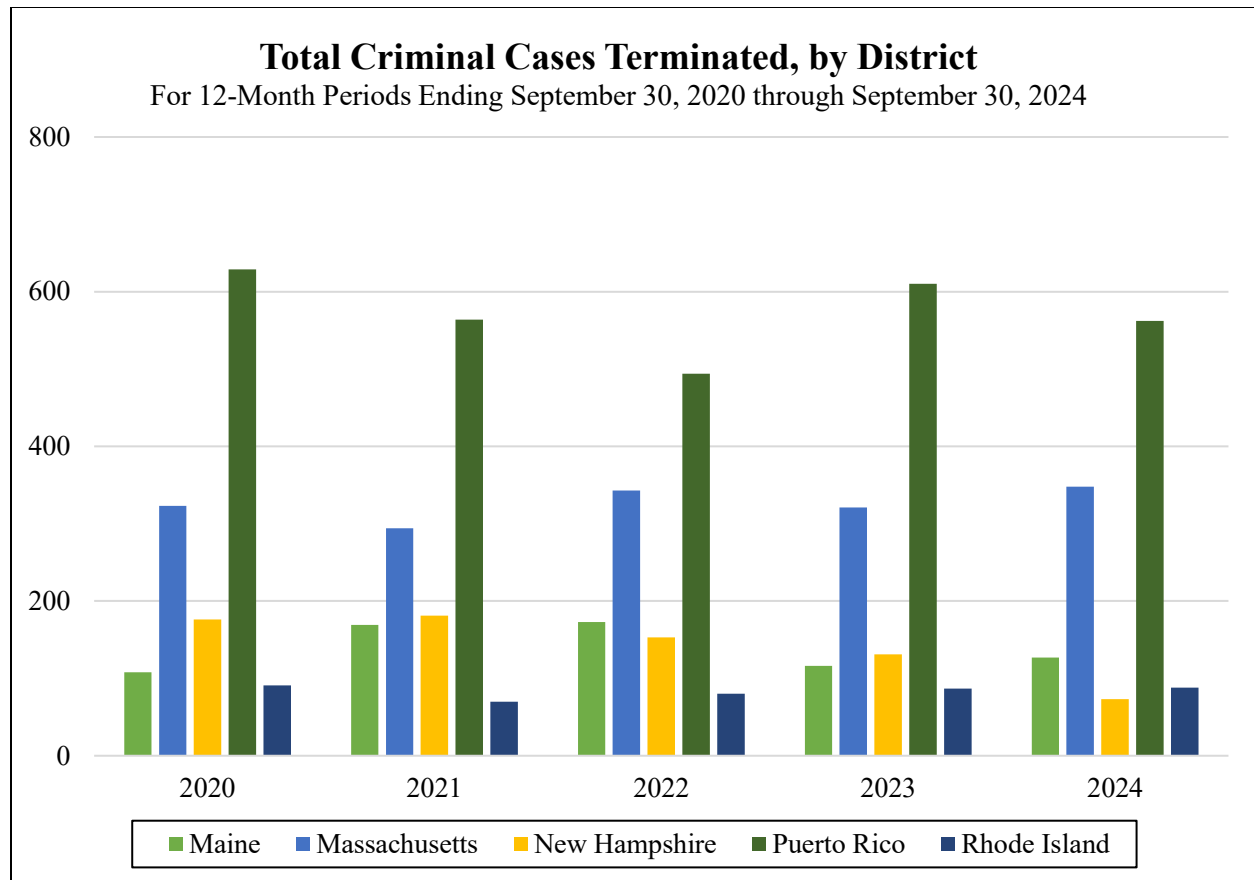
* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.



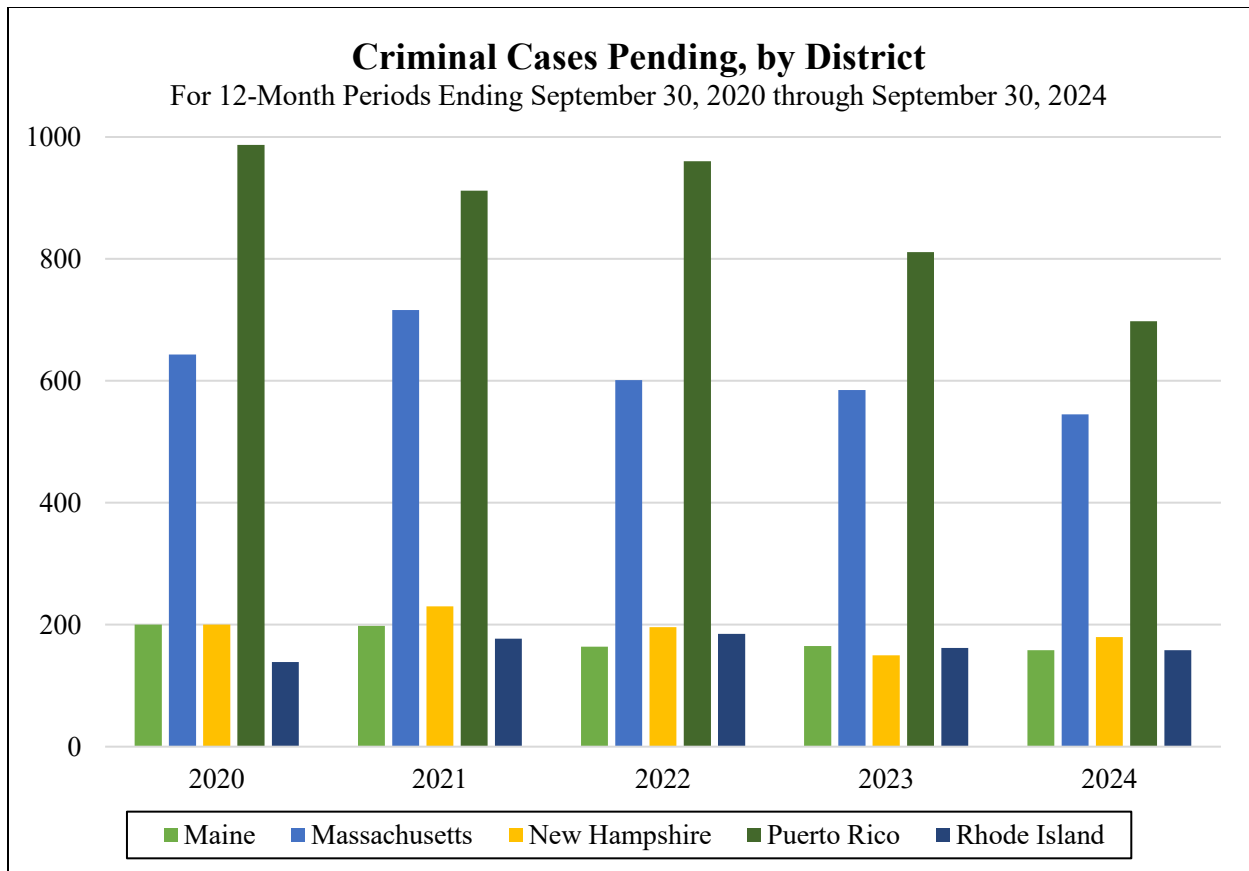
Total Criminal Caseload for First Circuit District Courts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	1,144	1,337	1,115	1,026	1,048
Cases Terminated	1,327	1,278	1,243	1,265	1,198
Cases Pending	2,169	2,233	2,106	1,873	1,739



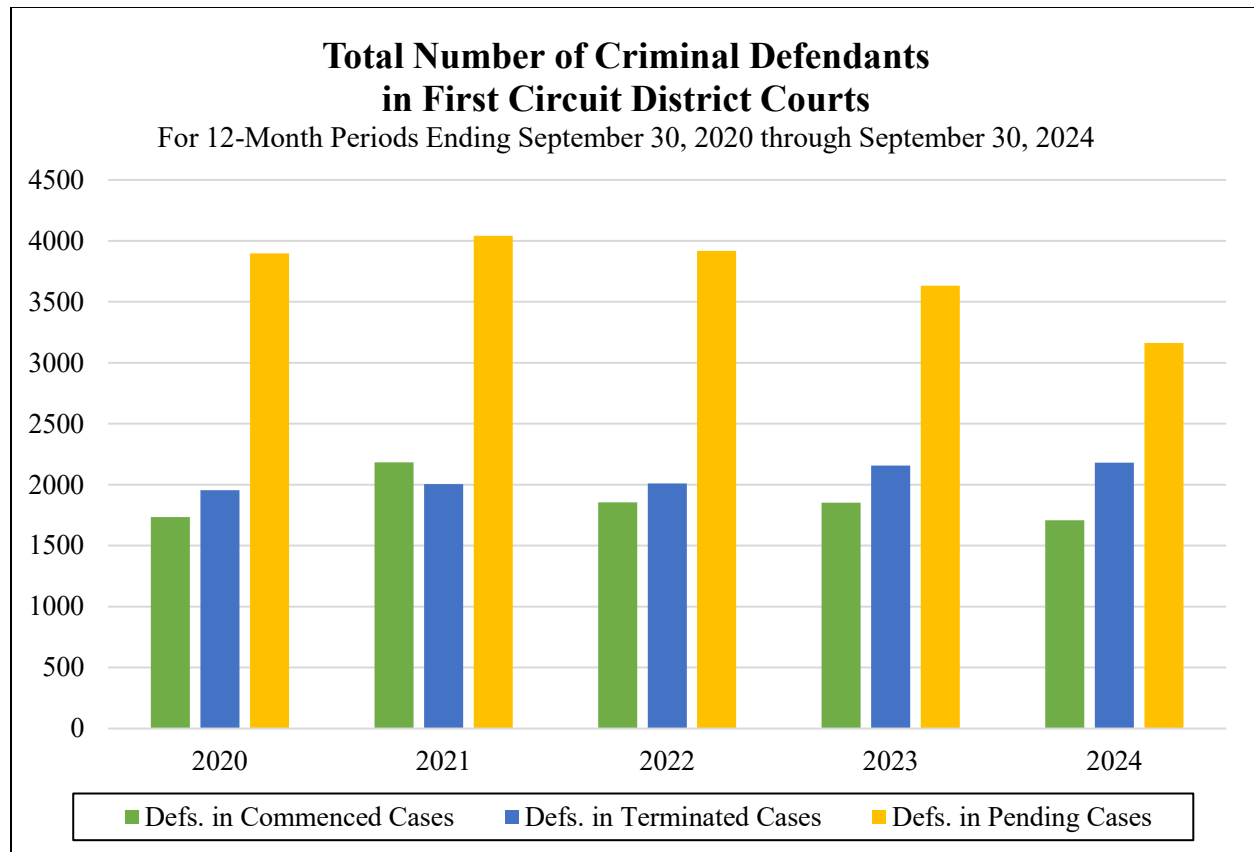
Criminal Cases Commenced, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	90	164	140	116	116
Massachusetts	322	374	234	300	305
New Hampshire	153	207	115	79	90
Puerto Rico	481	484	532	463	455
Rhode Island	98	108	94	68	82



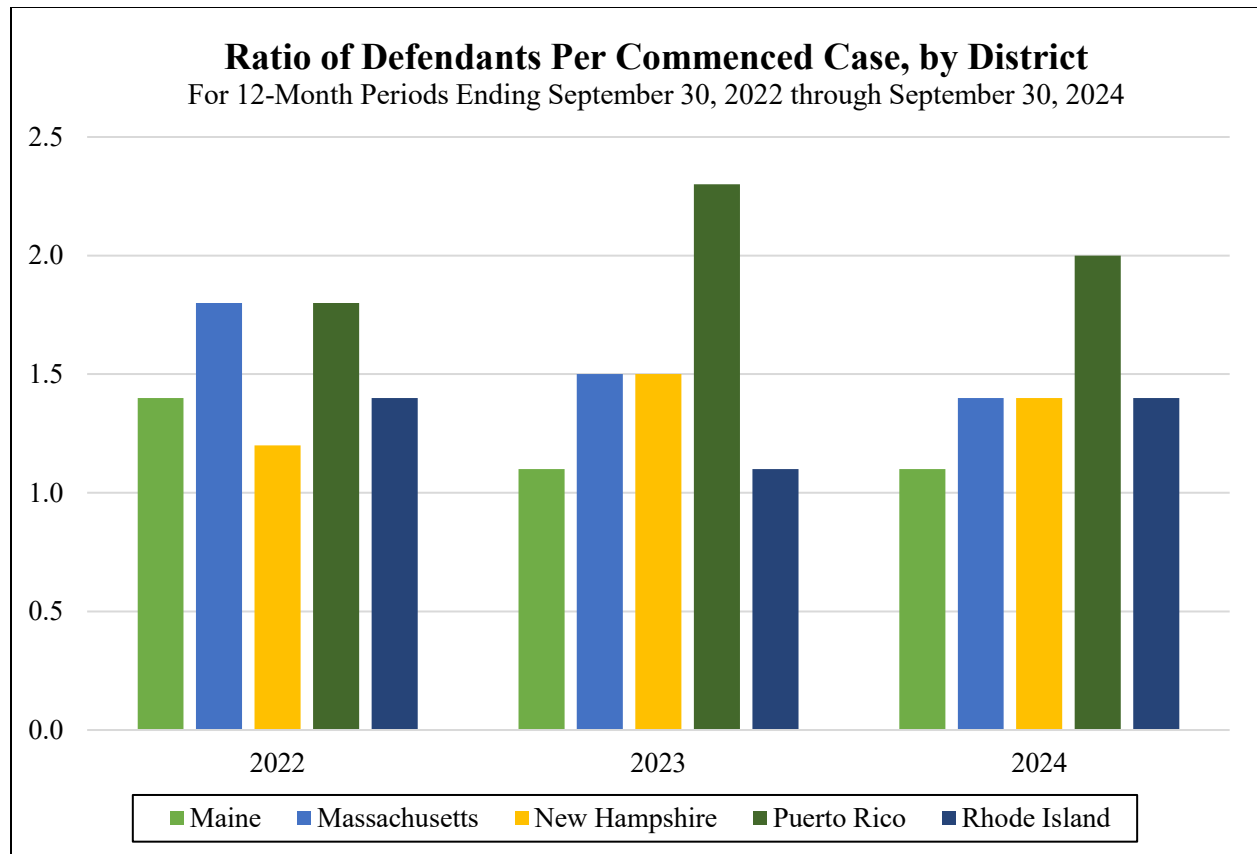
Criminal Cases Terminated, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	108	169	173	116	127
Massachusetts	323	294	343	321	348
New Hampshire	176	181	153	131	73
Puerto Rico	629	564	494	610	562
Rhode Island	91	70	80	87	88



Criminal Cases Pending, by District					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	200	198	164	165	158
Massachusetts	643	716	601	585	545
New Hampshire	200	230	196	150	180
Puerto Rico	987	912	960	811	698
Rhode Island	139	177	185	162	158

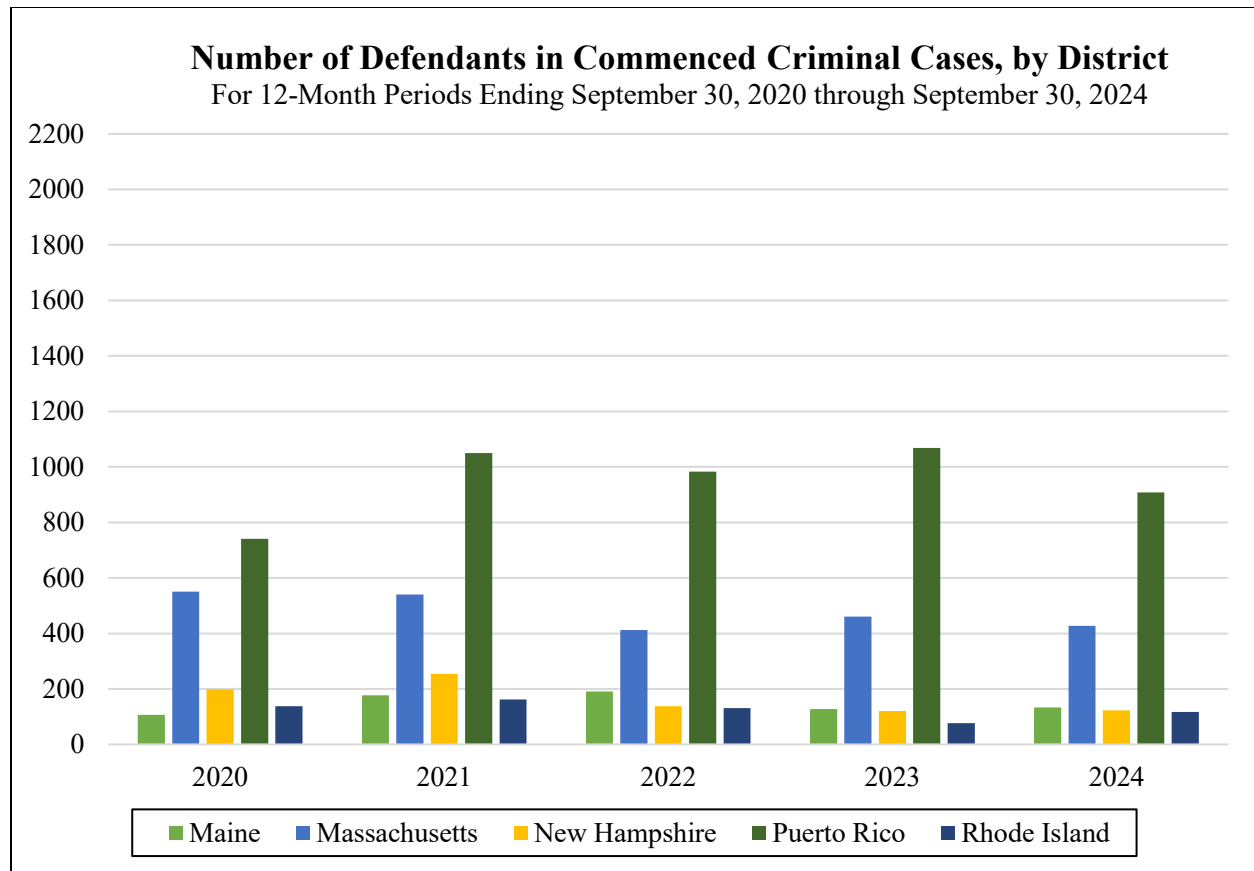


Total Number of Criminal Defendants in First Circuit District Courts					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. of Defendants Commenced Criminal Cases	1,735	2,183	1,855	1,853	1,708
No. of Defendants Terminated Criminal Cases	1,956	2,005	2,010	2,156	2,182
No. of Defendants Pending Criminal Cases	3,896	4,042	3,917	3,633	3,162

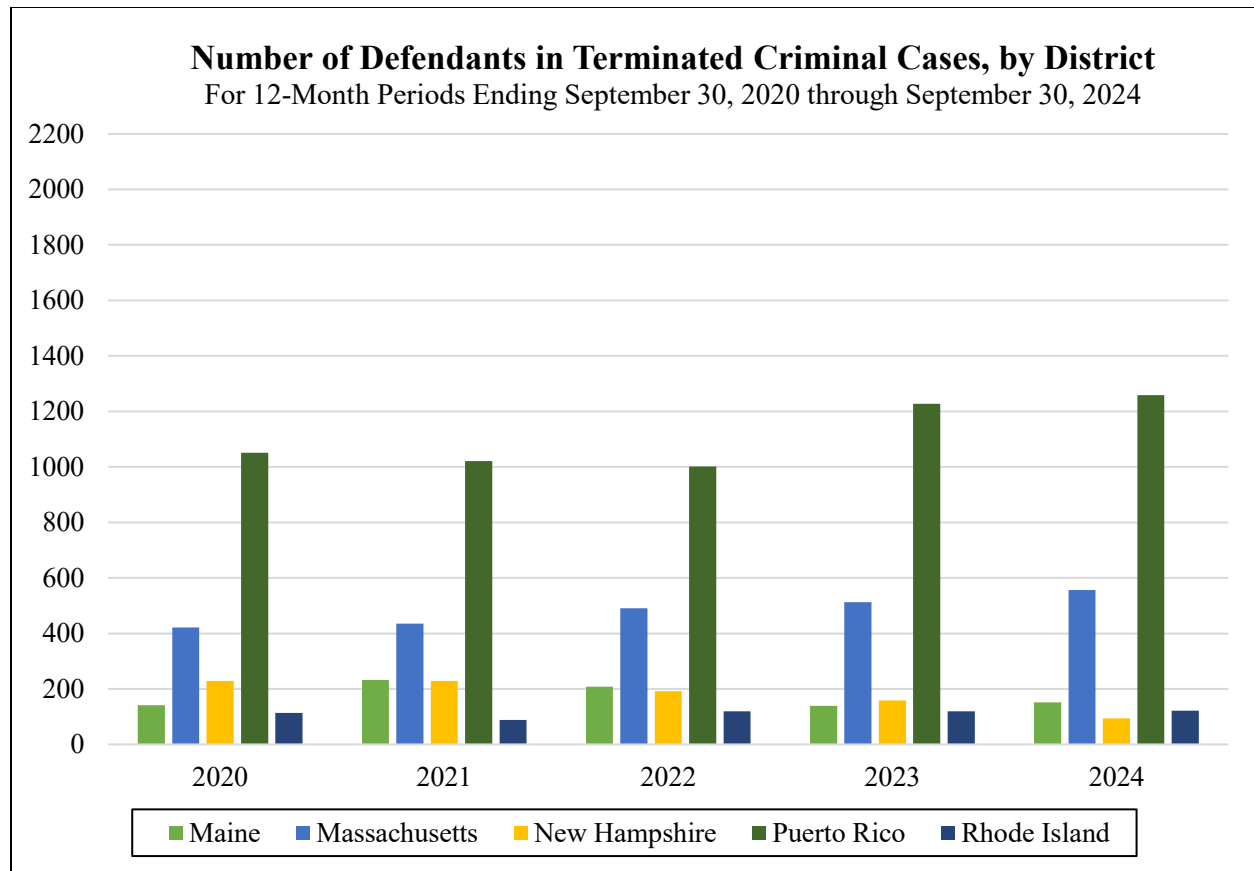


Number of Commenced Criminal Cases and Defendants and Ratio of Defendants Per Commenced Case, by District
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2022 through September 30, 2024

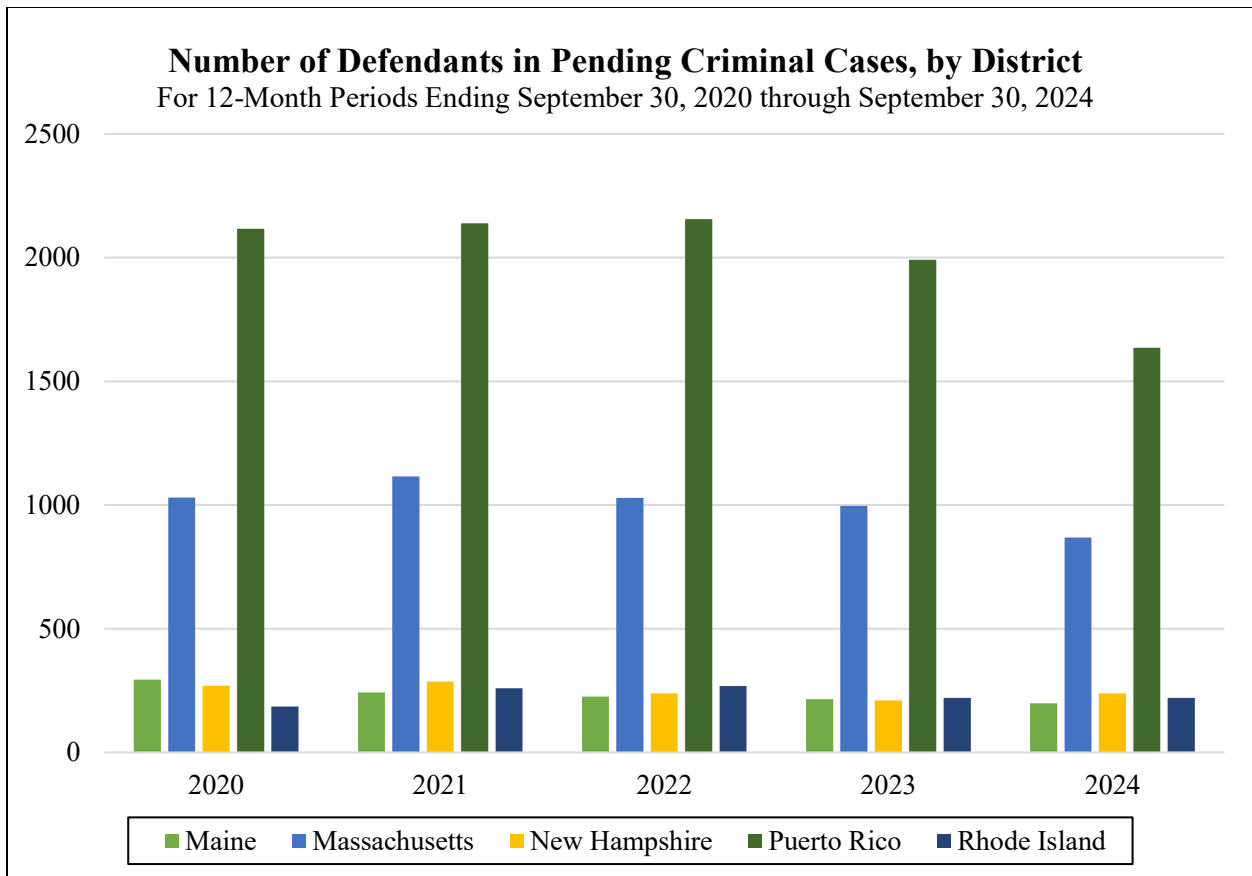
District	2022		Avg. No. of Defs./ Case	2023		Avg. No. of Defs./ Case	2024		Avg. No. of Defs./ Case
	Cases	Def.		Cases	Def.		Cases	Def.	
Maine	140	191	1.4	116	127	1.1	116	133	1.1
Massachusetts	234	412	1.8	300	461	1.5	305	427	1.4
New Hampshire	115	138	1.2	79	120	1.5	90	123	1.4
Puerto Rico	532	983	1.8	463	1,068	2.3	455	908	2.0
Rhode Island	94	131	1.4	68	77	1.1	82	117	1.4



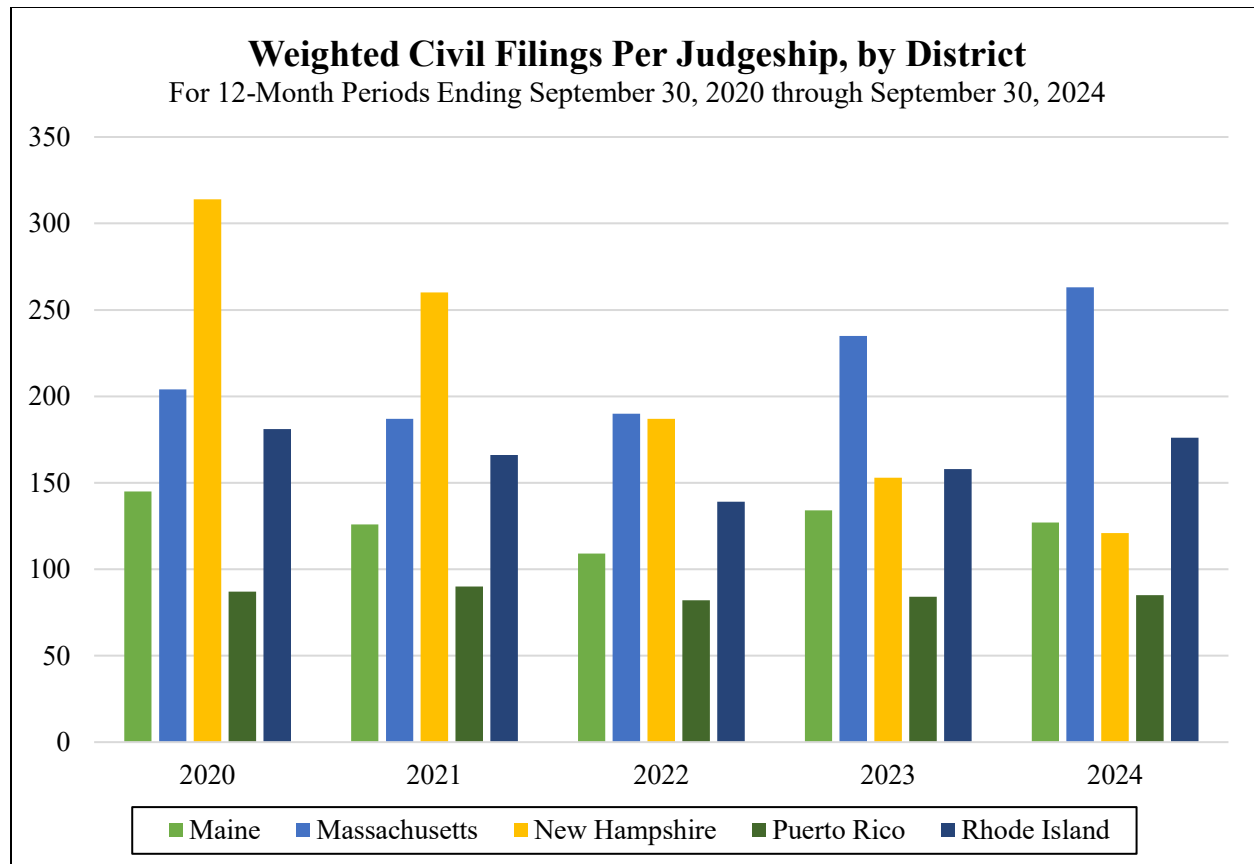
Number of Defendants in Commenced Criminal Cases, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	107	177	191	127	133
Massachusetts	550	540	412	461	427
New Hampshire	199	254	138	120	123
Puerto Rico	741	1,050	983	1,068	908
Rhode Island	138	162	131	77	117



Number of Defendants in Terminated Criminal Cases, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	141	232	208	139	152
Massachusetts	421	435	490	512	556
New Hampshire	229	229	192	159	94
Puerto Rico	1,051	1,021	1,001	1,227	1,259
Rhode Island	114	88	119	119	121

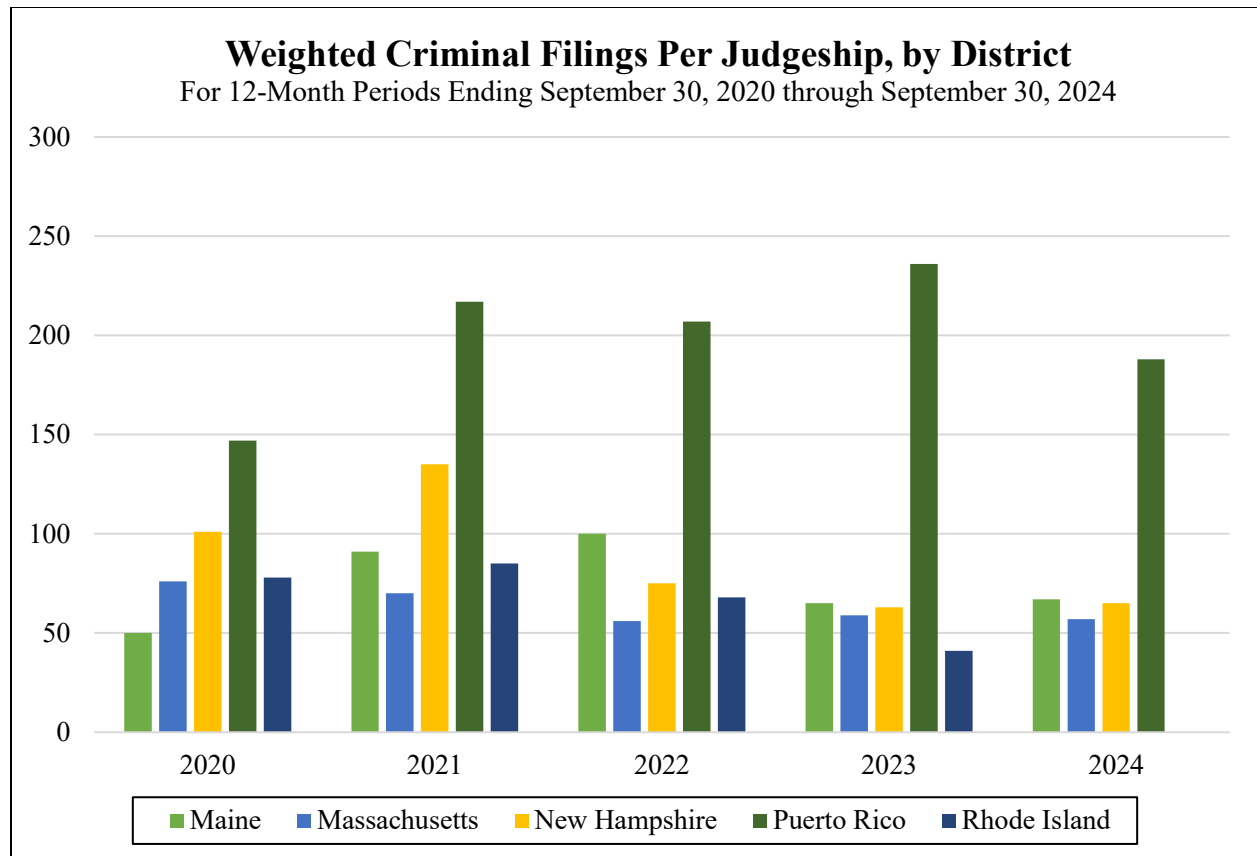


Number of Defendants in Pending Criminal Cases, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	294	242	226	215	199
Massachusetts	1,030	1,115	1,029	996	868
New Hampshire	269	287	239	210	239
Puerto Rico	2,117	2,139	2,155	1,991	1,636
Rhode Island	186	259	268	221	220

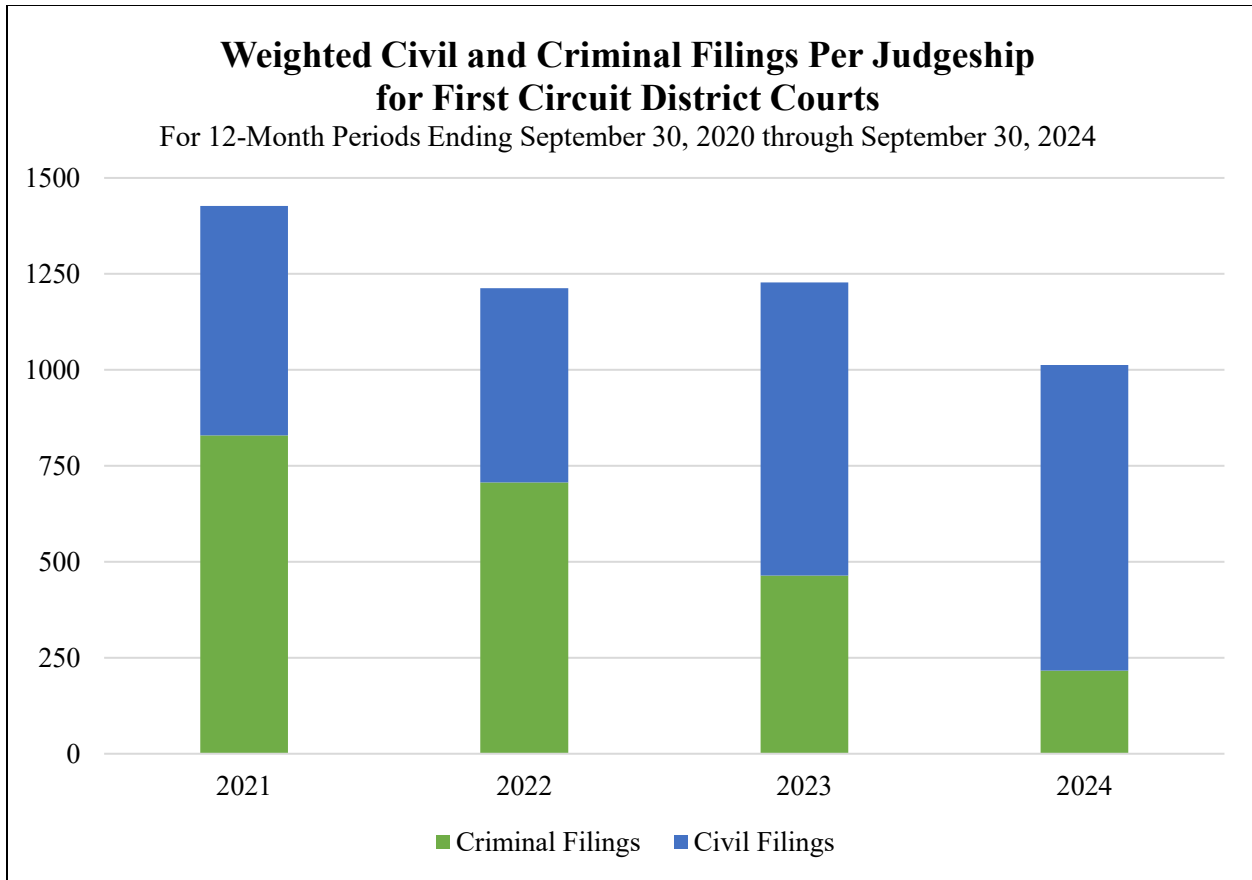


Weighted Civil Filings Per Judgeship, by District
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024

District	Judgeships	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	3	145	126	109	134	127
Massachusetts	13	204	187	190	235	263
New Hampshire	3	314	260	187	153	121
Puerto Rico	7	87	90	82	84	85
Rhode Island	3	181	166	139	158	176

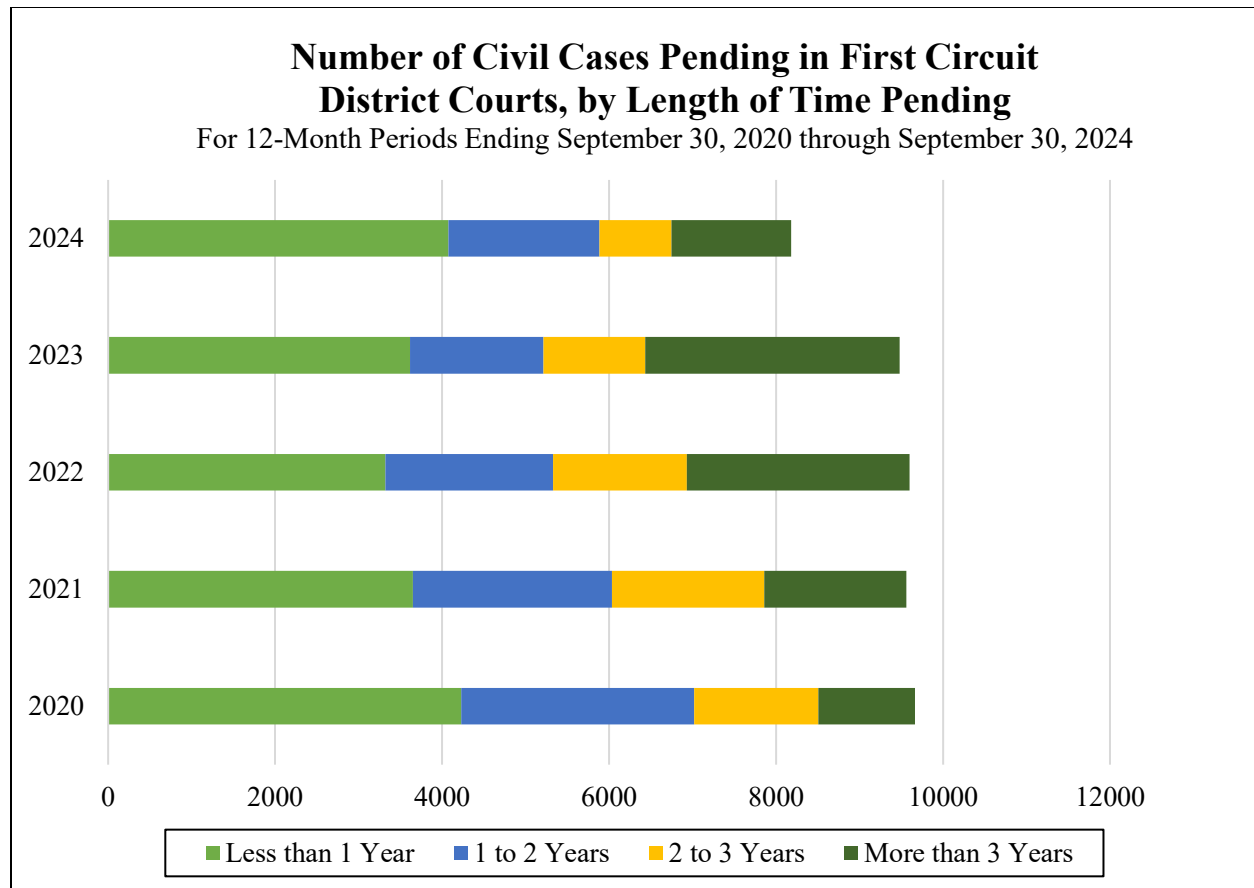


Weighted Criminal Filings Per Judgeship, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024						
District	Judgeships	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	3	50	91	100	65	67
Massachusetts	13	76	70	56	59	57
New Hampshire	3	101	135	75	63	65
Puerto Rico	7	147	217	207	236	188
Rhode Island	3	78	85	68	41	59



Weighted Civil and Criminal Filings Per Judgeship For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Civil Filings	931	829	707	764	796
Criminal Filings	452	598	506	464	217
Total Combined Filings	1,383	1,427	1,213	1,228	1,013

Number of Civil Cases Pending and Length of Time Pending, by District For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
MAINE					
Less than 1 Year	357	258	244	297	261
1 to 2 Years	115	100	71	70	86
2 to 3 Years	19	37	36	24	22
More than 3 Years	11	12	16	20	19
MASSACHUSETTS					
Less than 1 Year	1,828	1,604	1,704	2,070	2,771
1 to 2 Years	900	845	717	766	1,108
2 to 3 Years	435	476	461	321	458
More than 3 Years	674	461	537	415	360
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
Less than 1 Year	1,053	885	539	395	266
1 to 2 Years	991	890	753	381	243
2 to 3 Years	725	911	806	664	193
More than 3 Years	149	839	1,706	2,268	760
PUERTO RICO					
Less than 1 Year	611	542	527	548	433
1 to 2 Years	570	363	317	259	246
2 to 3 Years	233	296	204	137	123
More than 3 Years	244	288	293	219	197
RHODE ISLAND					
Less than 1 Year	381	361	306	305	346
1 to 2 Years	212	186	152	125	126
2 to 3 Years	76	107	95	72	64
More than 3 Years	79	100	115	119	101

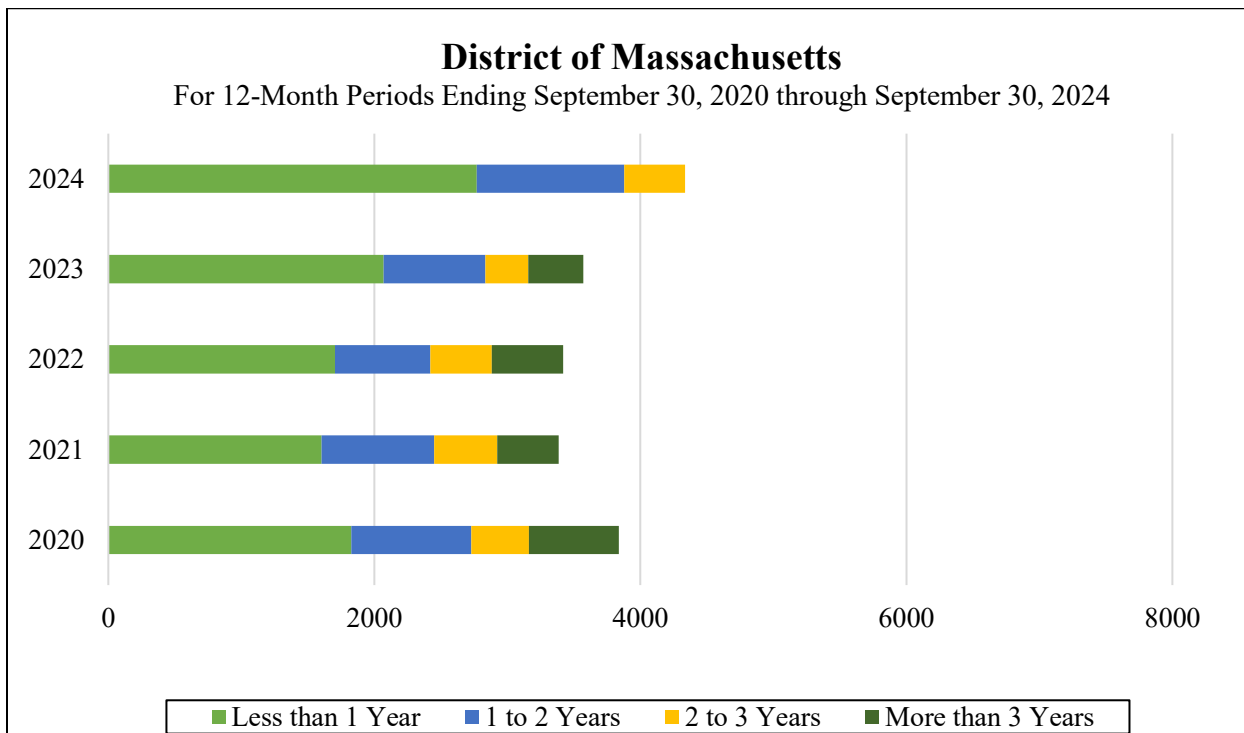
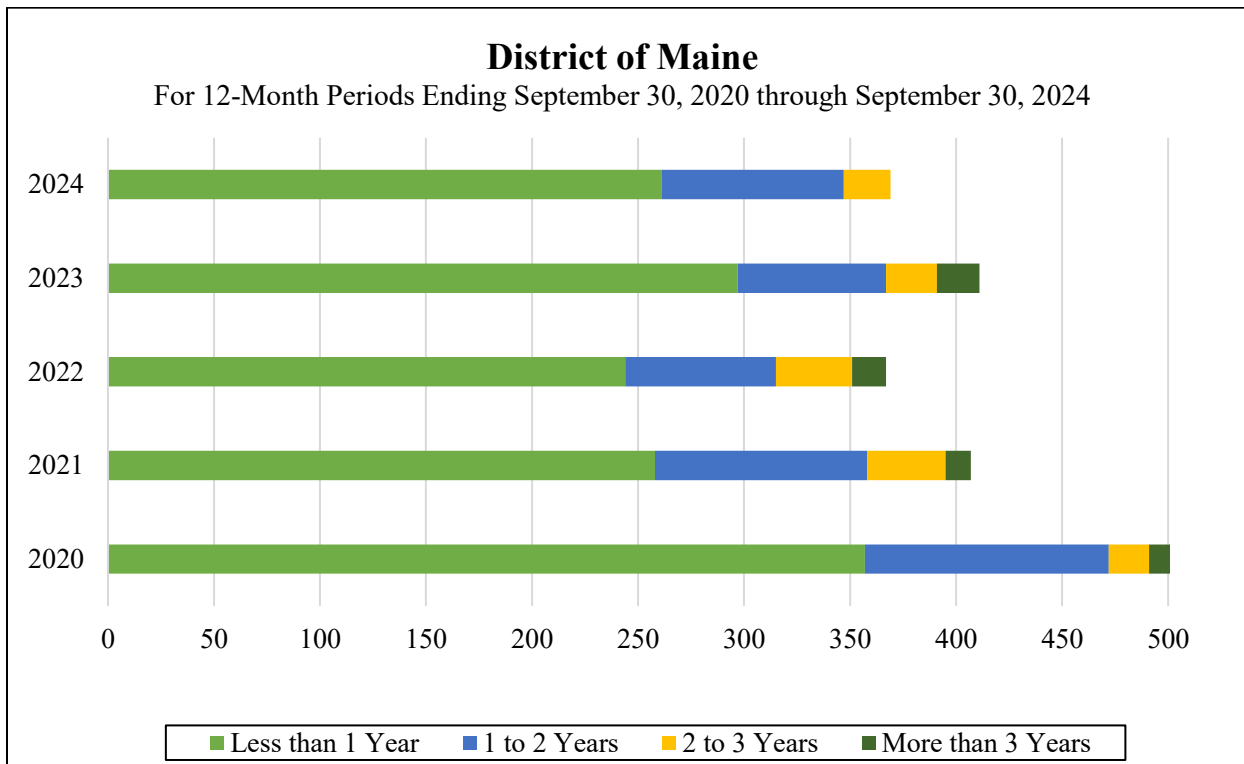


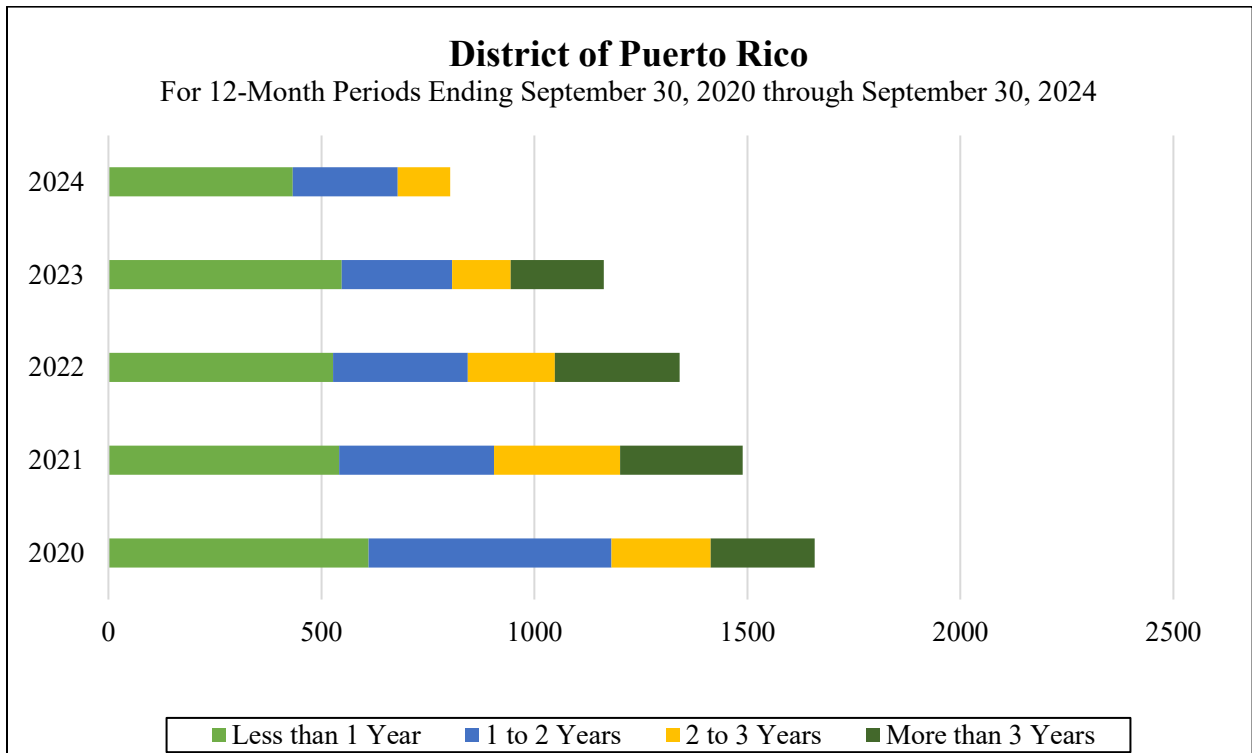
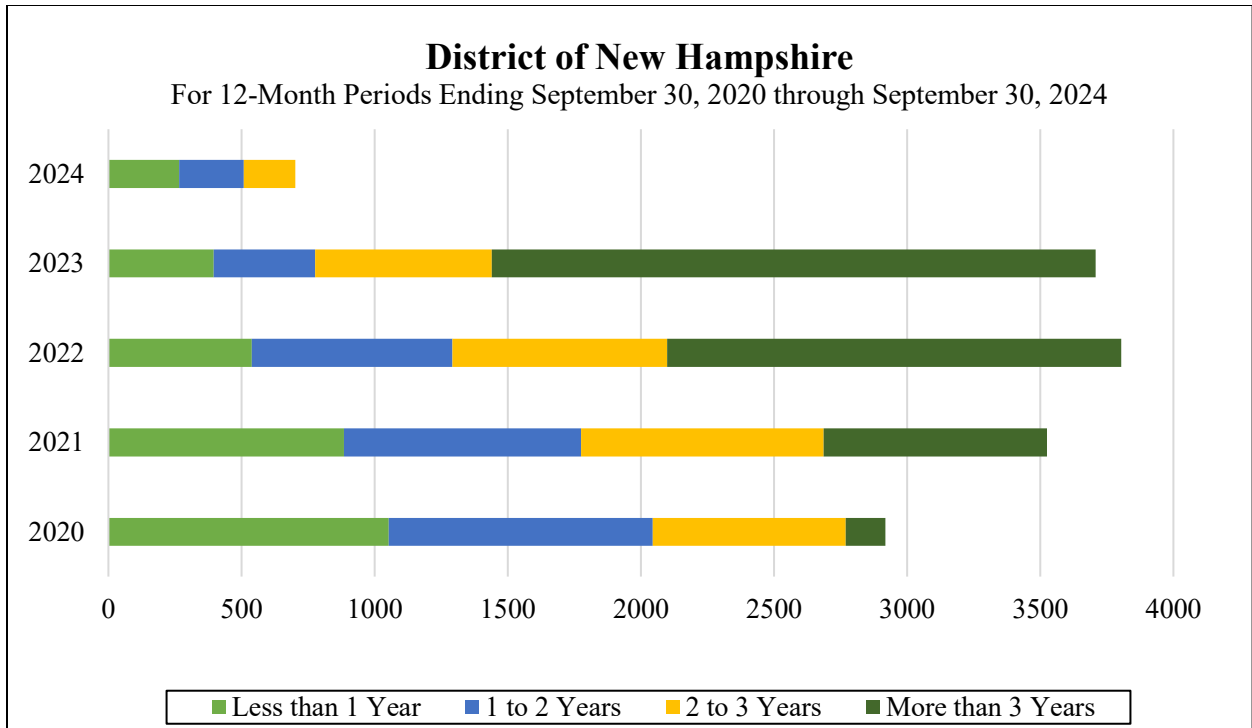
Number of Civil Cases Pending for First Circuit District Courts, by Length of Time Pending (and % Total)

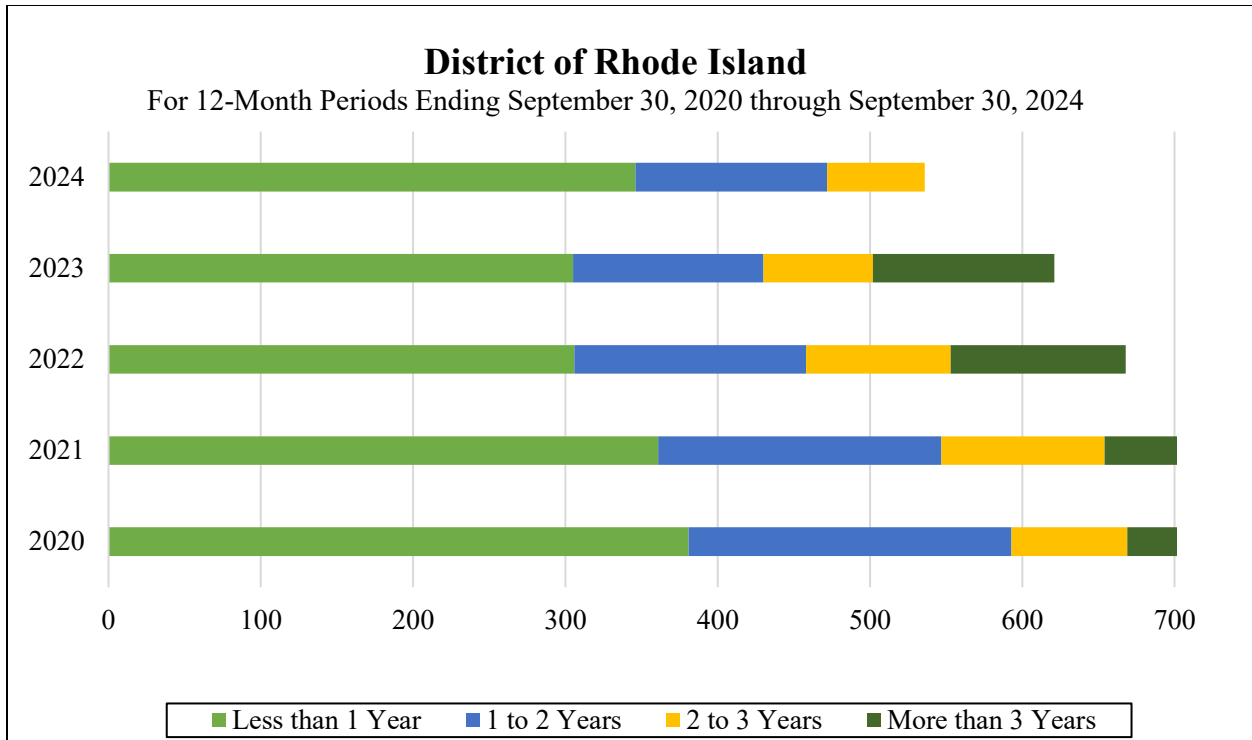
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Less than 1 Year	4,230 (43.8%)	3,650 (38.2%)	3,320 (34.6%)	3,615 (38.6%)	4,077 (49.8%)
1 to 2 Years	2,788 (28.9%)	2,384 (25.0%)	2,010 (20.9%)	1,601 (16.9%)	1,809 (22.1%)
2 to 3 Years	1,488 (15.4%)	1,827 (19.1%)	1,602 (16.7%)	1,218 (12.9%)	860 (10.5%)
More than 3 Years	1,157 (12.0%)	1,700 (17.8%)	2,667 (27.8%)	3,041 (32.1%)	1,437 (17.6%)

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







Report for the District of Maine

Court Profile

In 2024, the District had three district judges, two senior district judges, and two magistrate judges. The Clerk's Office had 30 employees.

The District's criminal caseload increased by 7.1%, in comparison to the national increase of 11.8%, while the Court's civil caseload declined by 1.9%, in comparison to the national decline of 25.7%. The prevailing offenses charged in 2024 (totaling 74.2% of criminal cases filed) included other drugs, firearms, and property offenses. The top three types of civil filings were civil rights (21.4%), foreclosure (13.3%), and tort claims (14.6%).

Clerk's Office

The Clerk's Office implemented a pilot plan to assign civil cases to U.S. magistrate judges; revised the full body of the Local Rules; onboarded a new district judge; managed the Gignoux Courthouse's HVAC overhaul project; hosted the 2024 District of Maine Judicial Conference; and awarded the Honorable Esther Salas, of the District of New Jersey, the Morton A. Brody Distinguished Service Award.

Local Rules

Throughout 2024, the Local Rules Committee was devoted to a complete reorganization of the civil local rules and modernization of the language used for the Court's rules. After two years of work, the Local Rules have been improved with respect to formatting, nomenclature, and numbering, and have clear, modernized language.

Information Technology

In 2024, the IT Department continued to modernize courtroom technology and focused on IT security. The IT staff designed and installed new AV systems in two courtrooms, upgraded security measures, and deployed new desktop hardware to all employees.

Civics Education/Community Outreach

In 2024, the Court held a Law Day Program with the theme "This is Justice" in Bangor and Portland. At the program, college and high school students participated in a mock hearing and heard from a panel, consisting of members of the state and federal judiciary, U.S. Probation Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, and Federal Defender's Office, and private attorneys, regarding the legal system.

In July 2024, the Court hosted 50 international students from over 40 countries from the U.S. Naval War College in Rhode Island as part of their Field Studies Program.

The Court held seven citizenship ceremonies, for a total of 211 new citizens naturalized, in 2024: four in Portland, with one held on Constitution Day; and three in Bangor.

The Court joined 55 other district courts in hosting a virtual POWER Act presentation.

The Court also hosted a Seminar for Legal Support Staff to address best practices for civil and criminal case filings in Bangor and Portland.

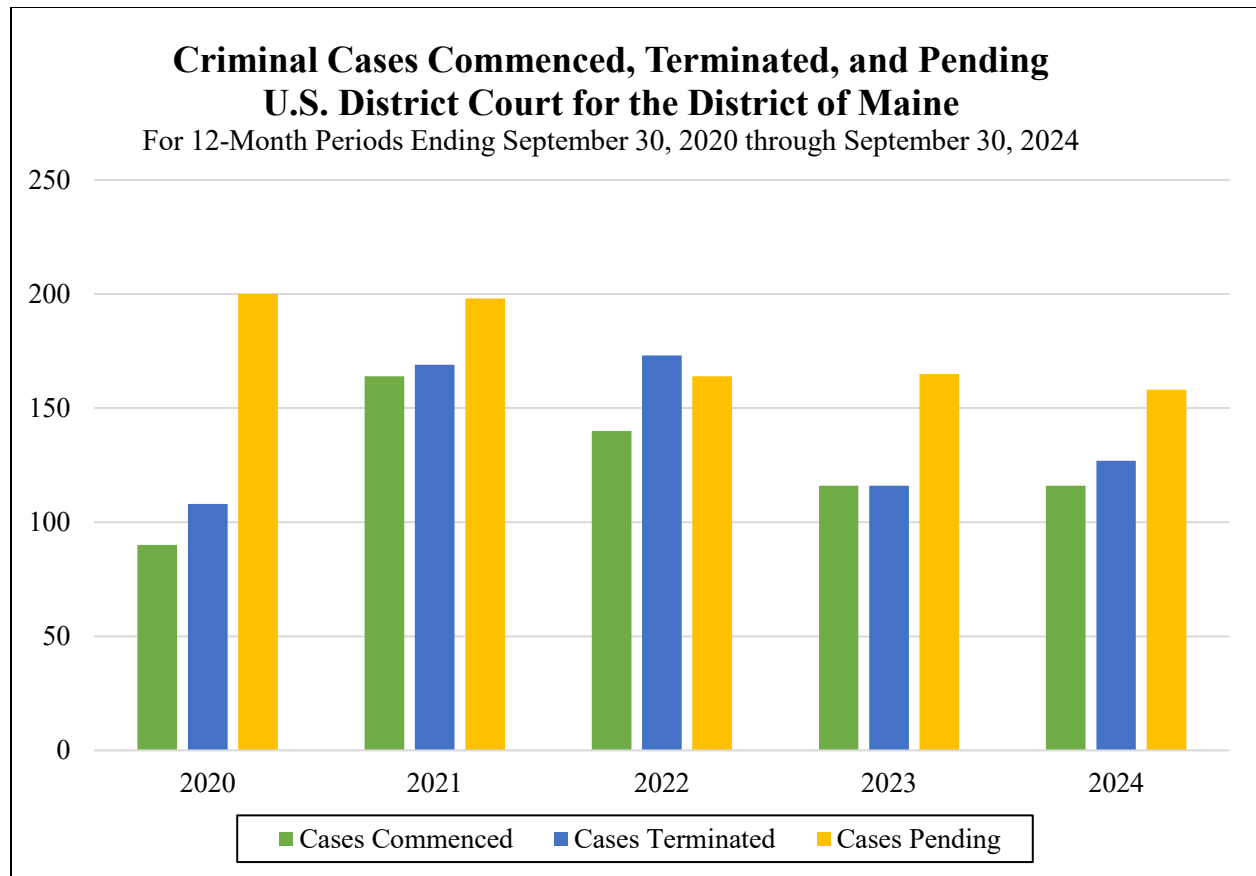
Human Resources/Staffing

The District Court, Bankruptcy Court, and U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Office (PPSO) continued to share administrative

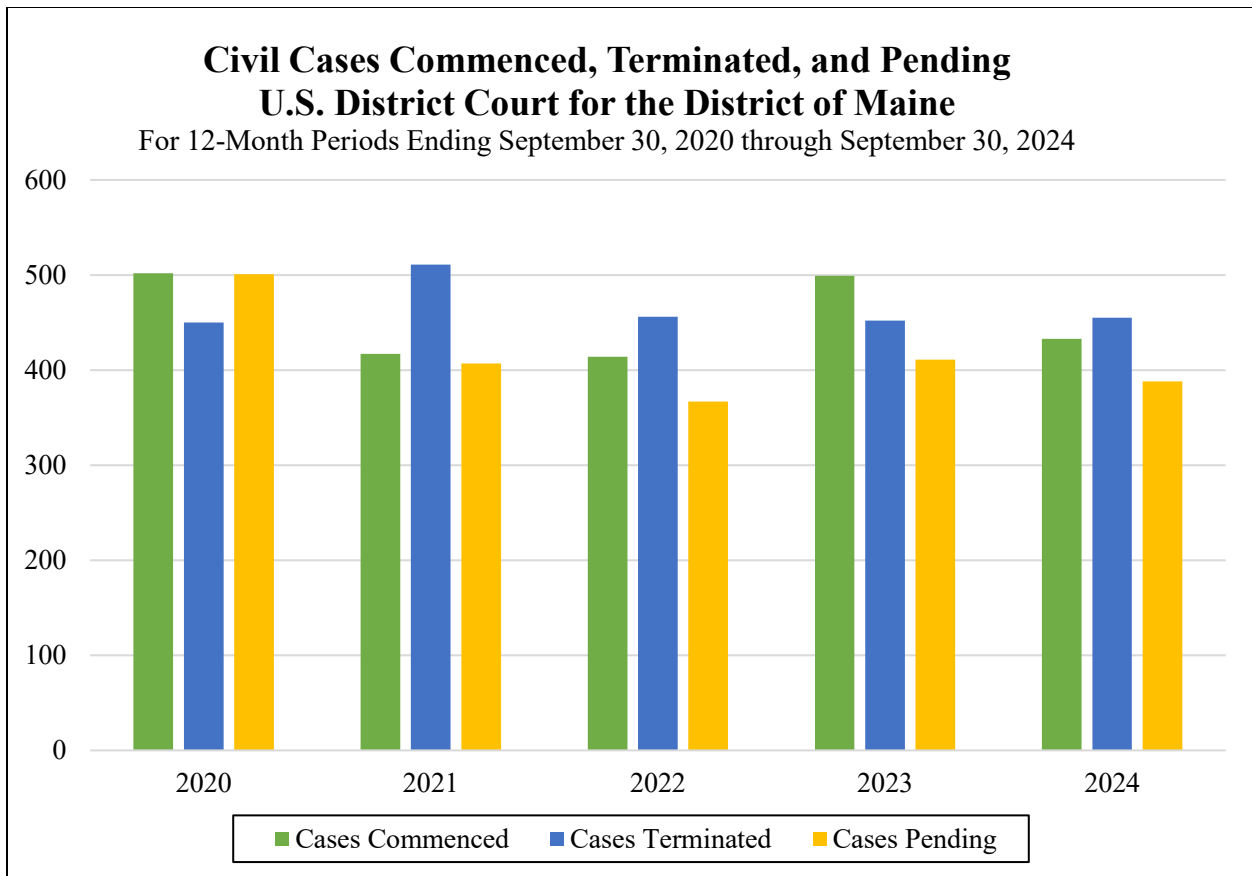
services, including a financial administrator and human resources specialist.

Space and Facilities

The Court Security Committee met regularly to address security issues and established a subcommittee focused on relevant court unit facilities in the Portland area. Additionally, the Court Security Committee worked with the General Services Administration (GSA) on building-related projects for the Gignoux building, including refinishing the flooring and installing Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant railings and new building signage. The Gignoux HVAC and fire alarm replacement project began in September 2024 and is expected to be completed in 2027.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending					
U.S. District Court for the District of Maine					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	90	164	140	116	116
Cases Terminated	108	169	173	116	127
Cases Pending	200	198	164	165	158



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending					
U.S. District Court for the District of Maine					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	502	417	414	499	433
Cases Terminated	450	511	456	452	455
Cases Pending*	501	407	367	411	388

* Pending cases for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

Probation & Pretrial Services Office District of Maine

National Workgroups

PPSO staff continued service at the national level. Specifically, Supervisor Scott Hastings served as faculty for the FJC's New Supervisor Program, and U.S. Probation Officer Jennifer Metcalfe continued to serve on the FJC's Probation and Pretrial Education Committee and the National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies Federal-Track Planning Committee.

The District was selected as a pilot district for the FJC's Resiliency and Everyday Leadership Program and completed that seminar in September 2024.

Community Outreach

The office has maintained their employee driven wellness committee, the Promoting Wellness, Empowerment and Resilience (PoWER) Squad, that sponsors a variety of employee engagement and community outreach activities, including fitness challenges, meal preparation for the Ronald McDonald Houses in Bangor and Portland, career fair participation at local universities, and participation in a local cancer treatment fundraising event.

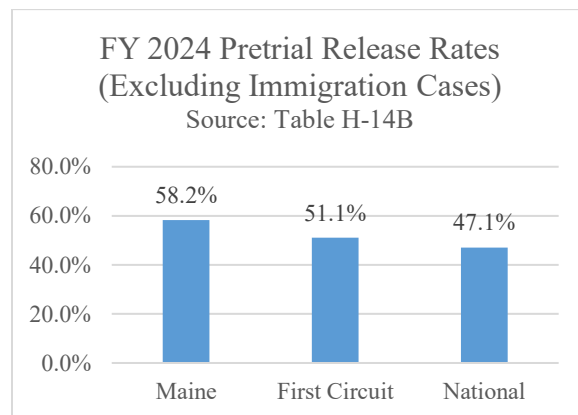
Personnel

In 2024, U.S. Probation Officer Specialist Sharon Reinheimer continued to serve a temporary duty assignment with the AO, which included facilitation of national outreach via "Fireside Chats" that provided monthly training and discussion focused on pretrial services, and was also involved with the FJC's Supervising Officers in an Evidence Based Environment Program.

Data Quality Analyst Terri Chizmar served temporarily with the AO to work on the implementation of PACTS360 and engaged with data governance and the National Information Standards Working Group.

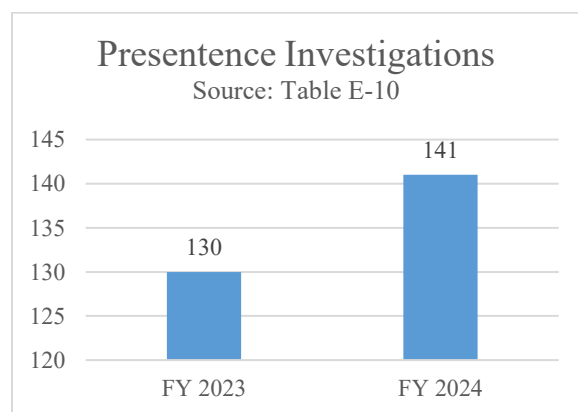
Pretrial Services

For the sixth consecutive year, the District had release rates exceeding the national average. The office supervised approximately 135 pretrial services cases during the reporting period.



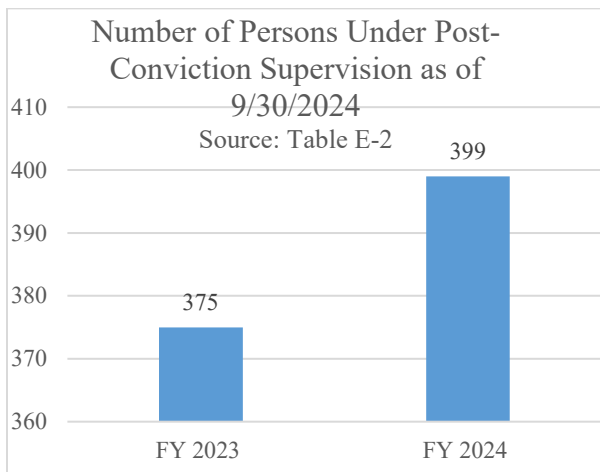
Presentence Investigations

The PPSO experienced an 8.5% increase in presentence investigation assignments during FY 2024.



Post-Conviction Supervision

The District had an increase in the number of post-conviction supervision cases and experienced substantial increases in the need to utilize Second Chance Act funds for emergency and transitional housing in Maine. Over 20% of the active post-conviction supervision cases involved defendants convicted of sex offenses, which require a more intense level of supervision and treatment expenditures.



Report for the District of Massachusetts

Court Profile

At the end of 2024, the District had 12 district judges, six senior district judges, seven magistrate judges, and five recalled magistrate judges.

Civics Education/Community Outreach

The District continued to support Discovering Justice's work with youth civics education.

The Nelson Fellowship: Eleven public school students participated in the 28th year of the Nelson Fellowship, a summer program encouraging civic engagement and higher education, and named for the late Judge David S. Nelson, the first African American federal judge appointed to the District of Massachusetts. The Fellows, who were assigned to a federal judge, met with area legal and civil leaders, took courses on civil rights and public speaking, visited local colleges, met with organizations that facilitate the college application process, and participated in a mock trial before a federal judge.

The Lindsay Fellowship: Eight college students participated in the 14th year of the Lindsay Fellowship, named for the late Judge Reginald C. Lindsay. Fellows were assigned to a judge and either the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Federal Defender Program, or U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services. The Fellows attended an intensive research and writing program and competed in a moot court program.

The District hosted the following civics engagement activities:

- Backpack Drive: The Court received over 70 backpacks for students in need at Homes for Little Wanderers and

invited students to the courthouse for a tour and a speaker series with judges from the District.

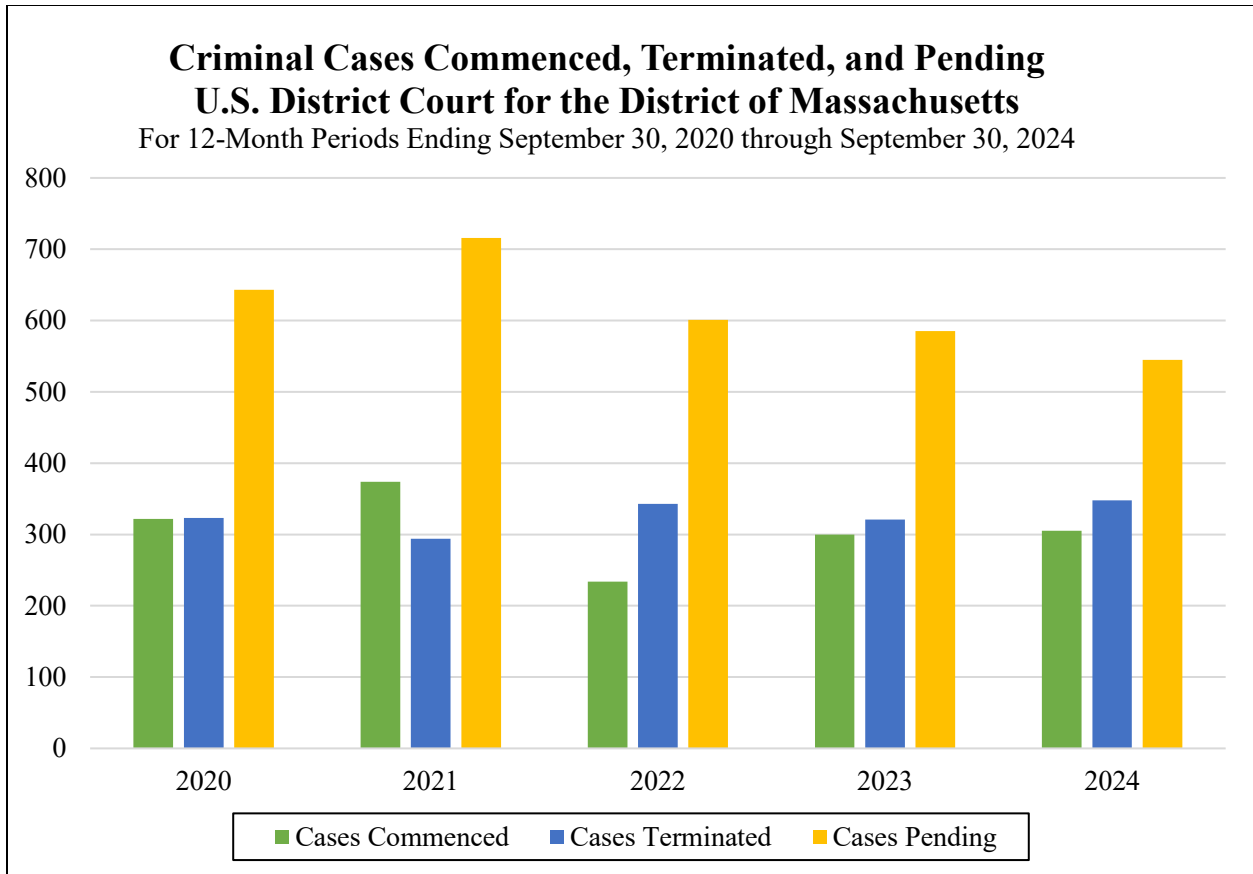
- Bill of Rights Student Essay Contest: The Court encouraged students statewide to write an essay on a change they would make to the Bill of Rights and invited students and their families to the Moakley Courthouse for a ceremony on Bill of Rights Day.
- Black History Month Judicial Panel: A panel of judges spoke about the importance of Black History.
- Constitution/Citizenship Day: A school group participated in a naturalization ceremony followed by a speaker series with a district judge.
- Hispanic Heritage Month Pioneers of Change Judicial Panel: A panel of judges spoke about Hispanic heritage and culture.
- Law Day: School groups participated in a mock jury empanelment and participated in a judges' speaker series.
- National Council of Social Studies Conference: Judge Kelley, Magistrate Judge Dein, and Project Coordinator Caleb Houston presented a poster regarding the fellowship programs available in the District to educators to encourage their students to apply.

Operations

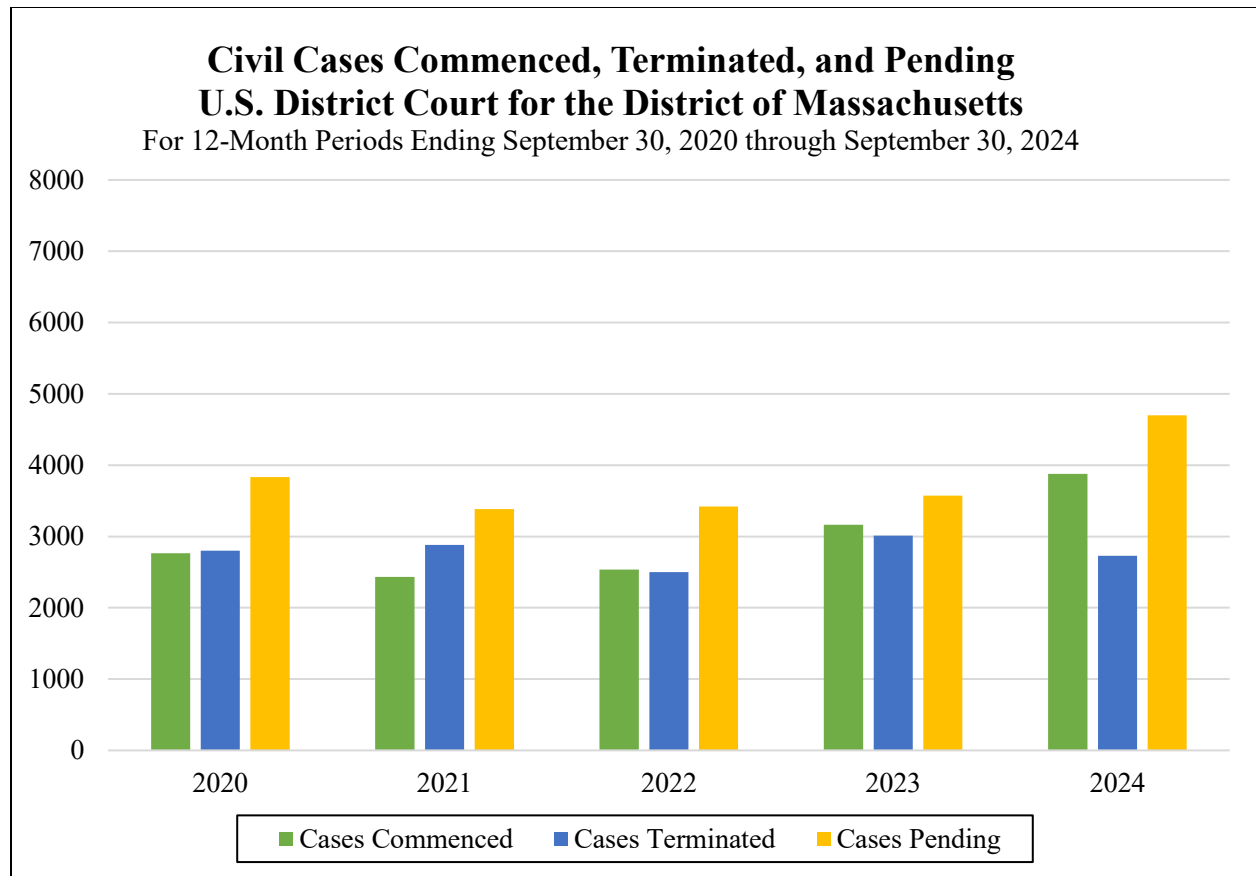
Civil filings declined by 0.1%, from 3,596 cases in calendar year 2023 to 3,593 cases in calendar year 2024. The number of criminal defendants charged in calendar year 2024 increased by 16.3% to 463 from 398 in 2023.

At the close of 2024, the District had five pending multi-district litigation (MDL) matters, with 2,164 pending member cases, assigned to five different judges.

In 2024, the District conducted 126 trials (55 civil and 71 criminal). Judges spent 1,784 hours conducting trials and 2,322 hours conducting other proceedings.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	322	374	234	300	305
Cases Terminated	323	294	343	321	348
Cases Pending	643	716	601	585	545



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending					
U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	2,767	2,434	2,534	3,166	3,876
Cases Terminated	2,800	2,882	2,498	3,011	2,728
Cases Pending*	3,834	3,386	3,419	3,572	4,697

* Pending cases for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

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

Personnel

In 2024, the PPSO hired U.S. Probation Officers Idaliz Alicea, Kayla Elliot, and Tyler Sienkiewicz. Officer Domenica Soto returned to the District. Three student contractors, Kaitlin Bardellini, Anaisy Casado Moreno, and Morgan Kendrac, joined the team.

Assistant Deputy Chief Jeffrey Smith and Clerk Karen Falconi retired. Two other staff members left the office to pursue other opportunities, and a beloved officer and friend lost her battle with cancer in July 2024.

Investigations and Supervision:

Pretrial Investigations: In FY 2024, the PPSO activated 573 cases.

Year	Cases Activated	Release/Detention Rate	Interview Rate
2022	443	55%/45%	58%
2023	496	49%/51%	52%
2024	573	52%/48%	58%

During this reporting period, the PPSO recommended release in 58.5% of cases, which was higher than the District's release rate of 52%.

Pretrial Supervision: In FY 2024, 494 defendants were under supervision. Of the total number of pretrial defendants who were supervised during 2024, 14 failed to appear as scheduled, 12 were rearrested, and 55 committed technical violations.

Year	Cases Assigned	Cases Sentenced w/o PSR
2022	407	6
2023	439	7
2024	543	4

In FY 2024, while offense types covered by presentence investigations and reports remained consistent, immigration cases increased, as did various requests for expedited and/or modified presentence reports and investigations. Officers continued to prescreen defendants for placement in the Bureau of Prisons Residential Drug and Alcohol Program, handle resentencings, and recommend individuals for participation in the CARE, Re-Start, and Repair, Invest, Succeed, Emerge (RISE) programs.

Post-Conviction Supervision: In FY 2024, 1,857 post-conviction clients were under supervision, 76.2% of whom were convicted of violent, sex, drug, or weapon offenses. In FY 2024, 74.1% of cases successfully completed supervision, and 135 cases were revoked for new crimes or technical violations.

The Probation Office facilitated treatment services for approximately 654 individuals and processed approximately 12,152 samples during FY 2024.

Space Initiatives

In FY 2024, the District continued to problem-solve workspace issues for U.S. Probation staff in Boston by converting single offices and one closet into workspaces for multiple people. At least four single offices were converted to double occupancy, and one office was converted to triple occupancy.

Additionally, the District addressed aging infrastructure through multiple projects.

District Resources and Initiatives

In FY 2024, the office continued its efforts to provide full service to the Court and community through its initiatives, including the RENEW (Release-Engage-Network-Employ-Win), RISE, CARE, Restorative Justice, Re-Start West (in Springfield), and Nurturing Fathers programs. Nurturing Fathers had 30 graduates in 2024. The RENEW program assisted several formerly incarcerated people with job training and employment. The District continued to partner with the Court to host Nelson and Lindsay Fellows and provided outreach to other visiting groups. The Wellness Committee continued to engage staff through outreach, volunteer work, fitness challenges, and a regular newsletter celebrating staff milestones.

Training, Professional Development, & National Workgroups

In 2024, Chief Ricardo Carter became a member of the Budget Advisory Council, and U.S. Probation Officer Laura LaValley continued her work on the national Pretrial Services Working Group. Several staff were named as faculty for the FJC's Supervising Officers in an Evidence Based Environment Program.

The District continued to prepare for the implementation of PACTS 360 and engaged in ongoing skill development, including, but not limited to, firearms and safety, location monitoring, sex offending, and cognitive-based interventions.

Report for the District of New Hampshire

Civics Education/Educational Programs

The Federal Court Advisory Committee met twice in 2024 to discuss planning for the 2025 Federal Practice Institute, a full day of educational programming for federal practitioners; upcoming leadership transitions; the efficiency of Criminal Justice Act (CJA) voucher processing; and protocol development for video depositions. Further, the Court began planning the next Federal Practice Institute, which will be held in the fall of 2025.

The CJA Panel Annual Meeting and Training was held in May 2024 with a full day of training on the Federal Sentencing Guidelines for all of the District's criminal practitioners and probation officers from around New England.

In 2024, 189 middle school students visited the Court to observe a naturalization ceremony and participate in a full day of mock trials and civics exercises, and 76 high school students traveled to the Court for the "You Be The Judge" civics education program, where the students participated in a mock sentencing hearing, watched a sentencing hearing, and posed questions to the attorneys at the sentencing hearing.

In October 2024, the Court hosted a breakfast for new lawyers with the New Hampshire Bar Association, which included a presentation by 603 Legal Aid on pro bono services.

Information Technology

In 2024, the Court's IT staff, which is shared with the District's U.S. Bankruptcy Court and PPSO, enhanced cybersecurity defenses, modernized IT infrastructure, improved IT service delivery processes, progressed in

making advanced communication and collaboration capabilities, and refined the performance and reliability of critical systems.

Operations

In 2024, the Court hired a third-party vendor to conduct its annual FY audit.

Case Management

Civil filings decreased from 544 cases in 2023 to 381 cases in 2024, while criminal filings declined slightly from 153 defendants charged in 2023 to 152 in 2024.

Human Resources/Staff Training

In 2024, Operations Manager Karen Gorham and Intake Clerk Julianne Black were hired.

Financial Administrator Dale Trombley retired in 2024, and Procurement Specialist Abby Tourville became the new Financial Administrator.

Intake Clerk Charli Pappas became a Procurement Specialist/Events Coordinator.

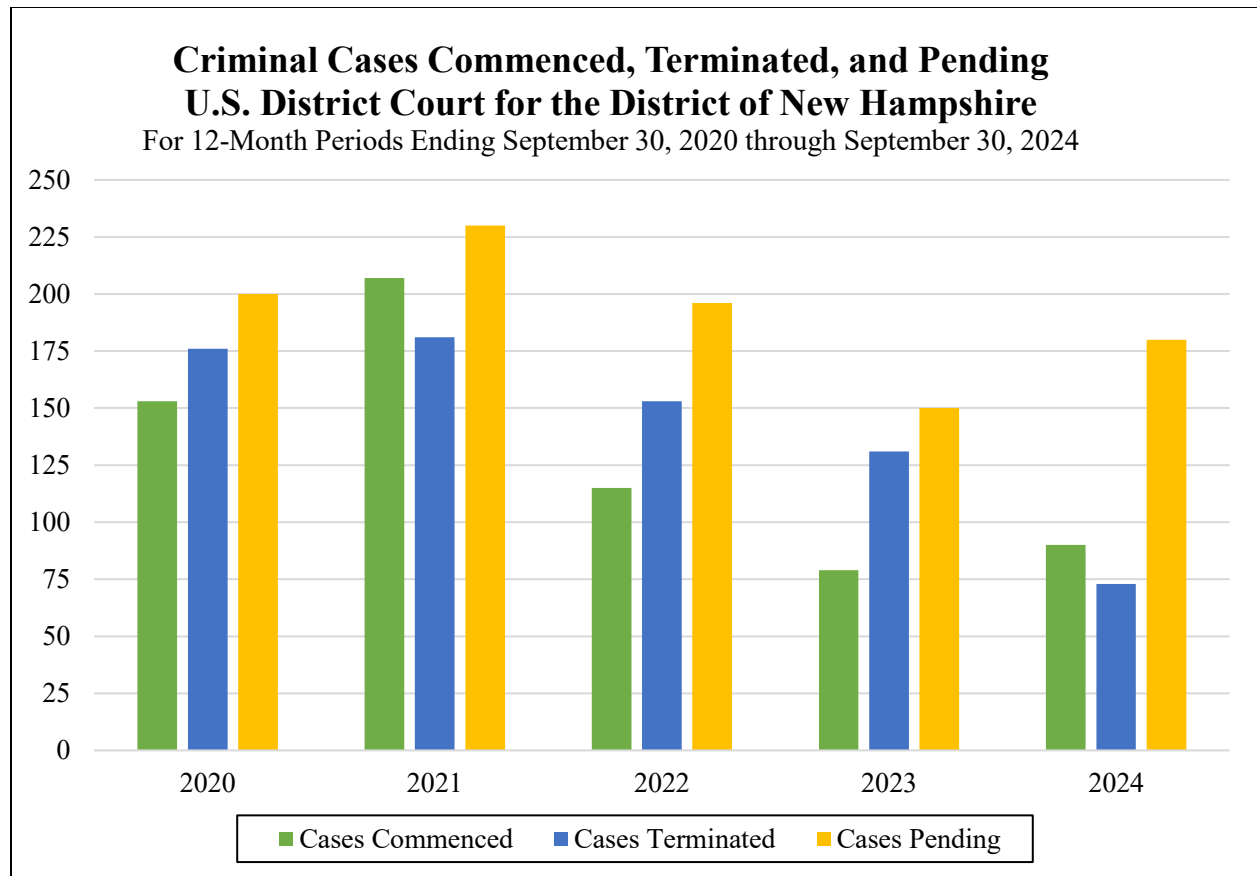
Operations Support Clerk Brandy Fantasia left the Court in July 2024.

In 2024, staff completed an annual IT security course and attended EDR trainings offered by the Office of Judicial Integrity. Clerk's Office staff also participated in a writing workshop with a former Department of Justice attorney who specializes in written communication.

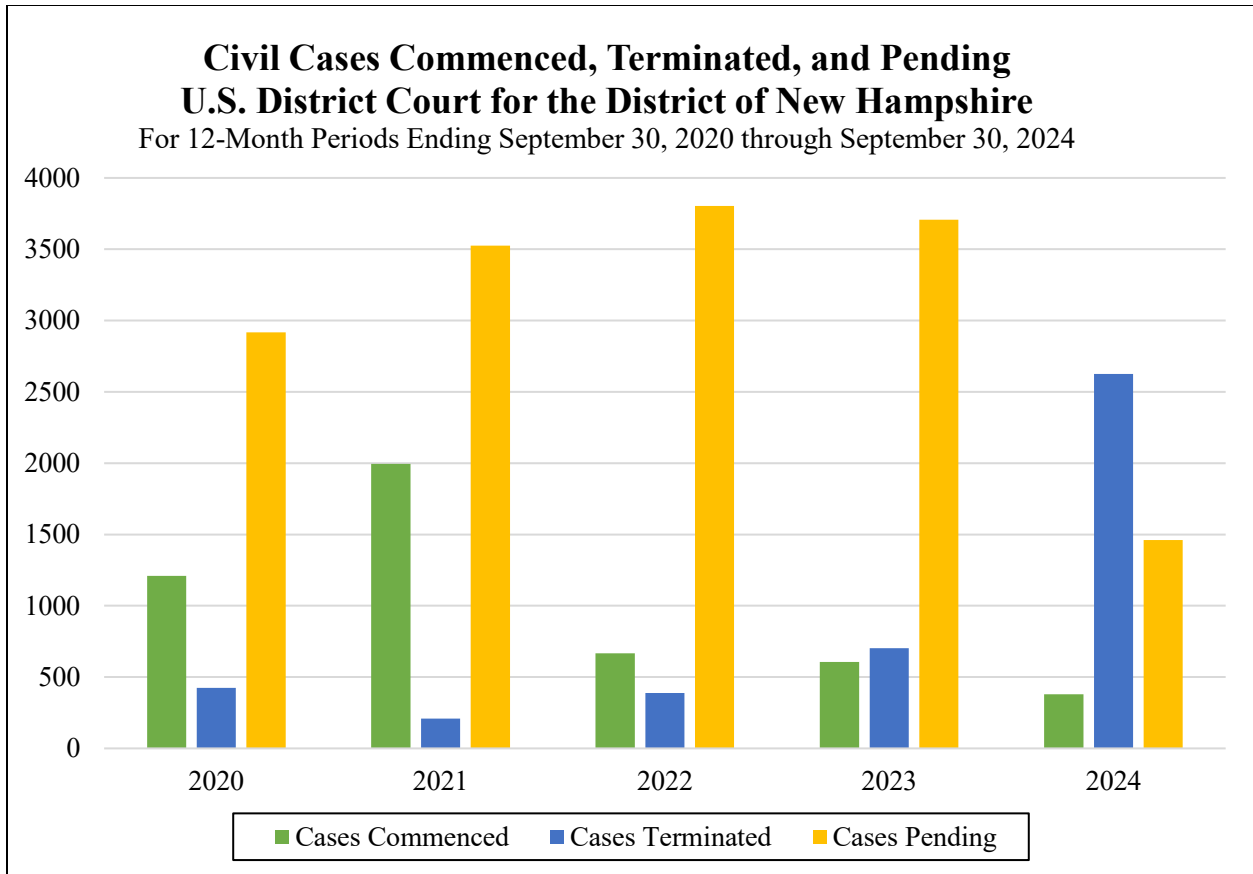
Space & Facilities Construction/Consolidation

In 2024, the Court continued to work on several multi-year projects, including

upgrading the courthouse security system, repairing the HVAC infrastructure, converting the library annex into a new chambers, renovating an existing judge's chambers, and upgrading the fire alarm systems.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	153	207	115	79	90
Cases Terminated	176	181	153	131	73
Cases Pending	200	230	196	150	180



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of New Hampshire For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	1,209	1,994	667	606	379
Cases Terminated	424	208	389	702	2,626
Cases Pending*	2,919	3,525	3,804	3,708	1,462

* Pending cases for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

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

Personnel

In 2024, Jonathan Hurtig retired from his position as Chief U.S. Probation Officer and was later hired as a Training Coordinator, Kevin Lavigne was promoted to Chief U.S. Probation Officer, and John Bendzunas was promoted to Deputy Chief U.S. Probation Officer.

Sarah Whitney-Swenson was hired as a U.S. Probation Officer.

Christopher Pingree retired from his position as Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer.

Pretrial Services

In FY 2024, the office activated 164 new cases, an increase from FY 2023 (149 activations). Drugs comprised the largest proportion of charged offenses (53%), followed by firearms (12.8%), sex offenses (12.2%), and property offenses (11.0%). Officers conducted 121 pretrial interviews in FY 2024 and recommended release 70.8% of the time (excluding immigration cases). The District received 78 new cases for pretrial supervision. In FY 2024, while handling a total of 182 different cases on pretrial release status, there were 29 pretrial service violations across 22 defendants.

Presentence Investigations

The office completed 140 presentence investigations in FY 2024, a 22% decrease from FY 2023, and also handled 57 criminal history retroactive amendment cases, compared to just one in FY 2023. The rate of on-time submission of presentence

investigation reports to the Court and the parties was 98% in FY 2024.

Post-Conviction Supervision

In FY 2024, the Supervision Unit experienced a reduction in workload, with a total of 389 cases on active post-conviction supervision, a decrease of 11% from FY 2023. Of these cases, 92% were on supervised release with 53% of supervised release cases due to drug offense convictions. Cases deemed intense or elevated risk accounted for 38% of post-conviction supervision, compared to 28% nationally.

In FY 2024, the office closed 212 cases from active supervision, 49 (23%) of which were closed due to revocation. Of those revoked, 38 (78%) were considered technical violations, ten (20%) were major violations, and one (2%) was a minor violation. Total cases revoked largely remained consistent with 51 cases in FY 2023 and 49 cases in FY 2024.

In FY 2024, the office terminated 29 cases early from supervision, an increase from FY 2023 (22 cases), resulting in savings of \$171,528.00.

Treatment Services

The costs associated with treatment services increased slightly (3%) between FY 2023 (\$422,706) and FY 2024 (\$439,050). Costs increased most significantly in sex offender treatment (7%) and substance abuse testing (27%) and minimally increased across services for life skills and mental health treatment. Costs decreased most significantly in drug abuse treatment (22%) and minimally across location monitoring and administration costs.

LASER Docket Program

Since 2010, the District has operated the Law-Abiding, Sober, Employed, and Responsible (LASER) Docket, a cooperative effort between the Court, U.S. Attorney's Office, PPSO, Federal Defender Office, and the United States Marshals Service (USMS). The LASER Docket offers treatment and sanction alternatives to address defendant/offender behavior, promote rehabilitation, reduce recidivism, and ensure community safety. During FY 2024, nine pretrial defendants entered the program, bringing the total number of participants who participated at some point during that period to 28, and eight participants graduated from the program.

Information Technology

The office continued to share IT services with the district and bankruptcy courts. In FY 2024, the District achieved the following goals, including, but not limited to: implemented additional automation solutions and a new online library for staff to utilize real-time collaboration; improved cybersecurity measures; streamlined IT service delivery processes; and upgraded critical systems to enhance performance and reliability.

Officer Safety

In FY 2024, Officer Response Tactics (ORT) training remained unchanged. In October 2023, four staff members were certified as Glock Armorers. This certification lasts three years and is essential in conducting annual firearms inspections.

In January 2024, three probation officers completed the Federal Probation and Pretrial Academy Initial Probation and Pretrial Training program, in which they received extensive training in officer response tactics,

firearms, de-escalation, OC (pepper) spray, and use of force knowledge.

In March 2024, U.S. Probation Officer William Carroll was named Lead Firearms Instructor (LFI) in preparation for LFI Chris Pingree's departure from the office. U.S. Probation Officer Scott Christensen continued his role as a District Firearms Instructor.

From April through October 2024, the firearms team held monthly live fire sessions: four were qualification ranges, and three were training days. Attendance at one of each was mandatory for all staff who carry firearms, in accordance with the Firearms & Safety Procedures Manual, and attendance at more than one of each was optional and encouraged.

In May 2024, the District solicited new ORT instructors and received interest from staff. In August 2024, an ORT training session was offered by the District of Rhode Island to all officers.

In October 2024, LFI Carroll delivered a use-of-force (UOF) training for all staff, which included a review of the UOF policy, scenarios from the field, and a general discussion around safety and wellness.

Training and Professional Development

In FY 2024, staff participated in several national, regional, and local trainings, including, but not limited to: Procurement Training; Special Operations Tools for Officers; Occupational Dog Bite Prevention; Sex Offense Management Training Program; Critical Incident Stress Management; Violation Skill Builder and Testifying Skills Lab; ORT/Firearms Training; and the National Institute of Corrections Community Supervision Leadership Learning Lab.

Recognition

During FY 2024, on the recommendation of the year's peer-based employee recognition program, the following staff were cited for outstanding work and/or character:

- William Carroll, Kate Nightingale, and Bailey Allard received the District Award for Exceeding Expectations;
- Janice Benard received the Chief's Award for Quality Improvement;
- Wendy Foshier received the Dan Gildea Award; and
- Tim King received the Character Award.

Report for the District of Puerto Rico

Court Profile

The District had seven district judges, two senior district judges, and five magistrate judges at the conclusion of 2024. Chambers staff totaled 40, including one full-time pro se law clerk. Clerk's Office staff totaled 72, including six court reporters and eight court interpreters.

Conferences/Educational Programs

The District sponsored a one-day CLE program in May 2024 that covered various topics, including law and corpus linguistics and artificial intelligence and the law. Further, in December 2024, the Court sponsored a two-day CLE program that covered legal writing, ethics and artificial intelligence, evidence and expert witnesses, and a U.S. Supreme Court term review. On the second day of the program, the Honorable José A. Cabranes, U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, participated in a moderated conversation with members of the bar.

On August 30, 2024, the District, in collaboration with the Women's Advocate Office of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, hosted members of the bar and experts from the legal, health, and advocacy sectors for its POWER Act event that sought to raise awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Local Rules/Procedure

The Court adopted amendments to Local Criminal Rules 132, 132.1, and 144 after public notice and comment.

Interpreters

In 2024, staff interpreters completed 5,256 Spanish language interpreting events, and contract interpreters completed 749 Spanish language events.

District Bar Examination

In 2024, 234 individuals took the district bar exam with 76 obtaining a passing grade. A total of 58 attorneys were admitted to practice in the District during 2024.

Civil Pro Bono Program

In 2024, 400 attorneys were selected to serve on the Civil Pro Bono Panel, and 108 pro bono appointments were made.

Naturalization Ceremonies

The Court held six naturalization ceremonies, during which 178 persons were sworn in as citizens.

Civics Education/Community Outreach

Student and Youth Outreach:

- In January 2024, Judge Carreño-Coll, Magistrate Judge Morgan, and Magistrate Judge López-Soler welcomed a group of 17 high school students from Tasis School, who attended court proceedings.
- In February 2024, Magistrate Judge Morgan discussed his road to the bench with 13 law students from the University of Baltimore School of Law, who were members of the Latin American Law Students Association. Additionally, Judge Vélez-Rivé hosted a group of 23 undergraduate students from the University of Puerto Rico's

College of Education, who attended court proceedings.

- In March 2024, the Court welcomed a group of 15 high school students from CIMATEC, who attended court proceedings, a jury orientation led by Judge Antongiorgi-Jordán, and presentations by several federal agencies. Further, the District and the First Circuit Court of Appeals welcomed 16 students from Colegio San Ignacio and 25 students from the University of Puerto Rico School of Law for oral arguments and educational activities.
- The Court celebrated Law Day on May 1, 2024, with Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach and Magistrate Judge López-Soler visiting Colegio Lourdes, and Judge Vélez-Rivé and Magistrate Judge Ramos-Vega visiting Christian Day School.
- In May 2024, Judge Vélez-Rivé hosted a group of 45 students from the University High School for two mock trials. Further, Magistrate Judge López-Soler presented on forensic science to 55 forensic chemistry students from the Juan A. Corretjer Montes Specialized School to aid students in a capstone project.
- In May and August 2024, Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach presided over mock trials and graduation ceremonies as part of Project LEAD (Legal Enrichment and Decision-making), which teaches children how the choices they make can shape their future.
- In June 2024, Judge Antongiorgi-Jordán, Judge Vélez-Rivé, and Magistrate Judge López-Soler hosted 75 students from the University of Puerto Rico Law School's Legal Summer Camp for high school students for three days to observe court

proceedings and discuss ethics and civility.

- In July 2024, the District received 58 attorneys and summer interns from seven local law firms as part of the Summer Associate Program, and Judge Carreño-Coll led a presentation on the role of the federal judiciary in Puerto Rico.
- In October 2024, Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach and Magistrate Judge López-Soler welcomed 39 high school students from Francisco Oller High School to participate in the Civil Discourse and Difficult Decisions Program, which fosters civics education by introducing high school students to courtroom procedures and discussions on pressing issues.
- In November 2024, Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach and Judge Carreño-Coll were judges of the 2024 Puerto Rico Trial Advocacy Competition, hosted by the Inter-American University Law School.

Hosting:

- On April 17, 2024, Magistrate Judge Morgan introduced 30 members of the 2024 Homeland Security Investigations Citizens' Academy to the Court.
- Throughout 2024, the District welcomed Latin American judges from the Judicial Studies Institute to observe criminal proceedings.

Presentations/Lectures:

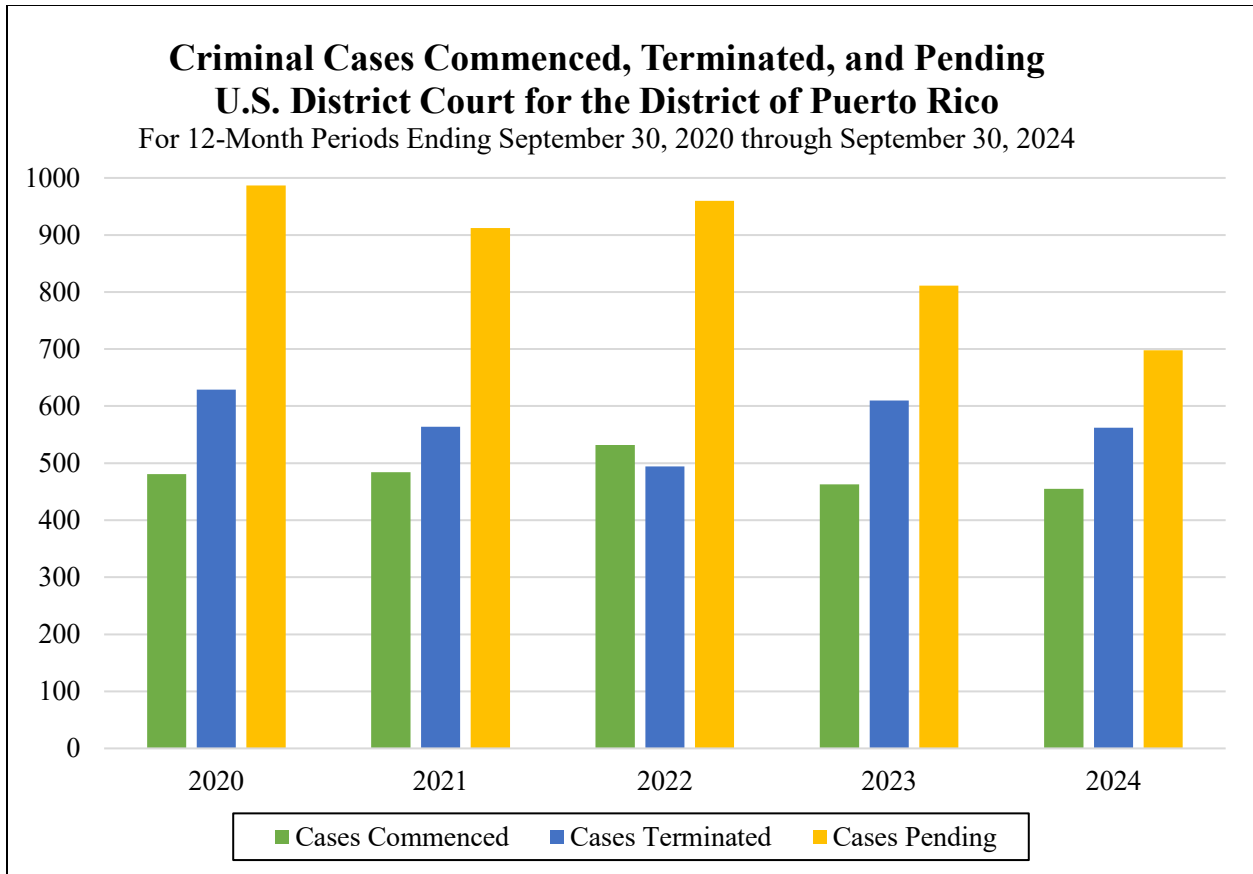
- In June 2024, Magistrate Judge Morgan served as a presenter at the Simposio Sobre la Trata Humana, which examined case studies of human trafficking prosecutions in Puerto Rico.
- In September 2024, Chief Judge Arias-Marxuach represented the District at

the first regional Judicial Studies Institute alumni conference in San Salvador, El Salvador, which gathered more than 140 judges from nine Latin American countries. The Chief Judge lectured on judicial independence and its role in promoting efficiency and fairness in proceedings.

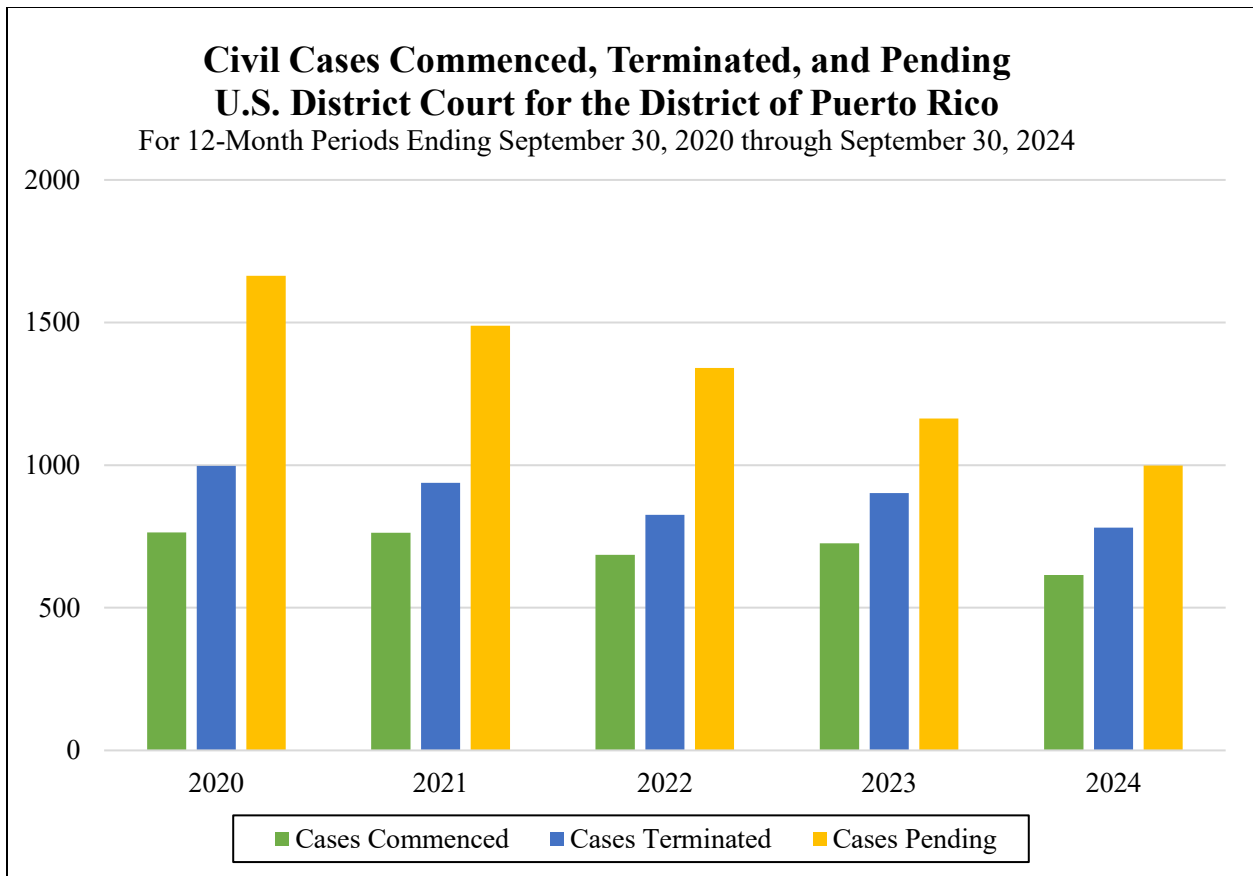
Space and Facilities

During the summer of 2024, the Court relocated designated employees from the Clemente Ruiz Nazario and José V. Toledo Courthouses to five newly installed modular units following the evacuation of the Clerk's Office, magistrate judges' chambers, and courtrooms from the Federico Degetau Federal Building due to seismic risks in September 2023.

The Courthouse Annex for the Hato Rey campus is currently in the design phase.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending					
U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	481	484	532	463	455
Cases Terminated	629	564	494	610	562
Cases Pending	987	912	960	811	698



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	764	763	686	726	615
Cases Terminated	998	938	826	902	781
Cases Pending*	1,664	1,489	1,341	1,163	999

* Pending cases for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

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

Personnel

During FY 2024, the office hired two U.S. Probation Officers, three U.S. Probation Officer Assistants under provisional appointments, one Procurement Technician, one Probation Services Technician, and three student interns. Also, in FY 2024, one U.S. Probation Officer transferred to another district, and four staff members retired.

Investigations and Supervision

Court Services: The Court Services Division had eight full-time supervisors, 34 full-time officers, and one part-time officer. During FY 2024, the division opened 909 new bail investigations and completed 914 presentence reports. Division managers continued to meet regularly to develop strategies aimed at improving release rates, the overall quality of work, and efficiency. The division conducted quarterly training sessions for officers focusing on U.S. Sentencing Guideline applications, case law, and intervention skills.

Pretrial Services Investigations Division: During FY 2024, the office opened 906 cases. Controlled substances remained the most common offense type, followed by firearms and violent crimes. The release rate during the period was 43.1%.

Pretrial Supervision Division: The division focused on effective management of the electronic monitoring caseloads, as well as managing cases in accordance with the risk and needs principles. In FY 2024, the District had 808 active bail supervision cases, and 1,175 cases were closed due to conviction or dismissal.

Post-Conviction Supervision Division: The division operated with six full-time supervisors, 36 full-time officers, six support staff, and two laboratory technicians. In FY 2024, 870 post-conviction cases were activated, and 234 were closed by revocation. The FY 2024 revocation rate (22%) decreased from FY 2023 (27%). The Division continued to provide reentry services, including, but not limited to, collaborative agreements with other community resources for graduate equivalency diplomas, workforce development workshops, and driver's licenses. The reentry team provided several virtual and in-person activities for individuals under supervision. The division continued to have one of the highest investments nationwide in Second Chance Funds for Offender-Defendant Reentry Services.

<i>Cases Revoked and Closed</i>	<i>FY 2023</i>	<i>FY 2024</i>
Total Cases Closed	1,157	1,069
Cases Closed by Early Termination	156	142
Revocations	307	234
Revocation Rate	27%	22%

<i>Persons under Supervision (Pretrial Services and Diversion)</i>	<i>FY 2023</i>	<i>FY 2024</i>
	825	823

Civics Education/Community Outreach

During FY 2024, the office continued its community outreach program. The office conducted 32 events/trainings on topics such as cyberbullying, dangers of social media and cybercrimes, and drug use, and presented an overview of the U.S. Probation Office to a number of schools and community programs.

Training and Professional Development

Office personnel participated in 30 training events held locally and nationally.

Space Initiatives

In FY 2024, the office was relocated because of structural concerns at the Federico Degetau Building, causing a significant adjustment in day-to-day operations and constraints to the services provided. The office continued providing public services by establishing multiple temporary offices.

Throughout FY 2024, the office worked closely with GSA and the First Circuit to prepare a new lab and install secure storage areas and additional workspaces. The office focused on securing a new permanent office lease, and a project plan was developed, which included market research, needs assessment, and the publication of a final request for lease proposal.

Report for the District of Rhode Island

Committee Membership/Awards

Clerk of Court Hanorah Tyer-Witek served as chair of the District Clerk's Advisory Group and the Federal Court Clerks Association Clerk's Advisory Panel. She received the Director's Award for Community Outreach.

Chief Deputy Clerk Frank Perry continued to serve as faculty for the FJC's New Deputy Court Unit Executive (CUE) program and was named co-chair of the AO's Criminal Operations Advisory Council.

IT Director Heather Restifo received the Director's Award for Outstanding Leadership.

Network/PC Administrator Anthony Italiano was appointed to the Court IT Operations Working Group.

Operations

In 2024, the Court had 547 civil filings, 548 civil terminations, 97 criminal filings, and 115 criminal terminations.

In 2024, the Court adopted 13 Local Rule amendments, along with three additional amendments implemented on an emergency basis.

In January 2024, the District launched its updated quarterly call system, which streamlined operations by reducing the frequency of calendar calls while maintaining effective case oversight.

Human Resources/Staffing

In 2024, Finance Manager Claire Parvin retired after 35 years of distinguished service.

In January 2024, Leslie Villalone and Duran George joined the IT team as IT Support Specialists.

Information Technology

The IT Department continued to advance innovative solutions through the expansion of a locally-developed program that aggregates data from CM/ECF and presents actionable items for judicial officers in a streamlined format. This program has resulted in significant time savings and improved operational efficiency.

The IT Department also onboarded a new judge and completed a number of initiatives, including, but not limited to, installation of new audiovisual systems in common areas, upgrades to technology in two courtrooms, strengthening of ransomware defenses, and the launch of a quarterly District newsletter.

Civics Education/Court Events

Civics Education Programs:

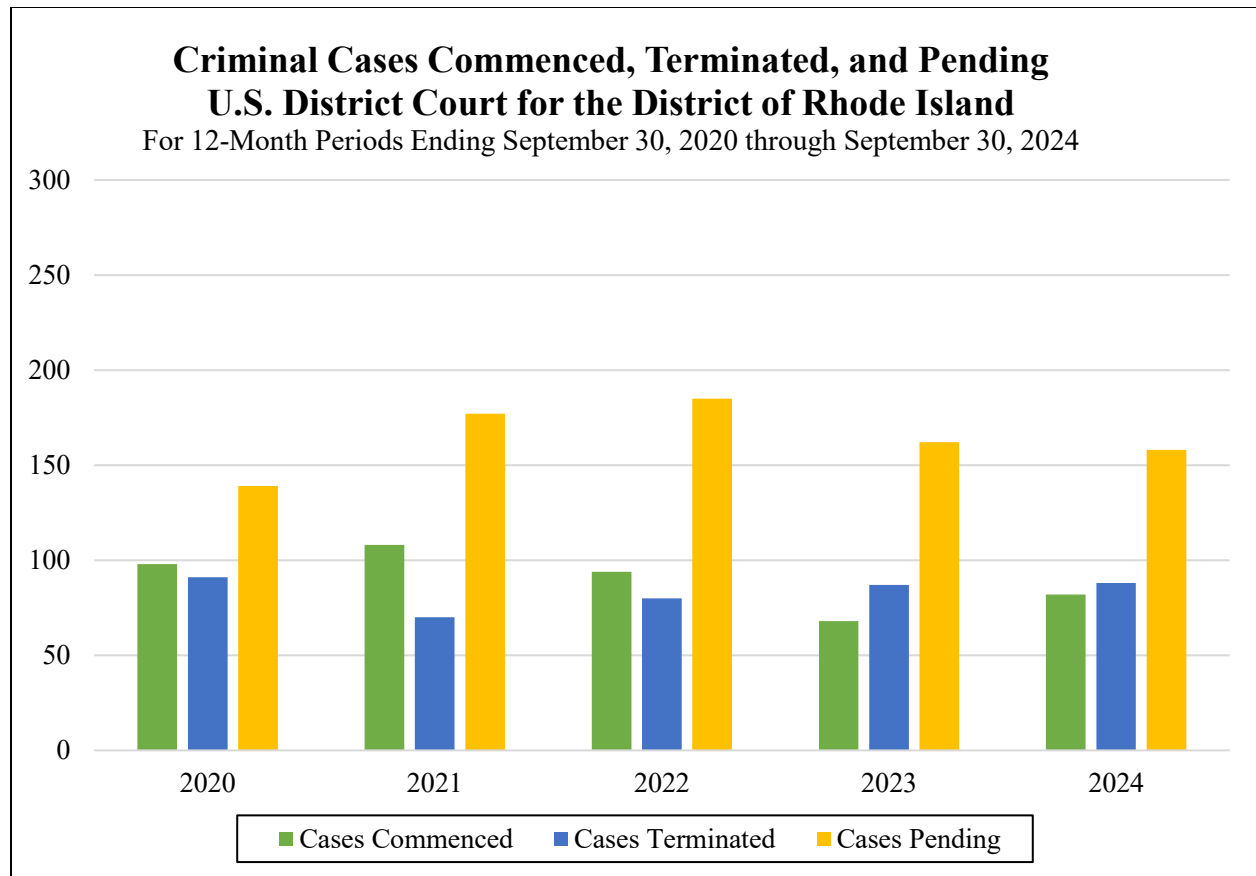
- In January 2024, eight University of Rhode Island students, as part of the Careers in the Courts program, met with U.S. Probation Officer Molly Picozzi and U.S. Marshal Inspector Bill Francis, toured the PPSO and USMS offices, and observed a sentencing before Judge Smith.
- In March 2024, the Court held, and Judge McElroy and Magistrate Judge Sullivan presided over, the Rhode Island High School Mock Trial Semi-Finals. Chief Judge McConnell, Judge McElroy, and Magistrate Judge Almond presided over the Ponagansett High School's Civil Discourse Program.

- The Court hosted students from Lincoln High School in April 2024.
- In July 2024, the Court hosted 32 students from the Excel and Ready Community Program, and the students met with U.S. Marshals Bill Francis and Justin Carvallo and had a two-hour discussion with Chief Judge McConnell.
- In August 2024, the Court hosted several groups, including the Roger Williams University School of Law Summer Leadership, Equity, Achievement, and Diversity (L.E.A.D.) Program students for a brown bag lunch series, the Excel and Ready Community Program for a mock argument, Princes 2 Kings Civil Discourse Program for argument on a fictional case before Chief Judge McConnell, and Boys and Girls Club students from Classical High School for a tour of the courthouse and meetings with USMS.
- Six Portsmouth High School mock trial students visited the Court, observed hearings, and engaged in a discussion with Chief Judge McConnell in October 2024.
- In December 2024, the Court hosted four Bishop Hendricken High School students to observe proceedings with Chief Judge McConnell and attend a naturalization ceremony.
- In November 2024, the Court held the 2024 District Conference titled "Guardrails of Democracy: Ensuring Access to Justice for All," which was attended by 200 participants.
- Additionally, in November 2024, the Court hosted a Leadership Lab Reentry Simulation as part of the FJC's National Leadership Conference and a 10 Years of H.O.P.E. Court celebration.

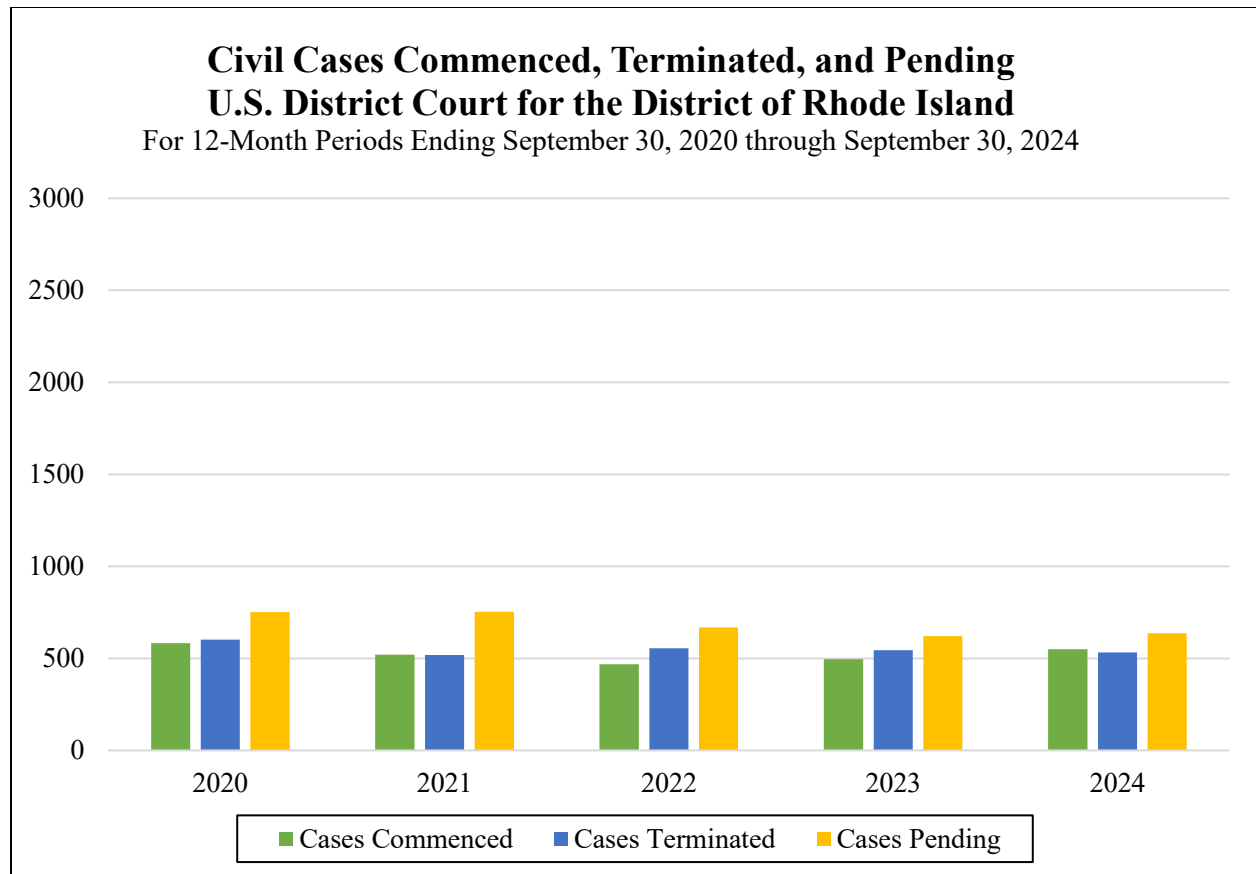
Naturalization Ceremonies: The Court naturalized 482 new citizens.

Court Events:

- Court and U.S. Attorney's Office Staff, along with Chief Judge McConnell, participated in Providence Walks: Early Black History, a guided tour of historical sites connected to Black American history.
- Judges and Court personnel attended a Justice Riders trip to Montgomery, Alabama, in October 2024.



Criminal Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending					
U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	98	108	94	68	82
Cases Terminated	91	70	80	87	88
Cases Pending	139	177	185	162	158



Civil Cases Commenced, Terminated, and Pending U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	582	521	468	496	550
Cases Terminated	602	518	555	545	533
Cases Pending*	751	754	668	621	637

* Pending cases for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

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

Personnel

Justin Gordon, Josenny Tavaréz, and Clara Feliz were hired as U.S. Probation Officers. Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Evan Cisneros transferred to the District of Rhode Island.

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Heather Maloney, Senior U.S. Probation Officer David Picozzi, and U.S. Probation Officer Clara King retired after 25 or more years of service each.

Pretrial Services

In 2024, the office activated 119 new cases, an 8% decrease from 2023. The District's 2024 pretrial release rate was 60%, compared to the national average of 42%. Pretrial release supervision cases decreased by 12% over the past year. On average, the office supervised 123 pretrial defendants each month. Additionally, five pretrial diversion investigations and 29 pretrial collaterals were completed.

At the annual National Association of Pretrial Services Agencies Conference, the District of Rhode Island was ranked tenth nationally for pretrial risk assessment (PTRA) release rates and sixth nationally for PTRA release recommendations by officers. The District was also ranked in the top 19 for pretrial supervision outcomes.

Presentence Investigations

In 2024, the office assigned 98 presentence investigations, a 17% decrease from 2023. With the retroactive application of Amendment 821 of the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, 15 retroactive guideline reports

were submitted to the District Court. The office completed 99 presentence collateral investigations for other districts.

Post-Conviction Supervision

In 2024, the office supervised between 318 and 364 offenders per month. At the end of 2024, 349 individuals were on supervision, with a majority on supervised release (91.4% of defendants). The District's revocation rate for 2024 was 31.7%, a 17% increase over 2023, but below the national average of 34.3%. Further, the percentage of moderate and high risk PCRA cases on post-conviction supervision was 21.7% (compared to 19.6% nationally), while the percentage of moderate and high risk Supervision Level cases was 24.8% (compared to 24.3% nationally).

In FY 2024, the District utilized a total of \$19,912 in Second Chance funds, a 52% increase over FY 2023, to assist those on supervision with emergency and transitional needs such as housing, transportation, and educational programs.

Treatment Services

In FY 2024, the District of Rhode Island spent a total of \$350,744 for substance use, mental health, and sex offender treatment, as well as location monitoring, which was a 10% increase over FY 2023. Of this amount, \$264,482 was used for probation services, and \$86,261 was used for pretrial services.

District Initiatives

In 2024, the Deferred Sentencing Program (DSP) continued to provide qualifying participants with the opportunity to engage in this alternative to incarceration program. DSP had nine participants during 2024, five of whom completed the program and attended a

formal graduation ceremony with family and friends.

The H.O.P.E. ("Helping Offenders Prepare for reEntry") Court, which supports high risk offenders with intensive supervision strategies and targeted services, had between eight and ten participants during 2024, with four successful graduations. On November 14, 2024, the District of Rhode Island held a ten-year anniversary celebration of H.O.P.E. Court, which was attended by the Rhode Island Congressional delegation, other local dignitaries, former participants, current participants, and the entire H.O.P.E. Court team. At the celebration, two graduates spoke about the positive impact the H.O.P.E. Court has had on their lives. Over ten years, the H.O.P.E. Court has had a 46% graduation rate, for a total of 32 graduates, with an average graduate completing the program in 16 months. When a participant either chooses to leave or is terminated, on average, he or she does so within nine months of starting the program. Of all participants in H.O.P.E. Court, 25% experienced a decrease in risk level over the term of supervision.

Professional Development and Training

Chief U.S. Probation Officer John Marshall continued to serve on the FJC's Executive Education Advisory Committee and was a faculty member of the FJC's New Court Unit Executive Leadership Seminar.

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Amie Blanchette continued to serve as a faculty member on the FJC's Supervising Officers in an Evidence Based Environment program and assisted the AO in an Evidence-Based Practices study, working to collect information to be included in new program review instruments.

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Heather Maloney continued her role as a member of the Reentry Working Group.

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Heather McLoughlin remained a volunteer of the national Location Monitoring Emergency Response Team, was available to assist other districts in case of a natural disaster or other emergency matters, and continued to work with the AO's Location Monitoring Focus Group.

Supervising U.S. Probation Officer Evan Cisneros was a member of the national Diversity Equity and Inclusion Working Group.

U.S. Probation Officer Elvis Guillen continued to serve on the First Circuit Probation and Pretrial Services Subcommittee on Workplace Conduct.

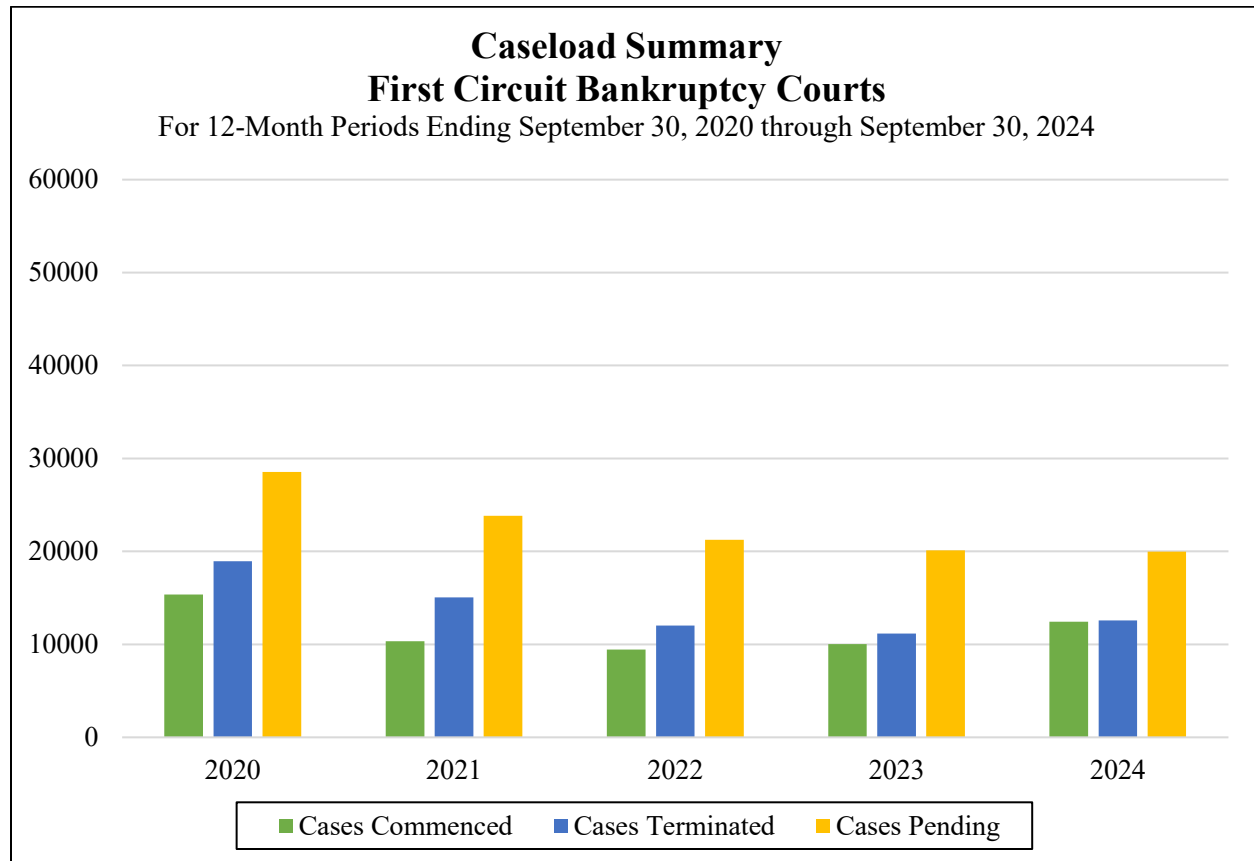
The District of Rhode Island continued to be one of four pilot districts for the future implementation of PACTS360, which required the District to meet and work with PACTS360 staff to prepare for this rollout. U.S. Probation Officers Brandon Miles, Christina Woishnis, and Elvis Guillen, and Probation Services Technician Trecia Bennett participated in User Acceptance Testing to assist in the development of PACTS360.

The PPSO was chosen by the Federal Probation and Pretrial Academy (FPPA) to be one of six pilot districts for FPPA's updated Firearms and Safety Review process and was the first office to undergo this new review process, which involved FPPA staff personally visiting the District to view firearms and officer response tactics trainings.

Staff attended several national, regional, and local training seminars on topics and programs such as critical incident stress management,

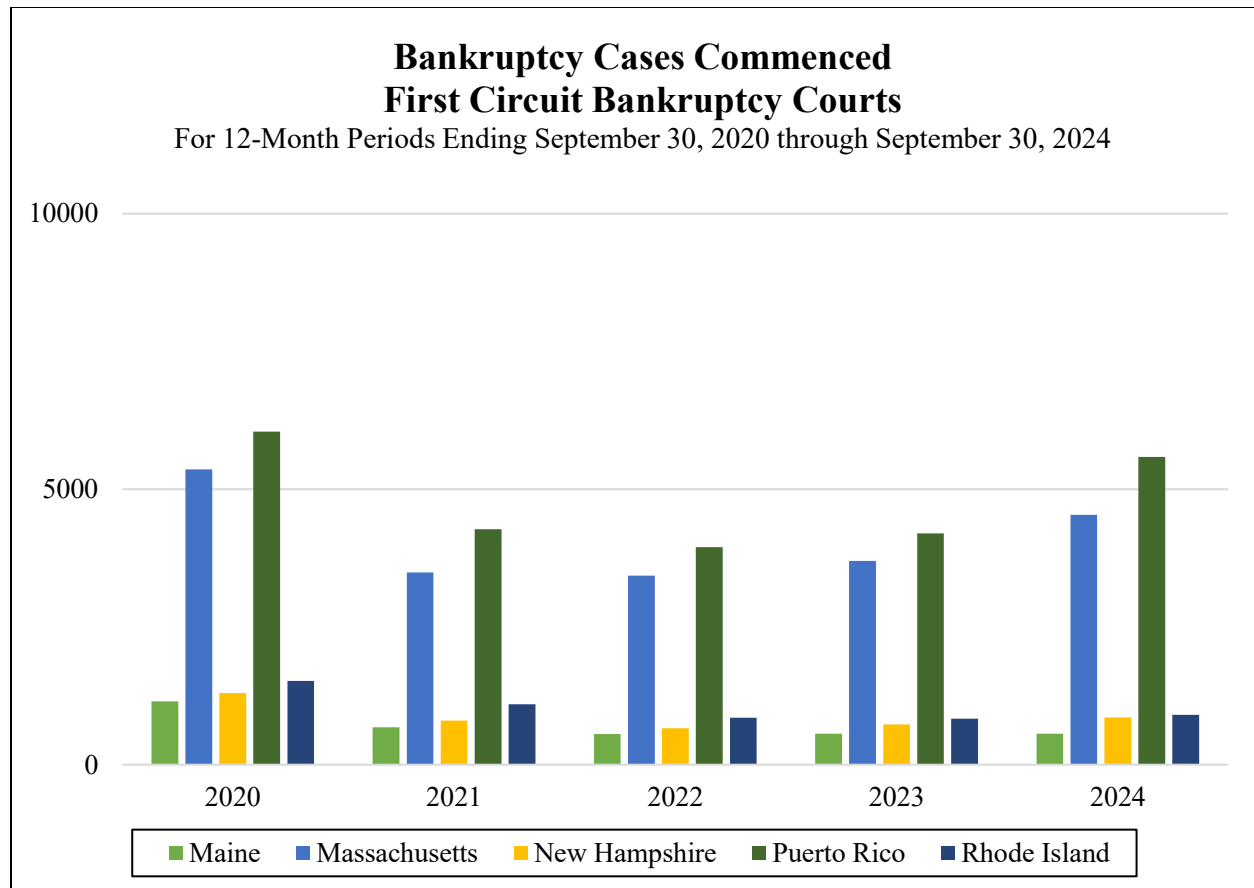
PACTS360, EDR, search and seizure, the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, Staff Training Aimed at Reducing Rearrest Boosters, location monitoring, law and neuroscience, and Code of Conduct. Staff also participated in the following conferences: Crimes Against Children; National Association of Drug Court Professionals; Wellness; Federal Court Clerks Association; and Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association. In addition, various firearms and officer response tactics safety trainings occurred throughout the year.

Statistical Report for the Bankruptcy Courts in the First Circuit

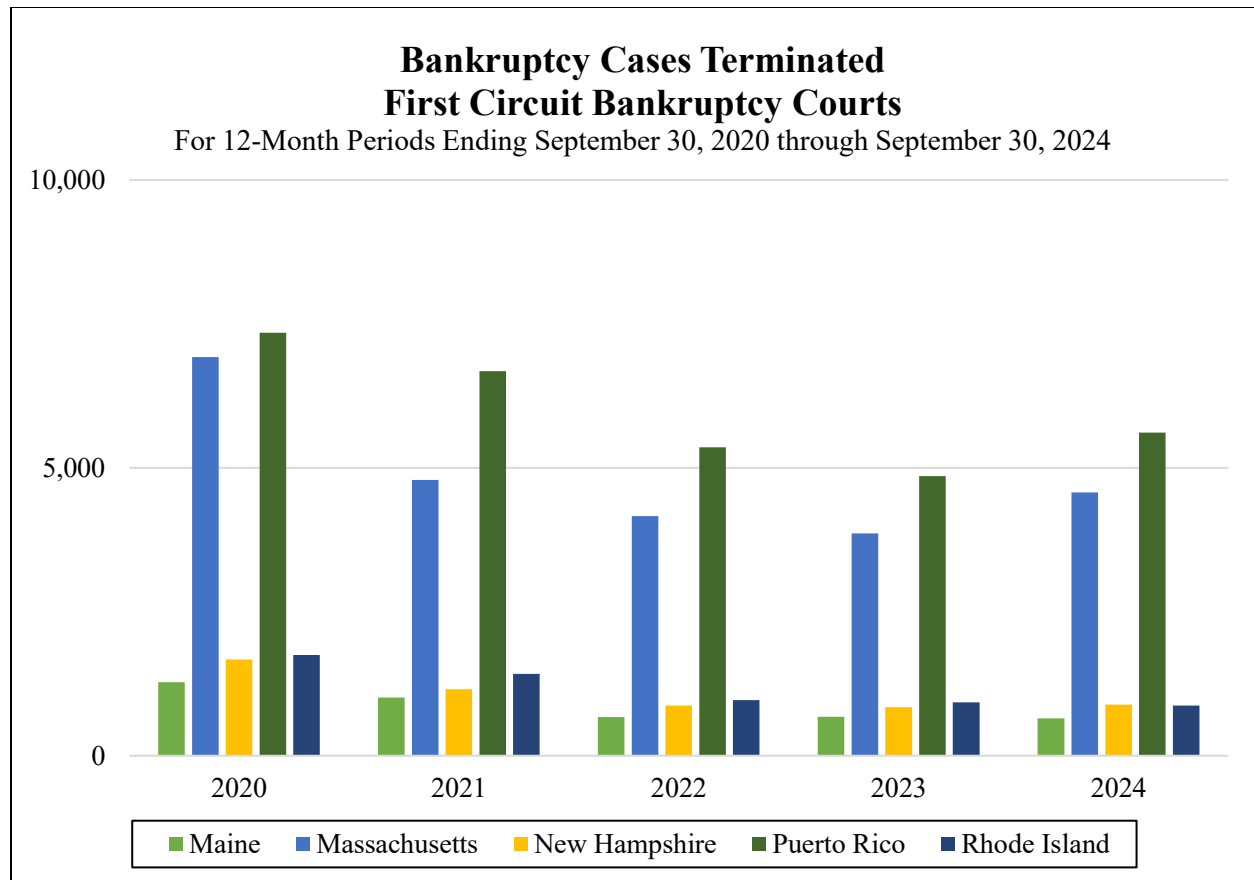


Caseload Summary					
First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	15,367	10,334	9,439	10,013	12,443
Cases Terminated	18,962	15,059	12,030	11,160	12,591
Cases Pending*	28,565	23,841	21,249	20,125	19,985

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.



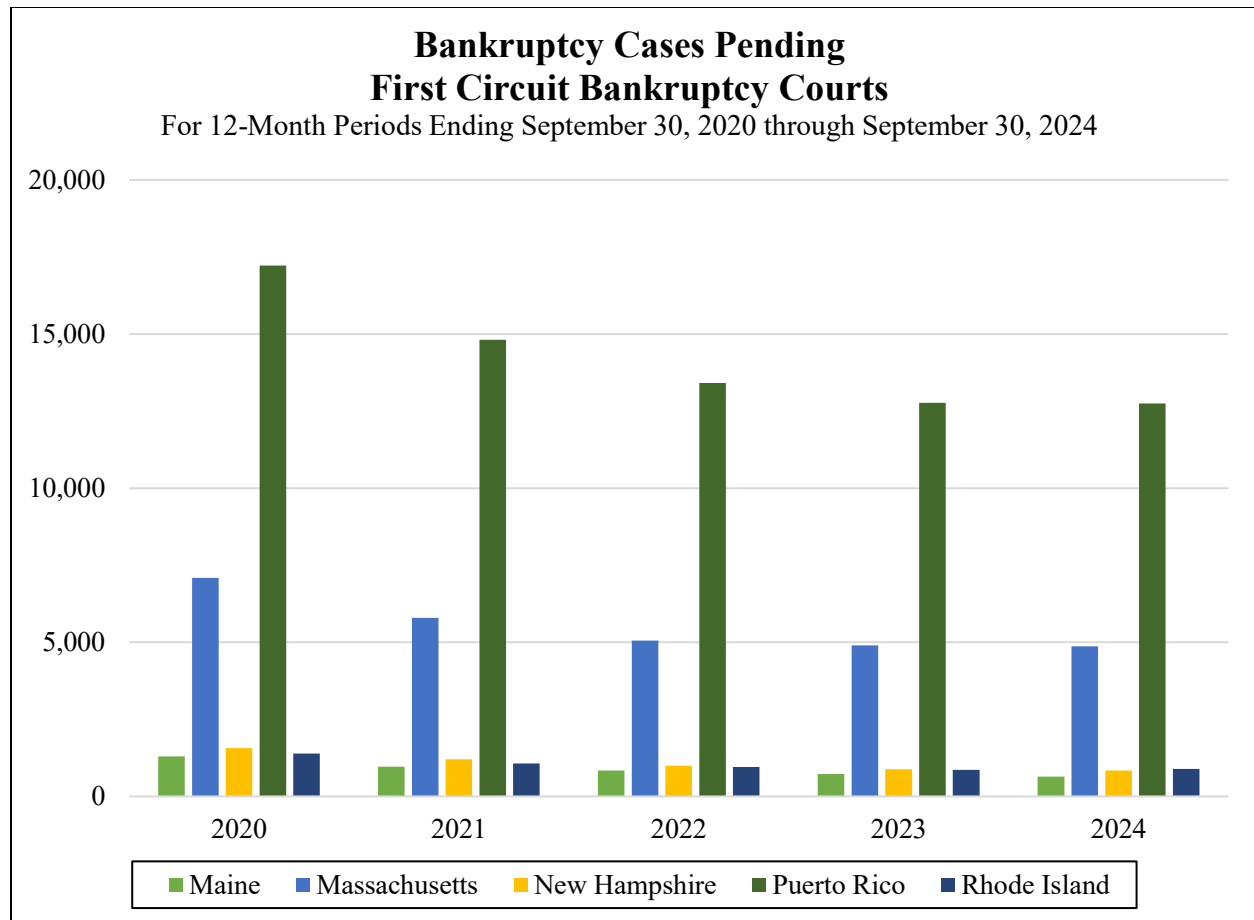
Bankruptcy Cases Commenced First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts					
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	1,148	677	554	561	561
Massachusetts	5,357	3,489	3,429	3,695	4,534
New Hampshire	1,297	798	658	728	857
Puerto Rico	6,046	4,273	3,948	4,196	5,587
Rhode Island	1,519	1,097	850	833	904



Bankruptcy Cases Terminated First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts

For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024

District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	1,275	1,010	674	676	648
Massachusetts	6,923	4,790	4,161	3,860	4,570
New Hampshire	1,671	1,155	874	842	890
Puerto Rico	7,343	6,680	5,354	4,856	5,614
Rhode Island	1,750	1,424	967	926	869



Bankruptcy Cases Pending*
First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts
For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024

District	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Maine	1,294	961	841	726	639
Massachusetts	7,094	5,793	5,059	4,895	4,864
New Hampshire	1,565	1,208	992	878	845
Puerto Rico	17,219	14,813	13,408	12,770	12,745
Rhode Island	1,393	1,066	949	856	892

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

Business Bankruptcy Filings, by chapter First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2024				
District	chapter 7	chapter 11	chapter 12	chapter 13
Maine	435	19	0	107
Massachusetts	2,806	94	2	1,632
New Hampshire	609	14	2	2321
Puerto Rico	1,788	78	10	3,711
Rhode Island	636	7	0	261

Nonbusiness Bankruptcy Filings, by chapter First Circuit Bankruptcy Courts For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2024			
District	chapter 7	chapter 11	chapter 13
Maine	407	1	103
Massachusetts	2,633	4	1,596
New Hampshire	567	2	226
Puerto Rico	1,735	19	3,695
Rhode Island	605	0	258

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine

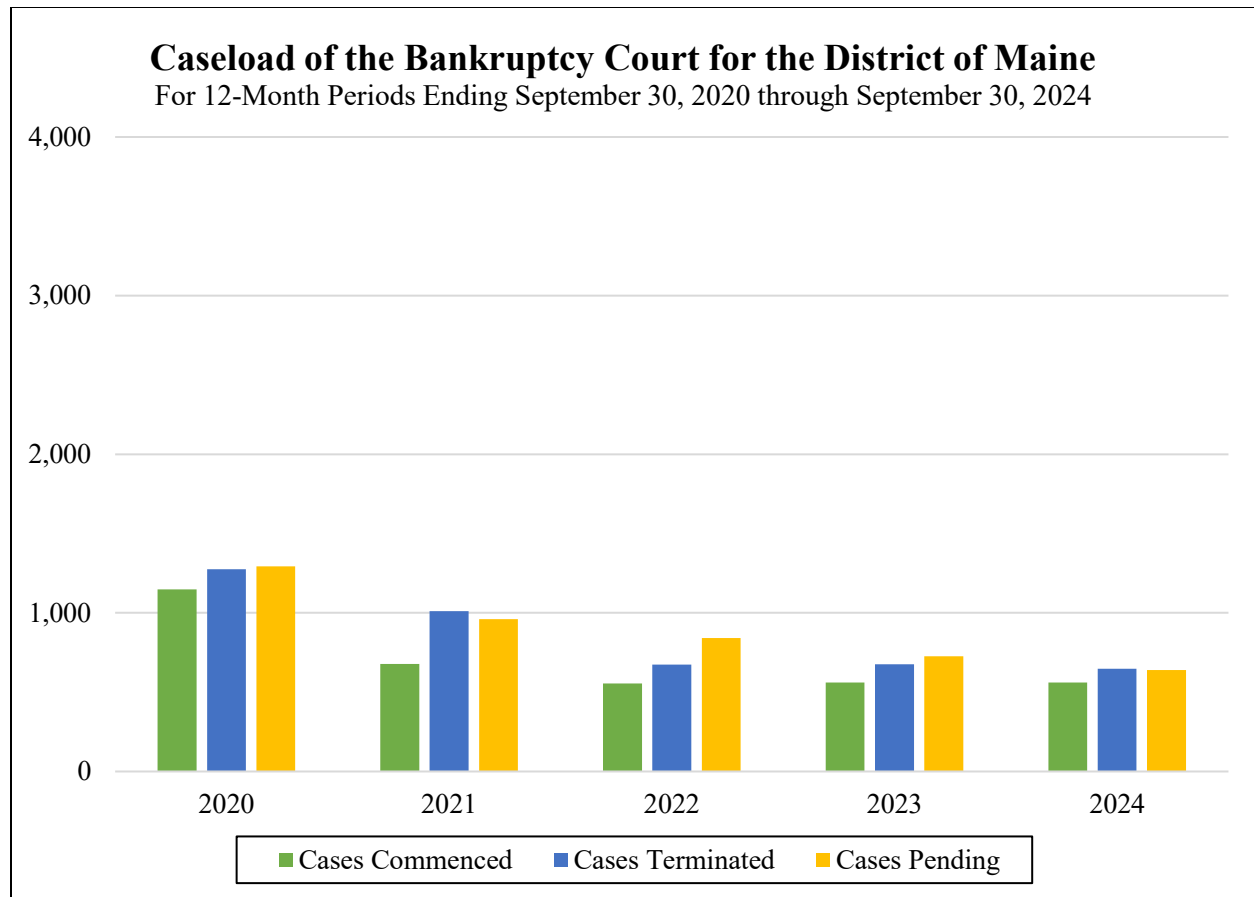
Civics Education

In 2024, Chief Judge Cary hosted a group of high school students from the Greenheart International Exchange Program.

Also, in 2024, Judge Fagone mentored a judicial intern, facilitated a conversation with students at Brewer High School, and judged a high school mock trial in Bangor, Maine.

Clerk's Office Trainings/Outreach

The Clerk's Office participated in the District's law clerk orientation in September 2024 and mentored a judicial intern from the University of Maine School of Law during the fall semester.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maine For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	1,148	677	554	561	561
Cases Terminated	1,275	1,010	674	676	648
Cases Pending*	1,294	961	841	726	639

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts

Human Resources/Staffing

In 2024, the Court continued to participate in a variety of short- and long-term sharing agreements with other bankruptcy courts and the AO. Also, in 2024, the Court's Administrative Director retired, and two employees were promoted to the roles of Financial Administrator and Human Resources Administrator, respectively.

Committee, comprised of judges, court staff, and practitioners, met several times in 2024.

Space and Facilities

The Court completed courtroom projects in Springfield and Worcester and began planning a space reduction project in Boston.

Statistics

Between calendar years 2023 and 2024, the total number of petitions filed increased by 21.6%, and the number of adversary proceedings increased by 38.4%.

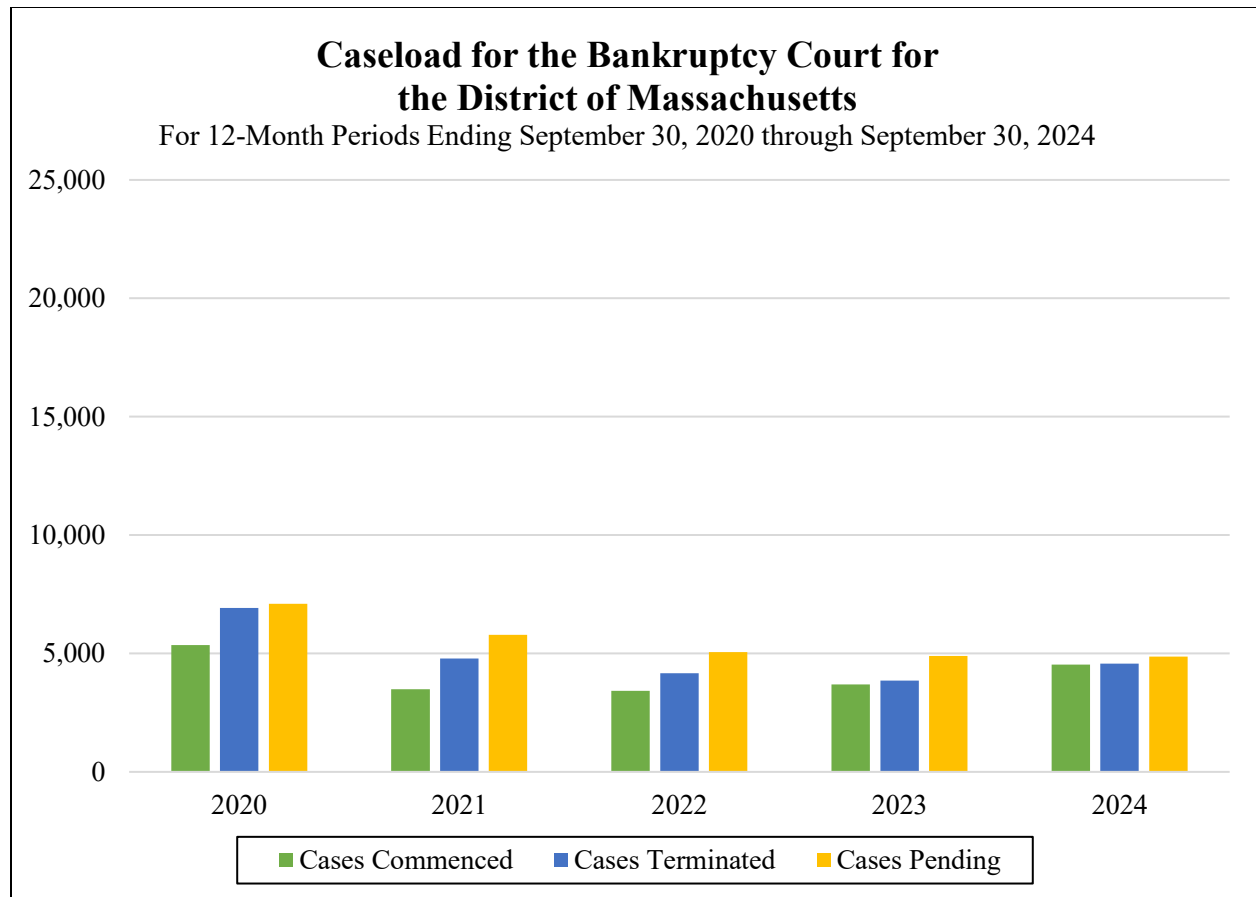
Community Outreach/Civics Education

The bankruptcy judges served as panelists on local, regional, and national programs presented by Massachusetts CLE, the Boston Bar Association, the Practising Law Institute, the NCBJ, the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, the ABI, the Hamden County Bar Association, area law schools, and the ABA. The Court's Pro Bono Committee, chaired by Judge Bostwick and Clerk of Court Molly Sharon, continued its efforts to increase the number of attorneys available to accept pro bono cases from people in financial distress.

In July 2024, the Court served as the host court for the annual conference of the National Committee of Bankruptcy Clerks that was held in Boston, Massachusetts.

Local Rules

The Court continued to work on updates to its Local Rules. The Court's Local Rules



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	5,357	3,489	3,429	3,695	4,534
Cases Terminated	6,923	4,790	4,161	3,860	4,570
Cases Pending*	7,094	5,793	5,059	4,895	4,864

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire

Human Resources/Staffing

In 2024, the Bankruptcy and District Courts continued to share IT and procurement services.

Court hosted a retreat for all employees and the outgoing and incoming judges, which focused on multiple training topics to foster an efficient and effective transition in court leadership.

Local Rules/Procedures

Chief Judge Bacher formed two committees: the Local Rules Committee comprised of twelve attorney volunteers, who began the process of a complete overhaul of the Court's Local Rules; and the Bankruptcy Advisory Committee comprised of five attorney volunteers to promote communication about court procedures, filings, and other issues.

Civics Education/Community Outreach

On September 16, 2024, Chief Judge Bacher held her first bench/bar brown bag lunch to discuss informally ideas for new procedures. Further, Chief Judge Bacher implemented an outreach program with New Hampshire high schools, through which students visit the Court to attend the day's scheduled hearing, are given an overview of bankruptcy cases and motions that will be heard, and are introduced to Court staff and a judge to learn more about the Court's cases. During 2024, 60 students visited the Court.

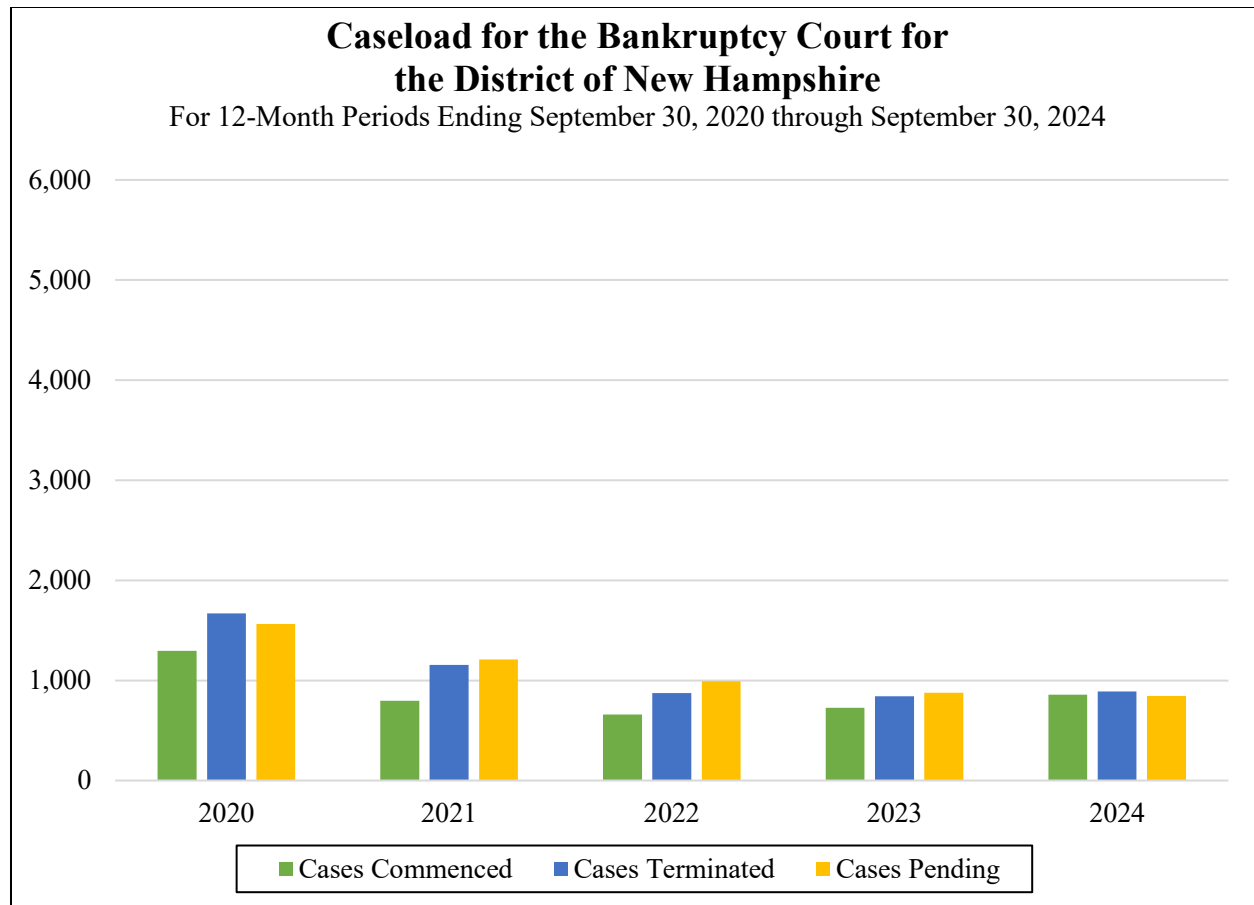
The Court's Local Rules and local bankruptcy forms were updated in August 2024. Additionally, effective October 1, 2024, the Court revised Administrative Order 9074-2 to authorize all parties to participate in non-evidentiary court proceedings using a virtual platform, allowing parties across New Hampshire to attend easily every court hearing free of charge.

Information Technology

The Bankruptcy Court, District Court, and PPSO continued to share IT services and staff. Throughout the year, IT staff continued to play an integral role in maintaining the Court's ability to provide access to justice through remote hearings to the extent allowed by applicable rules and policies.

Staff Training

In July 2024, four employees of the Clerk's Office attended the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks training in Boston, Massachusetts. As part of the transition to a new Chief Judge in August 2024, the Clerk of



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	1,297	798	658	728	857
Cases Terminated	1,671	1,155	874	842	890
Cases Pending*	1,565	1,208	992	878	845

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico

Local Rules/Procedures

The judges participated in the review of the Local Rules for U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Judge Lamoutte also participated on the revision of the Local Rules for the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and the BAP.

Information Technology

In 2024, the Court prepared for and participated in the AO's IT cybersecurity assessment team's visit, and, after the visit, the IT team worked to implement the recommendations made by the AO, including replacing network switches. The IT Department also worked with the District Court to acquire replacement equipment for the Old San Juan courtrooms and continued to provide technical support for PROMESA cases. The Court worked with the Virgin Islands Probation Office and the Third Circuit to recruit a shared IT technician.

Operations/Staffing

The Court continued to provide case management and cashier training and created a cross-department team to discuss matters and to collaborate on streamlining procedures. Two operations staff participated in National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerk committees.

The Court hired one term law clerk.

Staff Training

The Court's annual training plan and retreat focused on crafting a powerful workplace through dynamic communication. The Court also provided training on benefits and leave tracking, information security awareness,

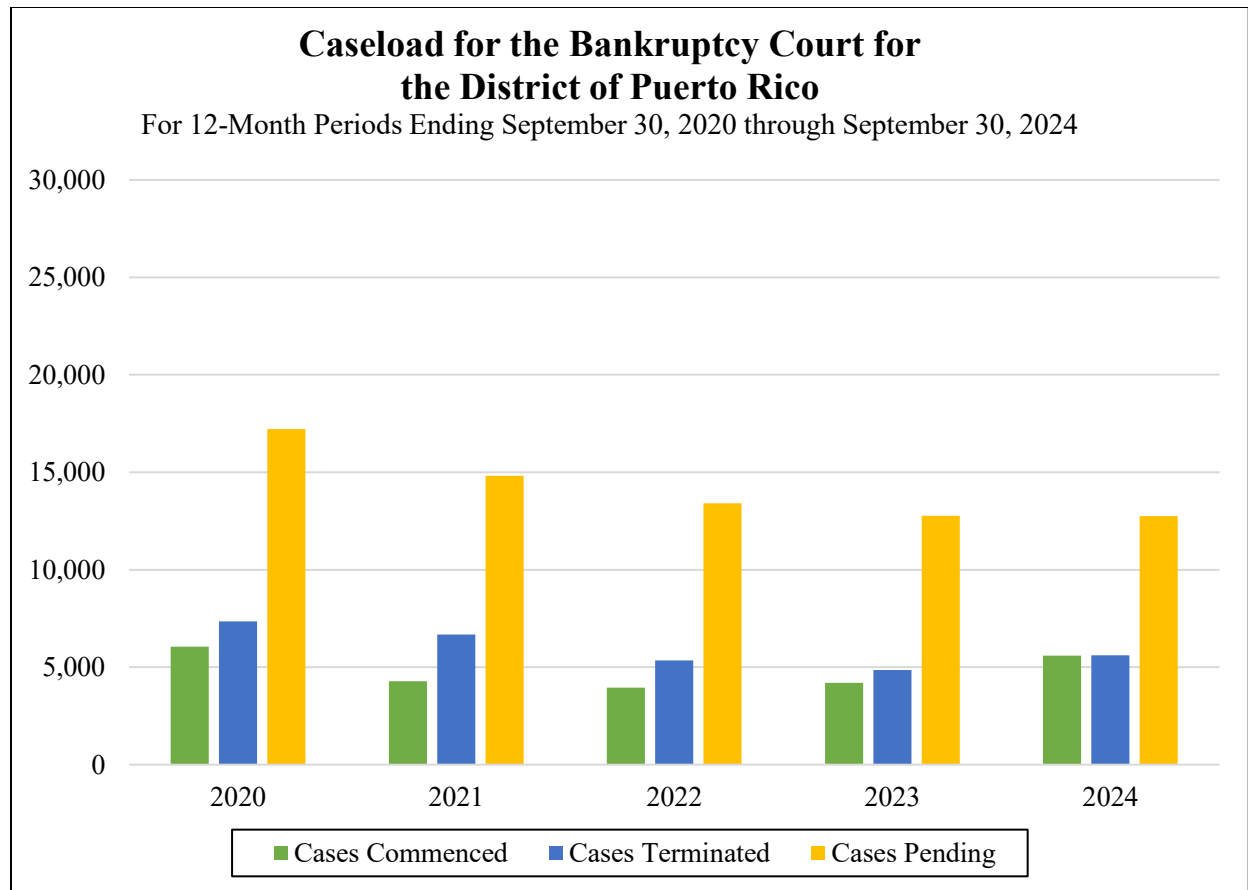
EDR, and ethics. The Court made wellness resources available to all staff.

Statistics

In 2024, there were 5,816 new bankruptcy filings: 3,861 chapter 13 cases; 1,873 chapter 7 cases; 70 chapter 11 cases; and 12 chapter 12 cases.

Civics Education/Community Outreach

In 2024, Chief Judge Cabán, along with Judge Lamoutte, Judge Godoy, and Judge González, held a financial literacy program for private high school students in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. During the summer of 2024, Judge González presented an introduction to bankruptcy law to a group of summer interns from leading corporate law firms in Puerto Rico at the Old San Juan Courthouse. Staff also participated in outreach activities organized by the judges.



Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	6,046	4,273	3,948	4,196	5,587
Cases Terminated	7,343	6,680	5,354	4,856	5,614
Cases Pending*	17,219	14,813	13,408	12,770	12,745

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2024 as revised by the AO.

Report for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island

Human Resources/Staffing

The Court continued to share administrative services in procurement and contracting with the District Court and continued to partner with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Hampshire to perform annual internal controls reviews.

In August 2024, Katherine Gange was hired as a term law clerk to Chief Judge Finkle.

Staff Training

Court staff attended various conferences and trainings offered by the FJC, AO, the First Circuit, and other organizations, on topics including, but not limited to: EDR; Code of Conduct; active shooter safety; and IT security.

In May 2024, two Clerk's Office staff members attended financial management training sponsored by the Federal Court Clerk Association in San Antonio, Texas.

In July 2024, three Clerk's Office staff members attended the National Conference of Bankruptcy Clerks in Boston, Massachusetts.

Committee Membership

Clerk of Court Jonathan Pincince served on the planning committee for the FJC's 2024 National Leadership Conference for Circuit and Court Unit Executives. Operations Supervisor Amy Geraghty served on the First Circuit Judicial Council Access to Justice Committee. PC Systems Administrator Stephen Stricklett and Law Clerk Jacqueline Dagle served as members of the First Circuit Director of Workplace Relations' Clerk's Office and Law Clerk Advisory Committees, respectively.

Information Technology

Following the AO's rollout of security improvements, the Court migrated its ECF servers. Further, the Court installed, configured, and prepared to migrate to a new program to replace its custom-developed application for scheduling and workflow.

Case Management

The Court's operations staff continued to cross-train across various areas, including courtroom deputy responsibilities, electronic court recording, and case management, and performed a review of the Court's website and made suggestions for revision.

Community Outreach

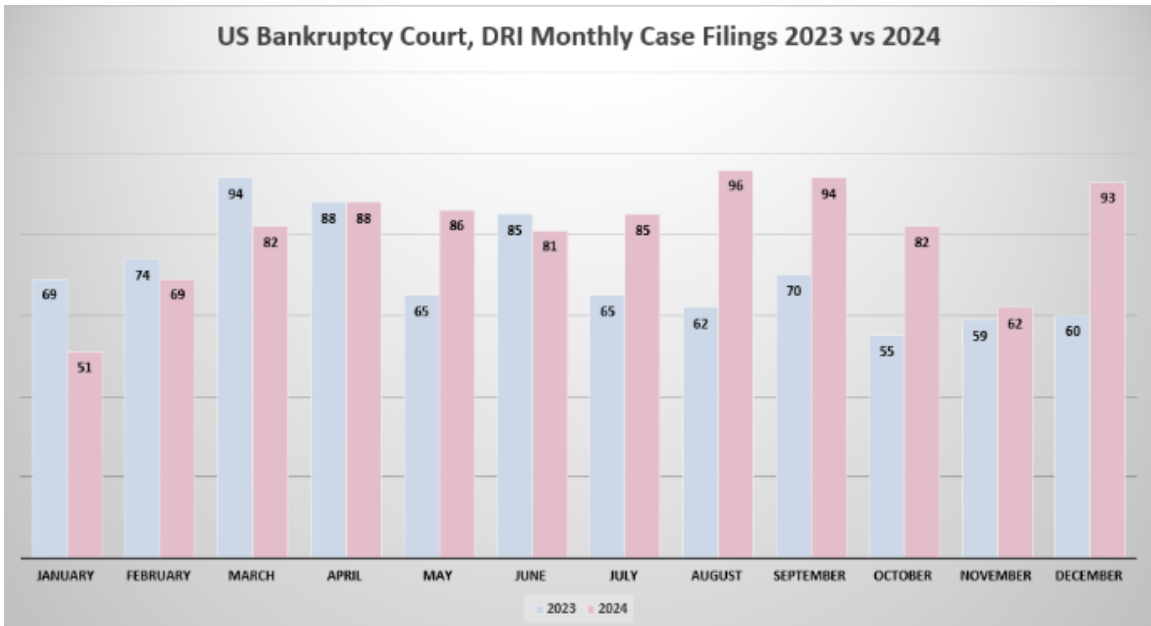
The Court continued the operation of its free Bankruptcy Legal Clinic, through which volunteer attorneys meet with debtors and potential debtors about the bankruptcy process. The Court continued to permit pro se filers to file documents electronically.

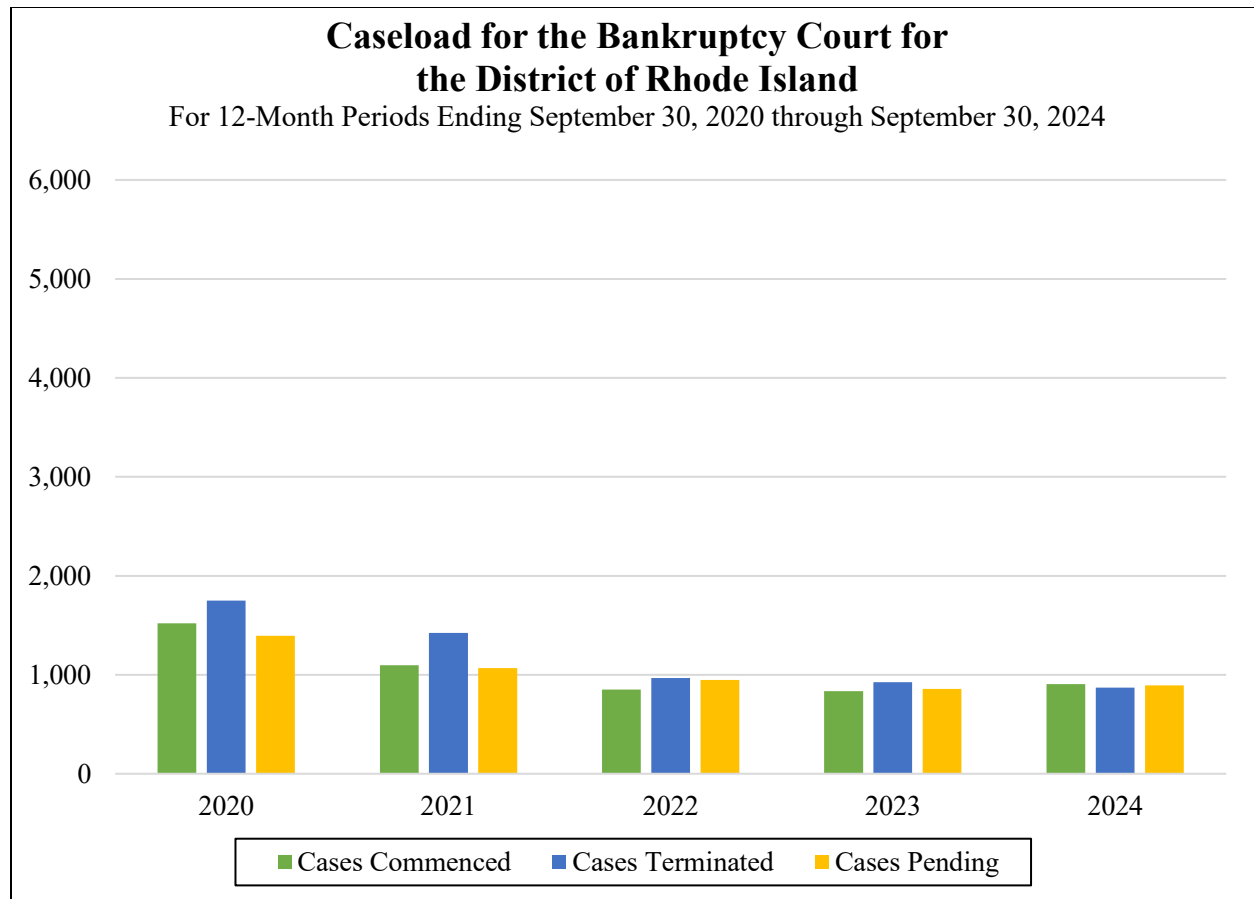
Local Rules

In 2024, the Court adopted amendments to: Local Rule 1017-2 (Dismissal for Lack of Compliance); Local Rule 1019-1 (Conversion of Chapter 11, Chapter 12, or Chapter 13 Case to Chapter 7 Liquidation); Local Rule 2004-1 (Examination); Local Rule 3002-1 (Filing, Amending, Proof of Claim or Interest); Local Rule 3015-2 (Chapter 13 - Amendments to Plans); Local Rule 4004-1 (Grant or Denial of Discharge); Local Rule 7026-1 (Discovery - General); Local Rule 7037-1 (Failure to Make Discovery); R.I. Local Form 3015-1.1 (Chapter 13 Plan); and R.I. Local Form 7026-1.1 (Discovery Plan Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(F)).

Statistics

In 2024, there were 969 new bankruptcy filings: 672 chapter 7 cases; eight chapter 11 cases; and 289 chapter 13 cases.





Caseload for the Bankruptcy Court for the District of Rhode Island For 12-Month Periods Ending September 30, 2020 through September 30, 2024					
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cases Commenced	1,519	1,097	850	833	904
Cases Terminated	1,750	1,424	967	926	869
Cases Pending*	1,393	1,066	949	856	892

* Pending caseloads for 2020 - 2023 as revised by the AO.

Judicial Administration

The Judicial Conference of the United States

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

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

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

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

At the March 2024 and September 2024 Judicial Conferences, AO Director Robert J. Conrad, Jr., reported on judicial business and AO matters; FJC Director John S. Cooke spoke about FJC programs; and Judge Carlton W. Reeves, of the Southern District of Mississippi, reported on United States Sentencing Commission activities in his role as chair. Additionally, at the September 2024 Judicial Conference, Judge Michael Y. Scudder presented a special report on IT matters as chair of the Committee on IT.

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

MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
David J. Barron	CJ	First Circuit	2022	2029
William E. Smith	DJ	Rhode Island	2023	2026

COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE BANKRUPTCY SYSTEM

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Raúl M. Arias-Marxuach	DJ	Puerto Rico	2023	2026
Christopher J. Panos	BJ	Massachusetts	2022	2025

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
John A. Woodcock, Jr.	DJ	Maine	2023	Open

COMMITTEE ON CODES OF CONDUCT

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Jeffrey Howard	CJ	First Circuit	2023	2026

COMMITTEE ON COURT ADMINISTRATION AND CASE MANAGEMENT

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Samantha D. Elliott	DJ	New Hampshire	2024	2027

COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL LAW

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Joseph Laplante	DJ	New Hampshire	2022	2025

COMMITTEE ON DEFENDER SERVICES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Denise J. Casper	DJ	Massachusetts	2022	2025

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL-STATE JURISDICTION

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Michael A. Fagone	BJ	Maine	2021	2027

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Lance E. Walker	DJ	Maine	2021	2026

COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Allison Dale Burroughs	DJ	Massachusetts	2021	2026

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL RESOURCES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
F. Dennis Saylor IV	DJ	Massachusetts	2024	2027

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIAL SECURITY

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
George A. O'Toole, Jr.	DJ	Massachusetts	2021	2026
Donald L. Cabell	MJ	Massachusetts	2021	2027

COMMITTEE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MAGISTRATE JUDGES SYSTEM

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Gustavo A. Gelpí	CJ	First Circuit	2023	2026

COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Paul Barbadoro	DJ	New Hampshire	2023	2025

COMMITTEE ON SPACE AND FACILITIES

			<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
Silvia L. Carreño-Coll	DJ	Puerto Rico	2023	2026

First Circuit Judicial Conferences

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

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

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

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

and-a-half to two years prior to the conference.

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

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

A judges' workshop was held on March 25-27, 2024, at Wentworth by the Sea in New Castle, New Hampshire.

Business of the First Circuit Judicial Council

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

Council meetings in the First Circuit are generally held twice a year. In 2024, there were two Judicial Council meetings. The spring Council meeting, held on March 25, took place at the Wentworth by the Sea Hotel in New Castle, New Hampshire. The fall session, held on October 8, took place at the John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse. Many matters were decided by email vote between meetings.

One task of the Judicial Council involves the consideration of complaints of judicial disability or misconduct. An explanation of the Council's role in these matters and a summary of final actions taken by the Council during 2024 are provided at pages 110-111.

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

Other Judicial Council actions taken during 2024 included: review of the federal judiciary's budget; review of courthouse construction projects and expenditures; review of juror utilization, trials, and other court activity statistics; review of judicial vacancies; and review of court security measures.

Members of the Judicial Council of the First Circuit
as of December 31, 2024

Honorable David J. Barron, Chief Judge	Court of Appeals
Honorable Gustavo A. Gelpí	Court of Appeals
Honorable Lara E. Montecalvo	Court of Appeals
Honorable Julie Rikelman	Court of Appeals
Honorable Seth R. Aframe	Court of Appeals
Honorable Lance E. Walker	District of Maine
Honorable Leo T. Sorokin	District of Massachusetts
Honorable Joseph N. Laplante	District of New Hampshire
Honorable Silvia Carreño-Coll	District of Puerto Rico
Honorable Mary S. McElroy	District of Rhode Island

Observing Members

Honorable John C. Nivison	District of Maine Magistrate Judge
Honorable Mildred Cabán	District of Puerto Rico Bankruptcy Judge

Court Unit Executives
as of December 31, 2024
- FIRST CIRCUIT CLERKS OF COURT -

Anastasia Dubrovsky
Court of Appeals

Christa K. Berry
District of Maine

Robert Farrell
District of Massachusetts

Daniel Lynch
District of New Hampshire

Ada García-Rivera
District of Puerto Rico

Hanorah E. Tyer-Witek
District of Rhode Island

- FIRST CIRCUIT BANKRUPTCY CLERKS OF COURT -

Monica Bigley
District of Maine

Mary P. Sharon
District of Massachusetts

Kristie Trimarco
District of New Hampshire

Wilma Jaime
District of Puerto Rico

Jonathan Pincince
District of Rhode Island

- FIRST CIRCUIT CHIEFS OF PROBATION AND PRETRIAL SERVICES -
as of December 31, 2024

Michael Penders
District of Maine

Ricardo R. Carter
District of Massachusetts

Kevin L. Lavigne
District of New Hampshire

Luis O. Encarnación Canales
District of Puerto Rico

John Marshall
District of Rhode Island

- FIRST CIRCUIT FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDERS -

James S. Nixon
District of Maine

Tara I. Allen
Districts of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island

Rachel Brill
District of Puerto Rico

Space and Facilities

Court of Appeals

The National No Net New funding provided \$2,100,456.68 to the Circuit to modify the San Juan visiting judges' space, specifically to renovate the existing chambers to accommodate additional judges and staff during Court sitting week, and phase I of construction was completed in 2024. A project was funded, and construction began, to construct an additional law clerk office in the new Court of Appeals chambers at the Rudman Courthouse in Concord, New Hampshire. A portion of the Juan R. Torruella Courtroom at the Jose V. Toledo Courthouse in San Juan, Puerto Rico, was re-carpeted and painted.

District of Maine

In 2024, the District was notified that the AO plans to initiate a feasibility study for Portland, which is the first step in the new courthouse construction prioritization process that the JCUS approved in 2021. The results of the study will inform the final housing requirements for judiciary operations.

Replacement of the aging HVAC systems and an upgrade to the fire alarm system continued in the Gignoux Courthouse in Portland, and completion of the project is expected in the spring of 2027.

In 2024, a project to convert an existing interview room into an additional office was funded for the Portland Probation Office. This project is expected to be completed in 2025.

As part of the lease renewal process, minor alterations were funded for the Federal Public Defender Office (FPDO) in Portland, Maine, including new carpet, paint, and work in the

restroom. Construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2025.

District of Massachusetts

GSA awarded the contract for the prospectus project, and \$10.3 million for the design of critical building modernizations, including climate resiliency at the John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse in Boston, and design intent concepts were provided to GSA in the fall of 2024.

Also, in 2024, in response to climate change studies initiated by the judiciary, GSA awarded the first phase of the recommended strategies, including the installation of a watertight garage entry and exit roll-up garage doors and watertight drop-in barriers at the Moakley Courthouse. Construction began, and the project is expected to be completed in the fall of 2025.

Two chambers in the Moakley Courthouse were re-carpeted and painted.

The Moakley Courthouse's hardening project team completed the first phase of design development, final feedback from the judges was solicited, and the next phase of formal design is expected to begin in 2025.

GSA is seeking a superseding lease for the FPDO in Boston to reduce costs.

The courtroom lighting control panels at the Harold D. Donohue Federal Building in Worcester were funded and upgraded. In December 2024, the Probation Office in Worcester was closed because of a building fire, and staff are temporarily housed at the Donohue Courthouse.

A new design to replace the copper beech tree in front of the Springfield Courthouse was completed, and GSA secured funding to implement the planting of four new trees and repair of the irrigation system. A project was funded to reconfigure the judges' lobby signage to provide room for the names of additional judges at the Springfield Courthouse.

The Bankruptcy Court planned and was funded for a space release and security upgrade project at the J.W. McCormack Building, which will release approximately 3,500 square feet of space, reduce its computer room, and reconfigure space. However, the actual costs exceeded the original estimate, requiring a request for additional funding, and approval of those funds is expected in July 2025.

District of New Hampshire

A comprehensive fire alarm upgrade, which includes a building-wide annunciator system, at the Rudman Courthouse and Cleveland Federal Building continued, and a substantial part of the project was completed. Completion of the upgrade is expected in the fall of 2025.

In 2024, the footprint of the Probation Office in Manchester was expanded, funding was approved, and the work is expected to be completed in 2025.

Expansion was approved for the FPDO in Concord, and GSA began negotiating the new lease term. Funding was submitted for the needed tenant improvements, and construction is expected to begin in 2025.

District of Puerto Rico

In 2020, the JCUS designated the courthouse annex project in Hato Rey as a judicial space emergency, prioritizing it as the branch's top

project beginning in FY 2022 until full funding is received. The FY 2022 budget included \$22.4 million for the design of the annex. In 2024, Congress allocated an additional \$28.2 million to the project. Construction funding in the amount of \$338 million remains outstanding. Because of the Federico Degetau Federal Building's location in an area of high seismic activity, GSA commissioned studies to evaluate the building's performance under customary seismic events. Accordingly, in September 2023, the Degetau building was vacated because recent reports indicated that it does not meet the relevant seismic criteria, and all personnel began working from alternate locations. GSA continued its assessments of the building and has not changed its occupancy status. GSA plans to retrofit the building, including significant upgrades to the building core and concrete shear walls, and to request the full budget in 2027. The First Circuit Judicial Council approved a request to increase the size of the annex to include Clerk's Office operations, which added approximately \$40 million to the project but will ultimately expedite the housing solution for the Court.

Based on the reports described above and the fact that both the Degetau Federal Building and Nazario Courthouse were constructed simultaneously by the same contractor, the judiciary requested that GSA also conduct concrete sampling studies of the Nazario Courthouse. Initial results are similar to those of the Degetau Federal Building, and recommendations for further assessment are pending.

During the summer of 2024, 4,800 square feet of modular unit space was installed on the Hato Rey campus to house essential Clerk's Office personnel; however, an additional 7,000 square feet of space is required to accommodate staff fully until the annex can be

constructed. GSA is studying options to address this need.

A project to relocate the PPSO to leased space, requiring between 22,000 and 28,000 square feet of space, was initiated in the fall of 2023. Two separate market surveys were unsuccessful, and a third review is underway. The new occupancy date is anticipated for the winter of 2026. In the interim, additional space is being planned on the Hato Rey campus.

In the spring of 2018, approximately \$20 million was identified to design and construct enhancements in the Nazario Courthouse as outlined in the Hato Rey Capital Security study, which includes construction of a prisoner sally port, an associated elevator, and holding cells, and creation of a secure prisoner corridor. The design was amended to incorporate plans for the future annex. Construction is underway and is anticipated to be completed in January 2025.

District of Rhode Island

GSA designed a project to replace the windows of the Federal Building and Courthouse in Providence. Work began in 2023 and continued in 2024. A contract was awarded to modernize three elevators at the Courthouse under the national elevator program in 2024. A project to replace several heat pumps is underway at the Courthouse and will continue into next year.

First Circuit Civics Education and Outreach

Highlights of civics education and outreach efforts throughout the First Circuit during calendar year 2024 are outlined below. The reports of individual court units may include additional information and details.

Judges and court staff throughout the First Circuit participated in more than 80 civics outreach activities throughout 2024. These events ranged from student visits to formal programs, such as mock trials and lectures.

Judicial Outreach Month

Judicial Outreach Month, held in March, is an annual initiative that encourages judges and other judicial volunteers to engage directly with communities to strengthen public understanding of the court system and the role of an impartial judiciary. This outreach effort was initiated in 2017 by the American Bar Association. Court of Appeals, District of Massachusetts, and District of Rhode Island judges participated in this initiative in 2024 by guest lecturing at local law schools and community colleges, welcoming student groups to visit courthouses, and visiting high school and middle school classrooms.

Law Day Programs

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and the U.S. District Courts for the Districts of Maine, Massachusetts, Puerto Rico, and Rhode Island all hosted various Law Day programs in May of 2024. For example, in Rhode Island, appellate and district judges visited schools in the Providence area to talk with students about the importance of our democracy. In Massachusetts, appellate and district judges and staff hosted multiple school groups for a half day of learning, including a judicial fact-finding scavenger hunt. Finally,

in Maine, appellate and district judges participated in panel discussions based on the theme of the Voice of Democracy.

Lindsay and Nelson Fellowship Programs

Each summer, the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts hosts two fellowship programs. The Lindsay Fellowship is a nine-week program through which college students intern in a judge's chambers to learn legal research and writing. Additionally, students have experience working with other court partners including the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Federal Public Defender's Office, or the PPSO team.

The Nelson Fellowship is a program for high school students that focuses on civil rights, writing, current social events, and public speaking. In addition to working closely with judges and their staffs, students also visit local colleges and learn about the college application process.

You Be the Judge & Naturalization Plus

While many courts within the First Circuit offer tours and opportunities for school groups to observe court proceedings throughout the year, the District of New Hampshire also provides two immersive learning experiences: *You Be the Judge* and *Naturalization Plus*. Both programs include courtroom observation, a structured lesson with court staff, and hands-on simulations presided over by federal judges. In addition to witnessing the judiciary in action, students leave these programs having practiced skills used in the legal profession and with a deeper understanding that fairness, human dignity, and respect for the rule of law are at the core of the judiciary's work.

The Stephen G. Breyer Community Learning Center on Courts and the Constitution

The creation of the Stephen G. Breyer Community Learning Center on Courts and the Constitution (Breyer Learning Center) was completed in the fall of 2024. Former Court of Appeals Clerk of Court Margaret Carter volunteered her time to develop the Breyer Learning Center's exhibits, including an overview of the three branches of government, a detailed look at the judiciary, and an exhibit highlighting notable First Circuit cases. The exhibits were successfully installed in November of 2024. In addition, Justice Stephen G. Breyer, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, Court of Appeals Chief Judge David Barron, and District of Massachusetts Judge Angel Kelley filmed a welcome video for the Breyer Learning Center, discussing important aspects of civics education and democracy. Finally, the Breyer Learning Center hired a full-time Director of Civics Education. Ms. Allison Guenthner joined the First Circuit Court of Appeals in September of 2024. She is a creative thinker with nine years of teaching experience, who focuses on student engagement and incorporating best educational practices into the Breyer Learning Center's civics programming.

National Conference for the Social Studies Annual Conference

The National Conference for the Social Studies annual conference was held in Boston in November of 2024. Judges from the First Circuit attended programs and promoted awareness of some of the unique civics outreach opportunities hosted by the judiciary, specifically the District of Massachusetts' Lindsay and Nelson Fellowships.

Judicial Misconduct and Disability

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

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

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

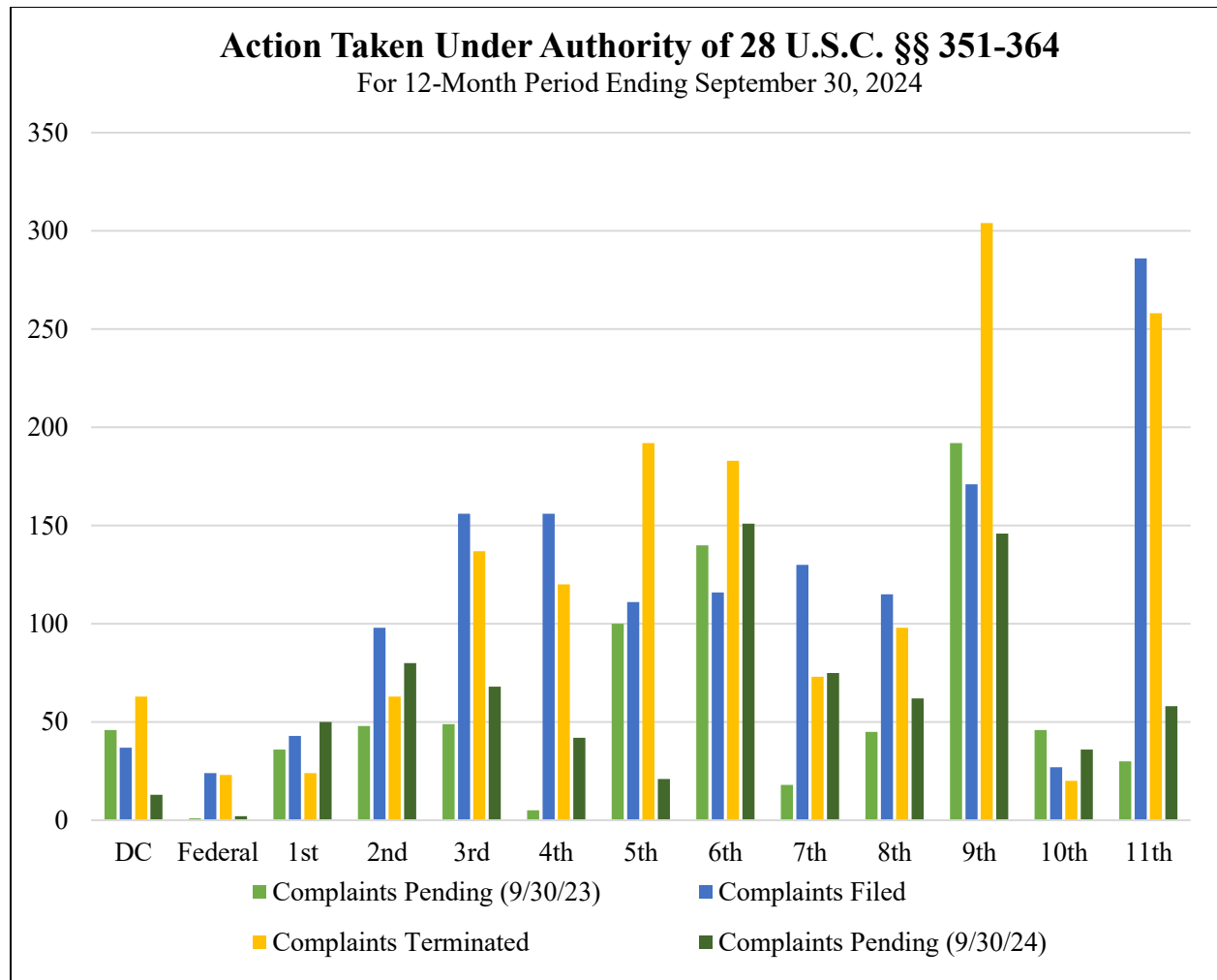
The adoption of uniform mandatory rules was intended to provide national standards and procedures for handling judicial misconduct and disability proceedings. The Rules of Judicial-Conduct were also intended to effectuate many of the recommendations included in the "Breyer Committee Report," 239 F.R.D.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

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

Summary of First Circuit Complaints of Judicial Misconduct or Disability, 2024*	
Complaints Filed in 2024 (Calendar Year)	36
Orders of Dismissal Issued by Chief Judge	11
Petitions for Review Filed with Judicial Council	2
Orders of Dismissal Affirmed by Judicial Council	3
Show Cause Orders Issued	2
Preclusion Orders Issued	3
Total Number of Complainants in 2024 (Calendar Year)	25**

* *This table includes actions taken on matters filed in 2023.*

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



Action Taken Under Authority of 28 U.S.C. §§ 351-364 For 12-Month Period Ending September 30, 2024													
Summary of Activity	Circuit												
	DC	Fed.	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th
Complaints Pending (09/30/23)	46	1	36	48	49	5	100	140	18	45	192	46	30
Complaints Filed	37	24	43	98	156	156	111	116	130	115	171	27	286
Complaints Terminated	63	23	24	63	137	120	192	183	73	98	304	20	258
Complaints Pending (9/30/24)	13	2	50	80	68	42	21	151	75	62	146	36	58

* Pending caseloads for 2023 as revised by the AO.

Attorney Discipline

During 2024, the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit opened 13 attorney disciplinary cases under the Rules of Attorney Disciplinary Enforcement for the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit (Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement). Also, during 2024, 15 reciprocal attorney disciplinary cases were terminated under the Rules of Disciplinary Enforcement, including five attorney disciplinary cases that resulted in disbarment, and ten that resulted in suspensions.

Work of the Federal Public Defender

Report for the Federal Public Defender for the District of Maine

The District of Maine FPDO remained one of the smallest federal defender offices in the country, with four lawyers and five support professionals divided between the Portland and Bangor offices. The FPDO continued to operate at or below budget in all areas of its operation.

Human Resources

Federal Public Defender (FPD) David Beneman stepped down from his role as FPD, a role he had served in since 2006, in June 2024 and remained with the office part-time throughout the remainder of the year.

James S. Nixon, former Assistant Federal Public Defender (AFPD), became the District's second FPD on June 17, 2024, after serving as an AFPD for almost ten years and working in private practice for 20 years prior to joining the FPDO. He maintains his principal office in Bangor, Maine, and travels to the Portland office frequently.

Administrative Officer Devon Richards assisted the Defender Services Office as a volunteer on their program reviews, which are conducted as part of the administration of the CJA.

In December 2024, the FPDO welcomed Grainne Dunne, a graduate of Harvard Law School and a former Sumner M. Redstone Fellow in Public Service, as a new AFPD for the Portland Office.

Statistics

In 2024, the FPDO opened 125 new cases and closed 128 cases, decreasing slightly from the previous year (136 and 142, respectively).

Committee Membership

FPD James Nixon served on the District of Maine's CJA Committee, Criminal Law Committee, and Local Rules Committee and attended the District of Maine's administrative meetings.

AFPD Heather Gonzales served on the District of Maine's Judicial Conference Planning Committee and the First Circuit's CJA Education Committee.

AFPD Caleigh Milton served on the District of Maine's Criminal Law Committee.

Training/Educational Programs

In the spring of 2024, FPD David Beneman hosted the remaining seven parts of a ten-part formal CJA new attorney training program in the Portland office. Participants who successfully completed the program received CLE credits and an opportunity to second chair a CJA case with a more experienced CJA attorney.

The FPDO hosted three interns from the University of Maine School of Law. FPDO employees attended the excellent trainings provided by the Defender Services Office Training Branch.

CJA Panel

Through its new attorney training program and other methods, the District's CJA Committee continued to diversify the CJA panel by increasing representation of women and younger attorneys. The size of the CJA panel remained consistent with approximately 35 members in Portland and 16 members in Bangor due to attrition and retirements.

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

Massachusetts					
	Cases Opened				Cases Closed
	Total	Prosecutions	Appeals	Other	
FY 2018	552	279	9	264	651
FY 2019	608	325	58	225	442
FY 2020	487	238	19	230	401
FY 2021	440	223	19	198	512
FY 2022	425	194	19	212	485
FY 2023	388	174	28	186	409
FY 2024	499	257	27	215	484

New Hampshire					
	Cases Opened				Cases Closed
	Total	Prosecutions	Appeals	Other	
FY 2018	198	127	7	64	199
FY 2019	247	164	11	72	198
FY 2020	207	103	8	48	227
FY 2021	214	130	10	74	248
FY 2022	188	102	1	85	187
FY 2023	156	56	1	99	186
FY 2024	272	80	1	191	268

Rhode Island					
	Cases Opened				Cases Closed
	Total	Prosecutions	Appeals	Other	
FY 2018	121	61	1	59	127
FY 2019	147	71	0	76	148
FY 2020	126	78	0	48	107
FY 2021	124	70	0	54	121
FY 2022	94	53	0	41	100
FY 2023	119	52	0	67	119
FY 2024	142	59	0	84	128

Statistics

The number of opened cases increased in all three districts between FY 2023 and FY 2024.

District Trainings/Outreach

In 2024, the Boston office hosted trainings for FPDO staff and CJA panel attorneys, addressing, in part, representation of non-United States citizen clients and electronic discovery. The Boston office also held several in-house training sessions, one of which

concerned police misconduct databases. An attorney from the Boston office gave a webinar presentation on search and seizure law for a local CLE program.

All three offices organized programming and events for interns and provided interns with mentors in the office.

Attorneys and support staff from all three offices attended or served as faculty for trainings presented by the Defender Services Office and the AO.

Outreach/Civics Education

During FY 2024, the three offices were each very involved in advising and assisting CJA panel members on a regular basis.

The Boston office attorneys worked collaboratively with the Court, Probation, and U.S. Attorney's Office to support the District of Massachusetts' Repair, Invest, Succeed, Emerge (R.I.S.E.) Program and the Restorative Justice Program and continued to participate in the Lindsay Fellowship Program.

The New Hampshire office attorneys continued their ongoing work of representing clients participating in the LASER Docket program and participated in court-sponsored civics education initiatives.

The Rhode Island office worked collaboratively with the Court, Probation, and U.S. Attorney's Office to support the District of Rhode Island's H.O.P.E. ("Helping Offenders Prepare for reEntry") Court.

Human Resources

In June 2024, the First Circuit selected Tara Allen to serve as the Federal Public Defender

for Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

A new AFPD joined the Springfield office, as the outgoing AFPD retired. Additional support staff joined the Boston office.

Space

The New Hampshire office, located in Concord, worked with GSA to add space for staff.

Information Technology

During FY 2024, the Computer Systems Administrator (CSA) and Assistant CSA attended multiple training sessions, earned certifications in new technology systems, and provided the offices with cutting-edge technology.

In 2024, the IT team achieved significant milestones, including, but not limited to:

- Resolving over 100 tickets per month;
- Addressing file storage issues by increasing storage capacity for client data and eDiscovery retention;
- Completing the rollout of communication and videoconferencing systems across all offices and completing security training;
- Replacing firewalls in all offices to enhance the security of the network and offices;
- Upgrading the bandwidth for each office to support smoother network operations for computers, servers, backups, and videoconferencing;
- Launching a file sharing project to provide redundancy, backup, and data retention and allow users offline access; and
- Replacing all cyclical hardware with new hardware to enhance capabilities

for accessing applications and
handling large data volumes.

The CSA completed the Judiciary IT 2024
Scorecard, demonstrating a commitment to
cybersecurity.

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

Statistics

In 2024, the District of Puerto Rico FPDO opened 2,428 new cases and closed 1,984 cases, both of which were increases over 2023 (1,306 and 1,380 cases, respectively). FY 2024 concluded with 1,181 open cases. Also, in FY 2024, personnel from the office participated in a death penalty eligible case charged in the Middle District of Florida.

Human Resources

In February 2024, Third Level Supervisor Andrew S. McCutcheon was named First Assistant.

During FY 2024, the District of Puerto Rico FPDO was authorized to increase its number of full-time attorneys by nine for a total of 31 attorneys, allowing the conversion of Research and Writing Specialist positions to AFPD positions and hiring the two-year Defender Services Diversity Fellow as an AFPD after her fellowship ended, two new appellate AFPDs, and an AFPD dedicated to post-conviction Compassionate Release and Second Chance Act petitions. Additionally, the FPDO hired two new Legal Assistants and a part-time Mitigation Specialist.

Supervisory Legal Assistant Jenny Oliveras left the office for a position in the U.S. District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and was succeeded by Karen Frame.

Community Outreach/Civics Education

The FPDO participated in a variety of community outreach programs, including: RESCATE, the District's reentry program; several office-sponsored re-entry courses; and Project LEAD, a mock trial program for elementary school students. Also, in 2024,

attorneys and investigators routinely visited local secondary schools to present on the federal criminal justice system and cybercrime.

Educational Programs

FPDO staff participated in and/or served as faculty for training sessions for the First Circuit and for the Puerto Rico Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (PRACDL). Additionally, staff participated in dozens of webinars and numerous in-person trainings offered by various local and national organizations on topics ranging from Supreme Court and First Circuit reviews, creative uses of technology, litigation based on United States v. Bruen, to other specialized trial and sentencing matters.

Informational Technology

The IT Department continued to handle a large volume of digital discovery, provide user support to all office staff, and assist the U.S. District Court for the U.S. Virgin Islands. Further, office staff received advanced training in cell phone extraction analysis.

Assistance to the CJA Panel

The FPDO sponsored monthly training sessions for the District's CJA Panel, and the IT Department provided support, specifically with respect to cell phone extractions. The FPDO remained committed to assisting panel attorneys in their preparation for hearings and trials, as well as oral arguments before the Court of Appeals.

Committee Membership

During 2024, FPDO attorneys were members of the District's Local Rules and District Court

and First Circuit CJA Committees. In 2024, the FPD served and two FPDO attorneys were elected to serve as members of the Board of Directors of PRACDL. Third Level Supervisor Vivianne Marrero was appointed to serve on the Defender Guidelines Advisory Committee.