United States District Court Eastern District of Missouri



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

SERVING THE PUBLIC, THE BENCH AND THE BAR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

2016 ANNUAL REPORT OFFICE OF THE CLERK

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Front Cover - U.S. District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh Jr. presides over a Naturalization Ceremony in Cape Girardeau.



Newly Sworn Citizens – Naturalization Ceremony in Cape Girardeau, Missouri

IN MEMORIAM

The Honorable Terry I. Adelman United States Magistrate Judge

United States Magistrate Judge Terry I. Adelman of the Eastern District of Missouri passed away on January 2, 2017, at the age of 71. Judge Adelman joined the Court in December 1992 and served here for 22 years. He served as Chief Magistrate Judge from November 2001 to September 2008 and retired in April 2015.

Judge Adelman was born August 20, 1945, in East St. Louis, Illinois. He received his juris doctorate from the Saint Louis University School of Law in 1970, where he was a member of the Law Journal. He served as Assistant U.S. Attorney from 1971 to 1979 and as First Assistant U.S. Attorney from 1979 to 1992 until he was appointed to the federal bench. Judge Adelman was widely known as an expert on difficult issues of federal criminal procedure and taught a seminar on white-collar crime at Saint Louis University School of Law from 1991 until 2016. He served on various bar and judicial committees, including the Eighth Circuit's Model Criminal Jury Instructions Subcommittee.

The Honorable Terry I. Adelman



ncreases in both civil and criminal caseloads, a new Chief Judge, a new Chief Magistrate Judge, and another new Magistrate Judge: 2016 was another year of changes for the Court. The year began by swearing in District Judge Rodney W. Sippel as Chief Judge, Magistrate Judge Nannette A. Baker as Chief Magistrate Judge, and Patricia L. Cohen as our newest Magistrate Judge. The Court also faced a large increase in criminal cases (particularly firearms cases) while mass tort filings began to drive up civil caseloads, an increase that will continue in 2017.

The Court also bade a sad farewell to our longtime friend and colleague, Magistrate Judge Terry Adelman, who passed away in January. Not only was Judge Adelman a consummate professional and an expert on complex matters of criminal law due to his long tenure on the bench as well as his prior service in the U.S. Attorney's office; he was also a kind and humble man who sought no attention and dedicated himself in countless ways to improving our system of justice. Whether through mentoring students, donating his time or money, or teaching as a law professor at Saint Louis University, Judge Adelman spent his life in service of the pursuit of justice.

2016 also saw this court continue its commitment to alternatives to incarceration when possible, and to its community outreach programs. Through Mental Health Court, Drug Court (Project EARN), Gang Court (Project GRIP), Veteran's Court, and Pretrial Diversion Court (Project SAIL), the Eastern District continued to be a nationwide leader in proving that alternatives to incarceration can not only improve the lives of participants and their families but also improve public safety outcomes. The court's community outreach programs once again broke attendance records within the courthouse and won awards, including the ABA's award for Outstanding Law Day Program and an Emmy Award for its Constitution Day program in partnership with the Missouri Bar and HEC-TV.

We are proud to bring you this Annual Report, and we welcome your thoughts on how we can better serve you. Please contact Clerk of Court Greg Linhares at <u>greg_linhares@moed.uscourts.gov</u> and share your ideas with us.

The Honorable Rodney W. Sippel Chief United States District Judge Eastern District of Missouri

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Gregory J. Linhares Clerk of Court Eastern District of Missouri



DISTRICT JUDGES RODNEY W. SIPPEL CHIEF JUDGE

CAROL E. JACKSON CATHERINE D. PERRY HENRY E. AUTREY STEPHEN N. LIMBAUGH JR. AUDREY G. FLEISSIG JOHN A. ROSS RONNIE L. WHITE

JUDGES OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGES

EDWARD L. FILIPPINE E. RICHARD WEBBER CHARLES A. SHAW JEAN C. HAMILTON

MAGISTRATE JUDGES

NANNETTE A. BAKER Chief Magistrate Judge

DAVID D. NOCE SHIRLEY A. PADMORE MENSAH NOELLE C. COLLINS ABBIE CRITES-LEONI JOHN M. BODENHAUSEN PATRICIA L. COHEN



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2016 JUDICIAL BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

CIVIL CASELOAD STATISTICS

- More than 2,400 civil cases were filed in the Eastern District of Missouri (MOED), an increase of 8% from 2015.
- The increase in civil caseload was due to increased tort and prisoner petition filings.
- Approximately 2,100 cases were pending at the end of 2016.
 - Average age of the pending caseload decreased by 25 days from 2015 to 2016.
 - o 70% of pending cases had been open less than 1 year, while only 11% had been open for two years or more.
- Cases with one or more pro se plaintiff(s), mostly prisoners, accounted for about 26% of the civil caseload.
- More than 350 cases were referred to alternative dispute resolution; mostly tort, civil rights and contract cases.
 - o More than two-thirds of referrals go to mediation, and of these almost one-half are settled.
 - o Most participants in mediation were satisfied with the process and would chose mediation again.
- At the end of 2016, 300 multidistrict litigation cases were pending in MOED, a decrease of 82% from 2015.

CRIMINAL CASELOAD STATISTICS

- Criminal cases account for 20% of 2016 cases (excluding multidistrict litigation cases).
 - o 94% of the criminal caseload was felonies.
 - o Illegal possession of firearm cases more than doubled since 2014, making up 36% of the criminal caseload.
- For the 2nd year in a row, more than 600 cases with more than 800 defendants were filed in the Eastern District.
 - The Eastern District's criminal caseload increased from 2015, in contrast to U.S. District Courts overall, which saw a decrease in criminal filings.

JURY TRIAL & JUROR STATISTICS

- In 2016, the Eastern District held 45 trials (34 jury & 11 bench), a 15% increase from 2015.
 - o 67% of all trials completed in 2016 lasted three or more days, a marked increase from 2015 (48%).
- The Eastern District's rate of effective juror utilization (only 25% of jurors unused and not stricken by parties) continued to surpass the national benchmark (<=30%).
 - A majority of jurors rated their experience as favorable, and most were satisfied with various aspects their service (eJuror, orientation, treatment by staff, etc.).

FINANCE

• The Eastern District disbursed more than \$6 million in restitution and garnishments to victims of crime and creditors.

MAGISTRATE JUDGE UTILIZATION

Thirty-three percent of new, eligible civil filings were assigned to MOED's Magistrate Judges.
 In 52% of these cases, Magistrate Judges received full consent from the parties.

PRETRIAL SERVICES & THE PROBATION OFFICE

- Pretrial Services opened more than 1,000 cases, with a detention rate of 60%.
 - 87% of pretrial supervised defendants were classified as high risk.
- The Probation Office completed almost 850 presentence reports, an increase of 44% from 2015.
 - o The Probation Office supervised more than 3,000 individuals, revoking only 250.
- The Eastern District continued to offer one pretrial diversion and four reentry treatment courts.

PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

- MOED hosted five continuing legal education seminars, with more than 300 attorneys attending.
 - The Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse hosted more than 5,000 people and 170 groups through public outreach.
 - o The Eastern District's public and community outreach offerings continued to receive national recognition.

SERVING THE PUBLIC

CIVIL CASELOAD

n Calendar Year 2016, there were 2,447 new and 42 reopened civil cases filed in the Eastern District of Missouri, an 8% increase from 2015. [Appendices A-C] (Figure 1) This does not include multi-district litigation (MDL) consolidations filed in, or transferred to, the Eastern District.





In 2016, civil cases were filed at an average rate of 207 per month. The two most common categories of civil case filings were torts and prisoner petitions. (Figure 2) {*See figure in next column.*} The number of filings in these two categories increased from 2015 by 43% and 53%, respectively. Other common types of filings were social security, contracts, civil rights and employment. These were also the six most common types of cases filed in 2015.

Figure 2. 2016 non-MDL Civil Filings, by Case Category



Including multi-district litigation consolidations, the United States government was party (as either plaintiff or defendant) in approximately one-quarter (27%) of civil filings in the Eastern District. This is slightly higher than all U.S. District Courts, where the United States government was party to approximately one-fifth (21%) of civil cases.¹ The United States government was typically the defendant in prisoner petitions or social security appeals when it was a party to a civil case – 97% of cases in the Eastern District and 92% nationally.

The Eastern District's caseload, as represented by case category, was generally similar to all U.S. District Courts. However, there were slightly higher proportions of prisoner petitions and social security appeals and a slightly lower proportion of civil rights cases filed in the Eastern District than nationally. *{Data not shown.}*

¹ National caseload statistics from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts' data tables at: <u>http://jnet.ao.dcn/resources/statistics</u> Because of differences in data extraction methodologies, Eastern District caseload statistics presented in this report may differ from those reported to, and published by, the Administrative Office.

The types of cases filed in the Eastern District differed from the national average in many respects. (Table 1) For example, the Eastern District had a higher proportion of insurance cases, motions to vacate, Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) cases, and disability insurance appeals.

Table 1. 2016 Common Types of Cases:
Eastern District & all U.S. District Courts

Case Category & Types of Cases	Eastern District	National		
Contracts	S			
Insurance	52%	37%		
Torts				
Personal Injury - other	48%	13%		
Personal Injury – product liability	19%	29%		
Personal Injury – hlth care/pharm.	10%	36%		
Prisoner Peti	Prisoner Petitions			
Motion to Vacate Sentence	49%	33%		
Civil Rights	30%	27%		
Habeas Corpus - general	19%	23%		
Labor				
ERISA	74%	36%		
Social Security Appeals				
Disability Insurance	66%	46%		
Supplemental Income	33%	49%		

<u>Dispositions.</u> Excluding multi-district litigation transfers, the Eastern District closed 2,229 civil cases in 2016, a number similar to 2015. (Table 2) Almost one-third of non-MDL civil dispositions were prisoner petitions. (Figure 3) *{See figure in next column.}* Tort, social security appeal, contract, civil rights, and other statute cases each accounted for approximately one-tenth of dispositions.

Approximately 60% of non-MDL civil dispositions were dismissals. Almost one-half of these were voluntary dismissals, including those in which the parties reached a settlement. Judgments and findings in appeals of administrative agency decisions accounted for 25% of dispositions.

Figure 3. 2016 non-MDL Civil Dispositions, by Case Category



For civil cases closed during 2016, the estimated mean time to disposition was 9.5 months, while the median time to disposition was 6.6 months.² Considering only case categories with more than 20 dispositions, intellectual property rights, social security appeals and civil rights cases took the longest; while real property cases took the shortest.

Table 2. 2016 Time to Disposition for non-MDL
Civil Cases (untrimmed), by Case Category

Case Category	Number of Dispositions	Average Age (in Days)
Contracts	250	306
Real Property	32	193
Torts	265	251
Civil Rights	222	367
Prisoner Petitions	693	326
Forfeiture/Penalty	9	355
Labor	188	263
Immigration	5	185
Int. Property Rights	56	390
Social Security	237	381
Tax Suits	4	546
Bankruptcy Appeals	13	123
Other Statutes	255	241
Total	2,229	308

² To minimize the impact of extreme values, 5% trimmed mean time excludes the highest and lowest 2.5% values. Median time is the midpoint of times ranked from lowest to highest.

<u>Pending Caseload.</u> At the end of 2016, more than 2,100 non-MDL civil cases were pending in the Eastern District. (Figure 1 on page 1) Similar to previous years; prisoner petitions were the largest proportion of the pending civil caseload; followed by tort and social security cases. (Figure 4) Among categories with more than 20 pending cases; the number of pending tort (117%), prisoner petition (9%) and social security appeal (8%) cases increased while the number of intellectual property rights (-34%), other federal statute (-26%) and contract cases decreased (10%). In particular, the increase in pending tort cases is attributable to a large number of mass tort filings in 2016.



Figure 4. Pending Civil Caseload as of December 31, 2016, by Case Category*

* Immigration, tax suit, and bankruptcy cases were less than 0.5% each of the pending caseload.

The average age of the court's pending caseload as of December 31, 2016 was 326 days (or 10.9 months), which is 25 days less than 2015. (Table 3) {See table in next column.} Considering only case categories with more than 20 pending cases, prisoner petitions, labor and other federal statute cases were the oldest.

Case Category	Number of Dispositions	Average Age (in Days)
Contracts	184	275
Real Property	16	262
Torts	485	240
Civil Rights	209	253
Prisoner Petitions	600	464
Forfeiture/Penalty	9	452
Labor	160	368
Immigration	2	262
Int. Property Rights	27	253
Social Security	304	247
Tax Suits	3	272
Bankruptcy Appeals	12	202
Other Statutes	155	355
Total	2,166	326

Table 3. 2016 Age of the Pending Caseload for non-MDL Civil Cases, by Case Category

At the end of 2016, 70% of all open cases had been pending for less than one year, while less than 5% had been pending for more than three years. (Figure 5)

Figure 5. 2015 & 2016 Categorical Age of Total Pending non-MDL Civil Caseload



PRO SE CIVIL CASELOAD

One or more *pro se*, or self-represented, litigants were parties on 651 civil cases filed in the Eastern District in 2016. [Appendix C] Cases with a *pro se* party accounted for 26% of the Eastern District's 2016 non-MDL civil caseload. More than 80% of cases with a *pro se* party were filed by prisoners, higher than the national proportion. (Figure 6) Self-represented prisoner cases were composed almost exclusively of motions to vacate sentence (39%), prisoner civil rights (38%), and habeas corpus (20%) petitions. *Pro se* cases with a non-prisoner plaintiff were primarily civil rights cases (52%), followed by tort and social security cases (11% each).





ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- he Eastern District's Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mediation program is designed to:
- provide a simple and confidential structure for voluntary disposition of civil cases,
- improve time to disposition of cases referred to ADR,
- reduce litigation costs for parties to civil suits, and
- enable parties to fashion a wider range of remedies.

By local court rule, most civil case types are eligible for ADR referral. In 2016, 367 civil cases were referred to ADR. [Appendix D] Most referrals were for civil rights, tort and contract cases. (Figure 7)



Figure 7. 2016 – Referrals to Alternative Dispute Resolution, by Civil Case Category

In 2016, 47% of completed referrals reached a settlement. (Table 4) Intellectual property rights and other cases settled at a relatively lower rate.

Table 4. 2016 Alternative Dispute Resolution
Settlement Rates, by Case Category

Case Category	Settlement Rate
Contracts	48%
Real Property	50%
Torts	50%
Civil Rights	49%
Labor	50%
Intellectual Property Rights	42%
Tax Suits	-
Other	38%
Total	47%

A mediation session was held in 62% of ADR referrals that were completed in 2016. The average (or mean) time to disposition for referrals that went to mediation and closed in 2016 was 18.1 months.³ (Table 5) Referrals that achieved a settlement in mediation closed almost twice as fast as those that did not (23.6).

Table 5. 2016 Time to Disposition (in Months) for
cases referred to Alternative Dispute Resolution

Mediation & Settlement Status	Time to Disposition (in months)
mediated	18.1
settled	12.9
not settled	23.6
not mediated	13.2

<u>ADR Participant Survey.</u> In May 2013, the Eastern District and its ADR Advisory Committee implemented an online survey of plaintiffs and defendants in the mediation process. Survey questions elicit participants' experience and satisfaction with mediation and the mediator. During 2016, 36 individuals, at least partially, completed the ADR survey. [Appendix E]

More than four-fifths of respondents were "very" to "fairly" satisfied with the mediation process, while almost all respondents were satisfied with the mediator. All respondents would both recommend mediation and their mediator to others and use the mediator again. Respondents also indicated the mediator sufficiently explained the mediation process, treated them fairly, was prepared & had the appropriate level of expertise, and persistently moved the parties to resolution.

MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION CASELOAD

The United States Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation determines if civil actions pending in different federal districts involve common questions of fact such that these actions should be transferred to a single district for consolidated pretrial proceedings.⁴ In addition, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation selects the judges and courts to conduct these proceedings. Transferring these cases into multidistrict litigation (MDL) consolidations avoids duplication of discovery, prevents inconsistent pretrial rulings, and conserves resources.

There were four MDL consolidations pending in the Eastern District at the end of 2016, of which Nuvaring Products Liability was the largest (87% of pending MDL cases). (Table 6)

Table 6. Multidistrict Litigation Consolidations Active in the Eastern District of Missouri during 2016*

ddinig 2010			
Pending 12/31/15	Filed / Reopened	Closed	Pending 12/31/16
Nuvaring Products Liability			
1,609	41	1,389	261
Emerson Electric Co. Wet/Dry Vac Marketing & Sales Practices			
8	-	-	8
Blue Buffalo Company, LTD., Marketing & Sales Practices			
13	-	-	13
Avida Life Media, Inc., Customer Data Security Breach			
20	3	5	18

* The Genetically Modified Rice consolidation (MDL 1811) closed in September 2015. Cases reported as pending at the end of last year were "non-producers" (NP) and not part of the consolidation.

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Time to disposition estimates include only those cases with an ADR referral (properly) docketed in CM-ECF.

⁴ An Introduction to the United States Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. <u>http://jpml.ao.dcn/sites/default/files/JPML-Overview-Brochure-2-23-2016_0.pdf</u> . United States Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Washington D.C.

The number of MDL filings and dispositions varied markedly by year.⁵ [Appendix C] For instance, filings ranged from 33 in 2015 to 551 in 2013, while dispositions ranged from 24 in 2014 to 1,394 in 2016. (Table 7) Between 2015 and 2016, the pending MDL caseload decreased dramatically by more than 1,350 cases, or 82%.

Table 7. 2012-2016: Multidistrict Litigation Caseload Statistics

	Filings	Dispositions	Pending at end of Year
2012	283	249	1,163
2013	551	116	1,598
2014	213	24	1,799
2015	33	178	1,654
2016	44	1,394	300

At the end of 2016, open MDL cases accounted for approximately one-tenth of the total pending civil caseload.



Panelists at the Northern Division's Bench & Bar Seminar. See Section Two, page 31.

CRIMINAL CASELOAD

n 2016, 632 criminal cases were filed in the Eastern District, almost 95% of which were felony cases. [Appendices F-G] (Figure 8) Over the 5-year time period from 2012-2016, the number of criminal cases filed in the Eastern District increased by an estimated 25%, with felony filings increasing by 29%. The Eastern District's overall increase is in contrast to decreased criminal filings in all U.S. District Courts (by an estimated -16%).

The increase in Eastern District's criminal caseload was largely due to a rise in the number of felon in possession of a firearm cases (18 U.S.C. § 922[g][1-9]) listed as the most serious charge, 36% of the felony caseload in 2016.⁶ The number of cases with this charge increased by an estimated 110% over the last 5-year time period. (Figure 8)

Figure 8. Number of Criminal Cases and Defendants with Illegal Possession of a Firearm as the most Serious Charge, by Calendar Year



In 2016, criminal cases (excluding probation supervision and supervised release transfers) accounted for 20% of the non-MDL caseload and were filed at an average rate of 53 per month. Oneseventh of the felony cases filed in the Eastern District had more than one defendant. As in previous years, the most common types of specific

⁵ This section does not include civil cases, if any, filed in the Eastern District but transferred to a different district court for MDL consolidation.

⁶ The criminal offense category is determined by the most serious charge listed on the criminal complaint or information.

criminal offenses were illegal firearm possession (216 cases), fraud (101), controlled substances (95) and sex offenses (53). (Figure 9)

Figure 9. 2016 Criminal Case Filings, by Offense Category*



* Fed. Stat. = federal statutes, Larc. = larceny, Embzlmnt = embezzlement, Forg./Count. = forgery/counterfeiting

In 2016, slightly more than 600 criminal cases were closed in the Eastern District, a 25% increase from 2015. (Figure 10) At the end of 2016, 620 criminal cases were pending in the Eastern District.





CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS

riminal defendant statistics and trends for the Eastern District were similar to the criminal case statistics presented above, including a 98% increase from 2012-2016 in the number of criminal defendants with illegal possession of a firearm (18U.S.C.§922[q][1-9]) listed as the most serious charge.⁷ [Appendix H] In 2016, 893 criminal defendants had a complaint or information filed against them in the Eastern District, a 5% increase from 2015. Ninety-five percent were for a felony charge(s). Eight hundred and thirty-one (831) defendants' cases were closed in 2016, and 930 defendants' cases were pending at the end of 2016.7 In contrast to the Eastern District, criminal defendant filings in U.S. District Courts overall decreased by -4% from 2015 to 2016.

The Eastern District's 2016 proportion of new criminal defendants by offense category differed markedly from U.S. District Courts overall. (Table 8) The Eastern District had proportionally more defendants charged with firearms/explosives and property offenses, but fewer charged with immigration offenses.

Table 8. 2016 Proportion of new Criminal Defendants by Offense Category: Eastern District & all U.S. District Courts

Offense Category	Eastern District	National
Violent	2.2%	3.7%
Property	23.7%	13.5%
Drug	29.9%	31.9%
Firearms/Explosives	32.6%	11.4%
Sex	5.6%	4.2%
Justice System	0.5%	1.1%
Immigration	1.4%	27.2%
General	1.8%	2.3%
Regulatory	2.2%	1.7%
Traffic	-	3%

⁷ This includes 99 defendants in fugitive status at the end of 2016.

More than nine-tenths of criminal defendants' cases disposed in the Eastern District during 2016 resulted in a plea of guilty. (Table 9) In comparison to U.S. District Courts overall, the Eastern District has a slightly higher proportion of guilty pleas and lower proportion of dismissals.

Table 9. 2016 Criminal Defendant Dispositions: Eastern District & all U.S. District Courts

Manner of Disposition	Eastern District	National
Dismissed	6.6%	8.6%
Plea of Guilty	92.2%	88.9%
Bench Trial	0.4%	0.3%
Jury Trial	0.9%	2.2%



Citygarden, Saint Louis

TRIAL & JUROR STATISTICS

TRIAL STATISTICS

uring 2016, there were 45 trial starts in the Eastern District. [Appendix I] Two-thirds were civil trials (either by jury or bench). Threequarters of all trials were jury trials (both civil and criminal). (Figure 11)





In 2016 most civil trials were in civil rights, contract, and prisoner petition cases. (Table 11) The civil case category-specific distribution of trial starts was very similar to the 5-year average of 2012 through 2016, with the exception of fewer trials in tort cases.

Table 11. Civil Trial Starts – 2016 Trials and 2012-2016 Averages, by Civil Case Category

Case Category	2016 Trials	5-Yr Average
Contracts	7	7.2
Real Property	0	0.6
Torts	4	6.0
Civil Rights	9	8.4
Prisoner Petitions	5	4.4
Labor	2	1.4
Intellectual Property Rights	1	1.2
Tax Suits	0	0.0
Other Statutes	2	3.0
Total	30	32.2

Most criminal trial starts were for fraud, marijuana drug offense and other miscellaneous general offenses. (Table 12) The criminal offense-specific distribution of trial starts was very similar to the 5year average of 2012-2016.

2012-2010 Averages, by Offense Calegory				
Offense Category	2016 Trials	5-Yr Average		
Robbery	1	0.6		
Assault	0	0.2		
Larceny & Theft	0	0.6		
Embezzlement	0	0.4		
Fraud	4	3.0		
Auto Theft	0	0.2		
Forgery & Counterfeiting	1	0.6		
Sex Offenses	0	1.2		
Marijuana Drug Offenses	3	3.4		
Controlled Substances Offenses	1	1.6		
Other Misc. General Offenses	3	6.0		
Immigration Laws	0	0.4		

2

15

1.6

19.8

Federal Statutes

Total

Table 12. Criminal Trial Starts – 2016 Trials and2012-2016 Averages, by Offense Category

In 2016, almost one-half of the Eastern District's civil trials lasted more than four days, while onequarter lasted one to two days. (Figure 12) {See figure in next column.} For the 3-year period from 2014 to 2016, the proportion of civil trials lasting four or more days increased by approximately onefifth. Conversely, more than one-half of criminal trials lasted only one to two days, while one-fifth lasted more than four days. Consistent with the trend in civil trials, the proportion of criminal trials lasting more than four days increased over the 3-year period.

Figure 12. 2015 Proportion of Trial Completions, by Number of Days



In 2016, the Eastern District's median time from filing to trial for civil cases in which a trial was completed was approximately two years and three months. (Table 13)

Table 13. Time (in Months) from Filing to Completed Civil Trial: 2016 and 2014-16 Estimates, by Trial Type*

Case Category	2016	3-Yr Average
Non-Jury	16.3	22.2
Jury	27.7	25.9
Total	26.4	27.4

*Estimates include only trials conducted by District Judges; excluding those in land condemnation, forfeiture and penalty, prisoner petitions, and bankruptcy petition cases. The Eastern District's non-jury medians calculated by Eastern District staff.



JUROR UTILIZATION

n the federal judiciary, effective juror utilization is defined as 30% or less of jurors not selected, serving, or challenged (NSSC) on the first day of service. [Appendix J] In 2016, the Eastern District's NSSC rate was 25%, compared to 38% for U.S. District Courts nationwide and 30% for the District Courts in the Eighth Circuit. The Eastern District's NSSC rate ranked 20th nationally. From 2012 (29%) to 2016, the Eastern District's NSSC rate improved by 16%; remaining relatively consistent (at ~24%) over the past three years.

The Eastern District's ongoing effective use of jurors is attributable empaneling juries on Monday and Wednesday, holding morning and afternoon panel selection so jurors not selected in the morning are available in the afternoon, mailing screening guestionnaires six weeks prior to trial when a large number of jurors or a lengthy voir dire is expected; a weekly call to schedule jury trials sent to all judges and support staff; and encouraging the assessment of jury costs against the parties when they settle on the day the jury was to be selected. As a result of these policies, the Eastern District has improved the proportion of individuals appearing for jury duty that participated in voir dire and were selected for trial. (Figure 13) {See figure in next column.} From 2012 to 2016 the proportion selected to serve on a jury increased by an estimated 18%, while the proportion of excess jurors decreased by 13%; with both remaining relatively consistent over the past three years (29%) and 24%, respectively).





Figure 13. Percent of Total Jurors Selected and Excess^{*}, by Calendar Year

* Excess jurors are those not selected or challenged.

As in 2015 (32), the number of jury trial starts in 2016 (34) was about 40% lower than the peak in 2013 (55). From 2013 to 2016, the number of individuals who appeared for jury duty and jurors who participated in voir dire or were selected for trial decreased by a similar amount. As a result, fewer jurors were summoned in 2016 when compared to the 5-year average. (Table 14)

Table 14. Juror Utilization – 2016 Counts and 2012-16 Averages & Trends

	001/	2012-2016		
Measures	2016 Counts	Average	Percent Change	
Questionnaires sent	22,296	26,499	-12%	
Summoned for duty	8,711	9,743	-22%	
Appeared for duty	1,059	1,408	-38%	
Participated in voir dire	981	1,309	-38%	
Selected for trial	316	414	-19%	
Jury trial starts	32	41	-10%	

JURY SERVICE EVALUATION

The Eastern District continued to survey jurors regarding their jury service. From October through December, 385 jurors completed the Jury Service Exit Questionnaire.⁸ As in previous years, respondents were more likely to be female (54%) and 35-64 years of age (64%). Respondents were not asked about race or ethnicity.

	Afresp	xonses are v	okintary & confide	ntiəl.		
 After having reported for jury service Same as before – favorable Same as 	how would your before – unfavoral		oorierico? Circk e favorable than b			e than before
2. Did you ask to be excused from jury	service or have y	our service	deferred?			
Yes No						
Were you selected to serve as a jure	r on a that?					
Yes No						
4. How would you rate the following as	ects of ium servi	ine? Flixes	oute (v) each i	lines .		
Jury Service Aspect	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Fair	Poor	Not Applicabl
A) Online eJuror program						
B) Juror information on the court's website						
C) information provided before report date	0		0			0
Di Automated phone notification (AJIS)						
E) Initial orientation at court						
F) Treatment by Jury Unit staff	0					
G) Treatment by courtroom personnel	0				0	
I Treatment by security staff						
I Physical comforts						
A Parking facilities	0		0			0
K) Scheduling your time at the courthouse	0					
L) Length of Service						
Did jury service result in hardship for Dot income Transpotation Other (please specify): What is your age? 18/04 25/34	Child care / p	orimany care alth / medical		Need to re	arrange work	schedule 65-over
	35-44		42-04	35-64		co-over
What is your sex?						
Male Female						
8. Please provide any additional comm		and all and have a	and the second second			
			m me collo impi	ove pily sen	INVERGE O	WARK F
 I state provide any account common 						

Nine-tenths of respondents rated their experience as either 'favorable' (71%) or 'more favorable than before' (21%). This is similar to past years, when more than 90% of respondents indicated jury service was 'more favorable than first expected' or 'about what I expected'.

With the exception of 'length of service' approximately four-fifths or more of respondents reported above average satisfaction with various aspects of jury service. (Table 15) *{See table in next column.}* Overall, the proportion of respondents who rated various aspects of jury service as 'above average' decreased from 2015 to 2016 by an estimated 5% on average, with 'parking facilities' (10%), 'scheduling time at the courthouse' (8%), and 'Online eJuror Program' (6%) experiencing decreases.

Jury Service Aspects	Above Average	Average	Below Average
Online eJuror Program	89%	10%	1%
juror information on website	89%	10%	2%
Info, provided before report date	86%	11%	3%
automated phone notification	87%	8%	5%
initial orientation at court	88%	10%	2%
treatment by jury unit staff	94%	6%	0%
treatment by courtroom staff	94%	5%	1%
treatment by security staff	92%	6%	1%
physical comforts	88%	10%	2%
parking facilities	80%	15%	4%
scheduling time at courthouse	79%	15%	6%
length of service	73%	20%	7%

Jurors were asked what hardships, if any, were caused by jury service. Forty-three percent (43%) of all respondents indicated one or more hardship, similar to 2015 (40%). The need to re-arrange work schedule (including working on the weekend and at night) and lost income were the two most common hardships. (Table 16) Other hardships have included a missed job interview, missed union meeting, using a personal day for an hourly employee, and scheduling conflict with a vacation.

Table 16. 2015 & 2016 – Jurors' Rating of Hardship

Hardship	Percent of Respondents		Percent of	Responses
	2015 2016		2015	2016
lost income	17%	13%	29%	22%
child care/primary care giver	4%	5%	7%	9%
need to rearrange work schedule	23%	27%	39%	46%
transportation	5%	6%	8%	10%
health/medical appointment	3%	2%	6%	4%
school obligation	3%	3%	5%	5%
other	3%	2%	6%	4%

Table 15. 2016 - Jurors' Ratings of Service

⁸ Typically ~1-2% of respondents didn't complete each question. However, 12% of respondents didn't rate their jury experience. Percentages presented in this section are generally for completed responses only.



Fifty-two respondents provided additional comments and suggestions. As in 2015, one-third of responses were generically positive – such as good experience, well done. Suggestions for improvement were:

- improve court room logistics/comfort(12%);
 - o view of television partially obscured
 - view of defendant/defendant's table and podium partially obscured
 - need whiteboard or other writing materials in juror deliberation room
- provide earlier/better notice (12%);
 - o of possibility of multi-day service
 - with potential need for clothes, medications, lodging, etc.
 - o e-mail juror number
- streamline selection process (10%);
 - pre-screen for general values & beliefs that prevent selection
 - call jurors by number to maintain anonymity/confidentiality
- improve internet connection (3%).



Juror Appreciation Day at the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse.

FINANCE

n 2016 the Eastern District distributed more than \$6.6 million in restitution, civil garnishments and refunds to victims and creditors through 12,356 payments. (Figure 14)





UNITED STATES PRETRIAL SERVICES

S. Pretrial Services for the Eastern District of Missouri continued to operate in both the Thomas F. Eagleton U.S. Courthouse in St. Louis and the Rush Hudson Limbaugh Sr. U.S. Courthouse in Cape Girardeau. The twenty-five (25) personnel of Pretrial Services included the chief U.S. pretrial services officer, two supervising pretrial services officers, 14 pretrial services officers, two pretrial services officer assistants, four administrative personnel, a shared financial manager, and a shared information technology employee.

A primary responsibility of the Eastern District's Pretrial Services continued to be conducting pretrial bond investigations of all federal defendants and utilizing these investigations to advise the Magistrate Judges as to whether the defendants are a significant flight or danger risk to the community. Officers recommended the least restrictive release conditions to address these potential risks. New pretrial cases decreased marginally from 1,057 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 to 1,022 in FY 2016, while the detention rate was unchanged (61% relatively and 60%. respectively).9 According to the Pretrial Risk Assessment, case activations in the Eastern District included 87% higher risk cases (categories 3-5) and 13% lower risk cases (categories 1 & 2). The Eastern District's proportion of higher risk cases was larger than any other district in the nation.

The Eastern District's 2016 detention rate (60%) was essentially the same as the national detention rate (59%). The high number of firearms cases prosecuted in the Eastern District markedly contributed to its detention rate. In FY 2016, the Eastern District's Pretrial Services office interviewed 338 defendants charged with a

firearms offense. The activation of firearms cases was higher in the Eastern District than in any other district and accounted for approximately 33% of its cases interviewed in FY 2016. (Table 17) The next highest district initiated 267 firearms cases.

Offense Category	% of Cases Initiated	% of Cases Supervised
Firearms	33%	11%
Drugs	31%	29%
Financial	22%	43%
Sex Offense	7%	11%
Violence	3%	3%
Other	3%	3%
Immigration	1%	-

Table 17. Pretrial Services – Proportion of Cases Initiated and Supervised in Fiscal Year 2016 by Offense Category

Another primary responsibility of the Eastern District's Pretrial Services continued to be supervising defendants who have been released on bond by the Court. Pretrial supervision included monitoring compliance with defendants' release conditions. Pretrial supervision also required officers to make referrals to and continually monitor the progress of defendants in various treatment programs. In FY 2016, 49% of new pretrial supervision cases under supervision were greater risk because of the increased associated risks. activities and services required to supervise these defendants; while the remainder were lower risk. Of the lower risk defendants, 25 were sex offenders who required more intensive supervision due to the sensitive nature of the alleged offense.

Addressing substance abuse issues by utilizing drug testing and treatment continued to be the most essential need for defendants under pretrial supervision. Mental health treatment also continued to be frequently utilized to assist defendants and address risks.

⁹ The Pretrial Services Office in the Eastern District of Missouri investigates supervised release violators; therefore, the published detention rates have been controlled for supervised release violators to allow for more accurate statistical comparison with other districts who do not investigate supervised release violators.

In 2015, Pretrial Services joined the Eastern District Probation Office's Family Program. In FY 2016, Pretrial Services expanded its partnership in this program, involvement in which affords Pretrial Services the opportunity to provide underprivileged children of defendants with holiday gifts and school supplies. Pretrial Services co-sponsored numerous fundraisers with the Probation Office which aided the Family Program. Additionally, the Family Program hosts Family Orientation meetings and Table Talk sessions, both of which assist defendants and their families with the transition from pretrial release to the Bureau of Prisons or a term of probation. These intimate discussions between defendants and former inmates give defendants a platform to address potential questions and concerns about serving a federal sentence and help prepare defendants for potential terms of incarceration. Pretrial Services hosted six Table Talk sessions. Pretrial Services also continued its collaboration with the Probation Office on the Veterans Program, which assists veterans in obtaining services offered by the Veterans Administration. Also in 2016, Pretrial Services began an employment initiative that organizes job fairs and disseminates information about employment opportunities to unemployed and underemployed defendants.

Pretrial Services staff continued to serve as members of the advisory and working groups at the national level – including Information and Technology, Federal Judicial Center Education, Pretrial Services, Detention/Release Team, District Review Team, Bail Report Study, and Workforce Development. Pretrial Services officers also served as adjunct professors and mentors at the National Training Academy/Federal Probation and Pretrial Academy. Staff also participated in and completed local and national leadership development programs and continued involvement with the local community by participating in safety training at a university and organizing the courthouse's Motion for Kids gift collection for underprivileged children.

PRETRIAL DIVERSION

Pretrial Services continued to operate a Pretrial Diversion Program under an agreement with the Office of the U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of Missouri. This is a pre-conviction diversion program in which criminal charges are dismissed if the subject successfully completes the program. Pretrial Services initiated 52 pretrial diversion cases in Fiscal Year 2016.

Additionally, in 2016 Pretrial Services collected \$117,487 in restitution; which is distributed to individual, private, and government victims who sustained financial loss as a result of the divertees' criminal conduct.



District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig and Chief Pretrial Services Officer Mark M. Reichert address a SAIL graduation.

<u>Sentencing Alternatives Improving Lives.</u> In 2015, Pretrial Services implemented (SAIL), a post-guilty plea diversion program. The first year of the program proved to be successful. In 2016, seven defendants graduated from the program; only one was unsuccessfully discharged. The SAIL program is designed to include a period of intensive supervision combined with various services to address the root causes of an individual's criminal conduct. For successful participants, SAIL is an effective tool that avoids incarceration and decreases the likelihood of recidivism.

The SAIL team is a collaborative effort among U.S. District Judge Audrey Fleissig, Senior U.S. District Judge E. Richard Webber, Supervising U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Susan Hendrickson, Senior U.S. Pretrial Services Officer Daniel Diekemper, attorneys from the U.S. Attorney's Office and Federal Public Defender's Office, a treatment provider, and interns from local universities. SAIL defendants are provided various services and resources, such as substance abuse and mental health treatment; General Education Development (GED) and college courses; job training and appropriate clothing for employment; housing, medication, transportation, and veterans' benefits assistance; computers; and groceries.



Senior District Judge E. Richard Webber presents a SAIL graduate.

Moral Reconation Therapy. In 2016, Pretrial Services continued its in-house cognitive behavioral therapy program - Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT). The MRT program saved \$14,202 in treatment costs in FY 2016 and has saved \$74,790 since its implementation in February 2013. Four Pretrial Services officers are certified to facilitate MRT groups. While all SAIL participants were required to complete the MRT program, nondiversion defendants and pretrial divertees were also referred to MRT. In FY 2016, eight defendants successfully completed the MRT program, while only one was unsuccessfully discharged (due to a bond revocation). Defendants beginning their sentence prior to completion of the MRT program were generally permitted to continue in MRT through the Probation Office or Federal Bureau of Prisons.



Reflection of the Old Courthouse

UNITED STATES PROBATION OFFICE

PRESENTENCE REPORTS

The Eastern District Probation Office wrote 849 presentence reports in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, a 44% increase from the previous year. Firearms offenses were the most common crime sentenced (35%), followed by drug and property offenses. (Figure 15)

Figure 15. Probation Office: FY 2016 Presentence Reports, by Offense Type



The Probation Office continued to assist the Southern District of Iowa with its presentence reports, completing an additional 19 reports.

SUPERVISION

The Probation Office was supervising 2,059 exoffenders at the end of FY 2016. As in 2015, the supervision caseload was the largest in the Eighth Circuit and 18th nationally. More than two-fifths of supervisees were convicted of a drug offense, 22% of a property offense, 17% of a firearms offense, and 14% of a sex offense. Based on the Risk Prediction Index, which is completed on each person under supervision, the Eastern District's Probation Office continued to have among the highest risk caseloads nationally.¹⁰ Despite the high risk caseload, the Probation Office's revocation rate was only 8.3%, the same as last fiscal year.¹¹ This was lower than the revocation rate in 43 of the 94 United States District Courts' probation offices.

Ex-offenders released early due to a number of nationwide sentencing initiatives arrived in Residential Reentry Centers (RRC) and the community. The Probation Office's Reentry Unit provided an orientation to supervision, including a 90 day program to assist ex-offenders with education, employment, housing, cognitive programming, and family reunification. A second U.S. Department of Labor grant was awarded to Father's Support Center, which provides skill training and employment assistance to residents of the RRC.

Treatment resources continued to be directed to moderate and high risk offenders. The Probation Office maintained 60 contracts with drug treatment, mental health, and sex offender treatment providers. During FY 2016, \$516,172 was invested on mental health treatment, \$425,553 was spent on sex offender treatment, and \$1,095,017 was spent on drug treatment. Combined, spending on treatment resources increased by 17%.

The Probation Office continues to be one of only two districts in the country with an in-house GED program. Individuals are also encouraged to enroll in higher education. Through the Reach Higher community partnership with the Caritas Connection and St. Gerard Majella Catholic Church, 61 laptop computers were donated to ex-offenders and their children to facilitate obtaining education and employment. This is an increase from FY 2015, when 52 laptops were donated. Other community

¹⁰ The nationally used Risk Prediction Index (RPI) predicts the likelihood of reoffending based upon factors such as criminal history, education, and family support.

¹¹ Of 3,020 supervisees during FY16, 250 were revoked.

partnerships include Money Smart (a financial literacy program) and Project Home (helping individuals improve financial stability and increasing their likelihood of home ownership).

Second Chance Act resources continued to provide skill training in construction, welding, Certified Nurses Aid, and Commercial Driver License certification. Skill training in forklift operation and auto mechanics was added in 2016. This funding also provided emergency services to assist with transportation, housing, and utility assistance. The Probation Office invested \$355,907 in Second Chance Act funding (a 3% increase from last year – more than \$10,000), more than any other district in the nation, helping to keep its supervisees' unemployment rate among the lowest in the system.

In addition to employment being one of the most important factors reducing recidivism, research indicates family support is also vital to successful reintegration. The Probation Office's family team travelled with a group of mothers and children to attend a Family Day at the Greenville Federal Correctional Institution. The family team continued to provide family videoconferencing between inmates and families and also utilized this technology with inmates who were granted clemency to assist with reentry.



Despite ongoing programming opportunities for exoffenders, a number of them will continue criminal activity. The Probation Office remains the only district in the nation to have expanded immediate sanctions (a weekend in jail as an alternative to revocation or placement in a Residential Reentry Center) that are available in reentry courts to all cases under supervision through an agreement with the Bureau of Prisons. The location and movement of high risk offenders continued to be tracked by location monitoring. Additionally, the Probation Office's search and surveillance teams respond immediately to prevent criminal activity and apprehend those who re-offend. These teams continued to provide training to other districts and assist with national policy development. Finally, the Probation Office now has a forensic laboratory and the federal courts' only drug dog.

STAFF RECOGNITION

Senior Probation Officer Koda Whitehead Hendrix received the 2016 Federal Probation and Pretrial Officers Association's Central Region Line Officer of the Year Award and the National Line Officer of the Year Award. Ms. Hendrix has a master's degree in legal studies and completed the Federal Judicial Center's Leadership Development Program. She has been employed by the Eastern District Probation Office since 2006. Ms. Hendrix initiated a job- readiness curriculum for offenders without job-readiness and job-seeking skills in the Residential Reentry Centers in St. Louis.



Koda Whitehead Hendrix (center front), joined by Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel and Chief Probation Officer Douglas Burris, was presented the National Line Officer of the Year Award by FPPOA President Jennifer Morris.

REETNRY COURTS

The Probation Office initiated development of four reentry courts. Reentry courts provide targeted groups under supervision with accountability, resources and support to assist them in being successful as they return to the community. These courts continue to produce impressive results.

Project Expanding Addicts' Recovery Network (EARN). Project EARN began in April, 2008 as an intensive supervision program in the Eastern District and was designed to assist high risk offenders actively suffering from years of addiction. At the inception of the program, U.S. District Judge Carol E. Jackson oversaw court proceedings relative to Project EARN. After several years of dedicated and tireless service, she relinquished her duties, and was succeeded by U.S. Magistrate Judge David D. Noce. The project team includes representatives from the U.S. Probation Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Public Defender's Office, and community treatment providers.



Magistrate Judge David N. Noce congratulates a Project Earn graduate.

Project Gang Re-entry Initiative Program (GRIP). Project GRIP is a voluntary reentry court program in the Eastern District that started in 2010 and remains the only gang court in the federal judiciary. Project GRIP assists gang-involved individuals with their chances of success upon release from incarceration to supervision. This program employs a comprehensive approach that connects individuals with resources, training and support that will improve their social, educational and vocational abilities. The project team is led by U.S. District Judge Henry E. Autrey and includes representatives from the U.S. Probation Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Public Defender's Office, and treatment providers and other community partners.



District Judge Henry A. Autrey presents a Project GRIP participant with a graduation plaque.

As an example of the successful reentry fostered by Project GRIP; one participant, who was formerly a leader of the Texas Syndicate, relocated to this jurisdiction when he was unable to return to his family due to a gang hit on him and the murder of a family member by the gang. While on supervision here; he received his high school equivalency, started college courses, and maintained employment before graduating from Project GRIP. He accomplished all this while relocating to a city in which he knew no one and had to start his life over. He described the probation office as his "lifeline" and believes he finally found a supportive community in Saint Louis, which is contributing to his success.

Veterans Court. Veterans Court began in October 2011 and assists veterans reentering the community with connecting to resources and support. Participants may either be sentenced to probation or released from the Bureau of Prisons, entering Veterans Court immediately upon release. Criteria for Veterans Court are an honorable discharge and eligibility for services through the Department of Veterans Affairs. After observing a Veterans Court session, those who wish to 'Voluntary sign a participate Participant Agreement'. U.S. District Judge Stephen Limbaugh, Jr. presides over the Veterans Court. Team members include representatives from the U.S. Probation Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Public Defender's Office, and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). A Veterans Justice Outreach Specialist from the VA works closely with the Probation Office and veterans to arrange and refer for services. Veterans Court participants also received assistance from the Missouri Veterans Commission and Missouri Career Center and Vocational Rehabilitation. The former assisted participants with applying for service-related (monetary) benefits; while the latter assisted with employment and job training and also provided a mentor to meets with participants before and after court.

As an example of the successful reentry fostered by Veterans Court; a participant graduated from Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) with a degree in Social Work. The day he graduated from SEMO, Judge Limbaugh presented him with his employment letter and early discharge. He was later hired by the Missouri Department of Social Services as a Youth Specialist. In 2016, this graduate testified before the Colson Task Force regarding how Veterans Court assisted him in his success.

Janis C. Good Mental Health Court. The Janis C. Good Mental Health Court began in December 2013 and addresses the unique needs of individuals diagnosed with serious and persistent mental illness, as well as those with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse (if the mental illness is the primary barrier). U.S. District Judge John A. Ross, Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge Nannette Baker, and U.S. Magistrate Judge Noelle Collins lead the Janis C. Good Mental Health Court. The team includes representatives from the U.S. Probation Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Public Defender's Office, National Alliance of Mental Illness in St. Louis, and two treatment providers.



District Judge John A. Ross addresses a Janis C. Good Mental Health Court graduation.

As an example of the successful reentry fostered by Janis C. Good Mental Health Court; a graduate who had been convicted of multiple bank robberies had a multitude of mental health concerns and physical health ailments that led her to participate in this reentry program. Her children were always a priority for her, and with the support she received through the mental health court she managed to maintain housing for her children and grandchildren. Because of the comraderie that developed among the mental health court participants, she was a consistent presence.



Janis C. Good Mental Health Court graduates

PUBLIC EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ublic education and community outreach continued to be a priority for the Eighth Circuit, Eastern District of Missouri, and Judicial Learning Center. The Court's education and outreach efforts grow each year, connecting through a variety of approaches with a wide and ever-expanding range of audiences and age groups. The ongoing courthouse tour program remained the primary means by which students and learners of all ages experienced the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse. This popular program has grown each year since its inception. There is a long list of teachers who bring students every year and build their course curriculum around the tour experience. In 2016 more than 5,300 participants in educational and outreach programs visited the courthouse - the most visitors ever! (Figure 16) For the 5-year time period from 2012 to 2016, the number of documented visitors increased by an estimated 41%, while the number of groups increased by almost 50%. In addition, the Judicial Learning Center's average number of daily webusers exceeded 1,700 in 2016, increasing by 17% from the previous year.

Figure 16. T.F. Eagleton United States Courthouse Visitor and Website Statistics, by Calendar Year



The Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse is a destination for those wishing to learn more about the federal court system. Throughout the year, several groups made up of pre-law, law, and master of law students participated in specialized educational programs. Mock trials for students and young lawyers were hosted in the courtrooms. Additionally, visits from foreign judges, lawyers, and government officials were common. Of special note, in 2016 the Eastern District court joined the other court units in the building to welcome a select group of staff from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts from Washington D.C. Approximately 20 employees of the Administrative Office spent a week in St. Louis and participated in an intense orientation during which they received comprehensive instruction on all aspects of court operations.

JUDICIAL LEARNING CENTER

The Judicial Learning Center is located in the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse. The Judicial Learning Center is an independent Missouri not-for-profit corporation.¹² Its mission is to promote public understanding of the function and value of the judicial branch of government and the importance of an independent judiciary and the rule of law in American society. The educational website of The Judicial Learning Center surpassed 1 million views in 2016. The Judicial Learning Center continued to expand its community involvement in 2016, forming a Teacher Advisory Council and becoming a member of the St. Louis Convention and Visitors Commission.



12 http://judiciallearningcenter.org/our-mission/

LAW DAY

or the third consecutive year, the Eastern District of Missouri's Law Day activities, hosted in collaboration with the Eighth Circuit and the Judicial Learning Center, was honored by the American Bar Association with its Outstanding Activity Award for Best Student Program.



Chief Magistrate Judge Nannette A. Baker accepts the award from Harry S. Johnson, Chair of the Standing Committee on Public Education, at the National Conference of Bar Presidents' breakfast during the American Bar Association's Midyear Meeting in Miami, Fl.

The annual observance of Law Day focused on the anniversary of the decision in *Miranda v. Arizona*. Students from Belleville East High School and East St. Louis High School participated in classroom activities and an essay contest about *Miranda* in preparation for the April event at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse. On event day, the students met federal judges and several attorneys, who coached them as they participated in a courtroom simulation of an evidentiary hearing.



Law Day participants talk with a U.S. Federal Prosecutor in a U.S. District courtroom at the TF Eagleton Courthouse.

CONSTITUTION DAY

he Eighth Circuit, the Missouri Bar Office of Citizenship Education, and HEC-TV in St. Louis partnered to host the annual live broadcast of Constitution Day activity from the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse.¹³ The program commemorated the 50th anniversary of Miranda v. Arizona for which it won a regional Emmy from the Mid-America chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Local students participated as the studio audience during a panel discussion, which was broadcast from the William H. Webster Ceremonial Courtroom on the third floor. Expert panelists included a federal judge, a law professor, and a former state assistant attorney general. Participating high schools included Fort Zumwalt South, McCluer South-Berkeley, Webster Groves, and Soldan.



Constitution Day participants at the HEC-TV studio.

EDUCATIONAL & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

T<u>eacher Workshops</u>. The Court's outreach to educators is critical to the overall educational initiative. Through teachers and other educators, key messages are multiplied as teachers use what they've learned with student groups. In 2016, three key programs were offered for the education community: the annual Summer Teacher Institute in St. Louis, the new Summer Teacher Institute in Cape Girardeau, and the new Homeschool Educator Institute in St. Louis. The educator mailing list had approximately 750 subscribers as of December 2016.

¹³ The archived program can be viewed at

http://www.hectv.org/watch/hec-tv-live/constitution-day-2016-themiranda-decision/



<u>Student Events.</u> In partnership with the Eastern District court, the Women Lawyers' Association of St. Louis and the local chapter of the Federal Bar Association both hosted student events at the courthouse in 2016. The Women Lawyers' Association Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse brought in a group from Cardinal Ritter College Prep High School. These students learned about careers in law and were treated to lunch conversation with local judges and lawyers.



The Federal Bar Association welcomed 5th and 6th graders from Sigel Elementary School. While at the courthouse, these students were coached by lawyers and judges to argue an unscripted mock trial.



The annual Optimist Club Youth in Government event in Cape Girardeau was a huge success. All offices and agencies in the Rush H. Limbaugh Sr. U.S. Courthouse joined in to guide the students through a simulation of a federal sentencing. <u>Conferences, Seminars & Speakers.</u> In 2016 the Eastern District court partnered with The First Amendment Center at the Newseum Institute in Washington, D.C. to host a regional Justice and Journalism Conference in St. Louis. The conference brought together federal and state judges and journalists from print, radio, and television discussion and mutual problem solving.

For adult members of the community, monthly seminars offered through the Oasis Institute in St. Louis are always popular and well-received. Topics are current, and each session draws between 40-60 participants. 2016 saw an increase in the use of outside presenters, and topics included Human Trafficking, Immigration Law, Dred Scott, Landmark Cases Banning Racial Discrimination, and several case studies by local prosecutors of high-profile cases. Also, the Eastern District in conjunction with The Missouri Bar offered the Mini-Law School for the Public in St. Louis and Cape Girardeau.

<u>Scouting.</u> The Court's summer merit badge programs for Boy & Girl Scouts continued to be among the most popular programs. One-hundred and five Boy Scouts (66 in St. Louis and 39 in Cape Girardeau) earned the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge. Twenty-six Junior Girl Scouts earned the Inside Government Badge, and ten Cadette Girl Scouts earned the Finding Common Ground Badge.



NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

Naturalization ceremonies continued to be an important function of the Court. In 2016, the Eastern District court facilitated 31 ceremonies. While most ceremonies held in St. Louis took place at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse in St. Louis, several off-site locations were utilized - including the Ulysses S. Grant Site, Saint Louis University School of Law, Harris Stowe State University, Missouri History Museum, St. Charles Community College, and the International Institute of St. Louis. Several ceremonies coinciding with special days, such as Flag Day and Independence Day, were held at The Old Courthouse in St. Louis. In addition, the Eastern District court held a naturalization ceremony at the Common Pleas Courthouse in Cape Girardeau.



District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr. presides over the July 4th Naturalization Ceremony at the Common Pleas Courthouse in Cape Girardeau.

In recognition of Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, a naturalization ceremony was held at The Old Courthouse in St. Louis. This ceremony was part of a national initiative during which people became U.S. citizens at ceremonies held at more than 40 locations across the United States. Many of these ceremonies took place at national parks and historic places, chosen to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service.



Magistrate John M. Bodenhausenpresides over the Constitution & Citizenship Day Naturalization Ceremony at the Old Courthouse in St. Louis.

STAFF RECOGNITION

The Missouri Bar presented the E.A. Richter Award to Rachel E. Marshall. Ms. Marshall is the Public Education and Community Outreach Administrator for the Eastern District and the Eighth Circuit. The Missouri Bar Advisory Committee for Citizenship Education established the Richter Award to recognize outstanding contributions to citizenship education efforts in the state. Past winners include secondary and elementary teachers, college professors and exemplary secondary and elementary law-related education programs. This is the second time Ms. Marshall has been honored with this award.



Rachel E. Marshal, joined by Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel, accepts the award from Millie Aulbur, Director of Citizenship Education for The Missouri Bar.

Section Two

SERVING THE BENCH & BAR

STAFF TRANSITIONS

A number of notable staff changes occurred in the Eastern District of Missouri during 2016, including the start of new chief judge tenures and new appointments to the bench.

> THE HONORABLE RODNEY W. SIPPEL BEGINS TENURE AS CHIEF JUDGE



The Honorable Rodney W. Sippel became Chief Judge of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri on January 1, 2016.¹⁴ He has been a District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Missouri since he was confirmed by the United States Senate in November of 1997.

In 2009 the Judges of the Eighth Circuit elected Judge Sippel to be their District Court representative on the Judicial Conference of the United States. Chief Justice Roberts appointed Judge Sippel to the Judicial Conference's Executive Committee. In addition to serving on the Executive Committee, he served as the Executive Committee liaison to the Judicial Conference Committee on Federal and State Jurisdiction and was the liaison between the Federal Judiciary and the Conference of State Court Chief Justices. From 2009 through 2014 Judge Sippel served on the Executive Committee of the Federal Judges Association.

Judge Sippel also served on the Judicial Conference's Judicial Branch Committee from 2001 through 2010. Chief Justice John Roberts reappointed him to the Judicial Branch Committee in 2015 to serve as the Chair of the committee. Judge Sippel currently serves as Chair of the Judicial Conference Committee on the Judicial Branch.

Judge Sippel is a graduate of the University of Tulsa and received his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

THE HONORABLE NANNETTE A. BAKER BEGINS TENURE AS CHIEF MAGISTRATE JUDGE



The Honorable Nannette A. Baker began her tenure as Chief Magistrate Judge of the Eastern District in January 2016. She will serve in this capacity for five years.

¹⁴ This, or similar, information also appeared in the United States Courts, Eighth Circuit 2015 Annual Report. Prepared by the Office of the Circuit Executive.

The Honorable David D. Noce Appointed to 6^{TH} term as a U. S. Magistrate Judge



The Honorable David D. Noce was appointed to his sixth eight-year term as a Magistrate Judge. completed 22 years of distinguished service as a Magistrate Judge in 2015, including a term as Chief Magistrate Judge.¹⁶ He is a member of several committees of the District Court and is the presiding judge of Project EARN, the district court's Drug Court. He currently serves as Chair of the Model Civil Jury Instructions Subcommittee for the District Courts of the Eighth Circuit. He is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Administrative Office publication Federal Probation. Judge Noce is an editor of the Federal Courts Law Review and is an adjunct law professor at St. Louis University School of Law, presenting the course Jury Instructions and the Trial Process.



U.S. Magistrate Judge David D. Noce celebrates 40 years of service.

Patricia L. Cohen Appointed U.S. Magistrate Judge



The Honorable Patricia L. Cohen was sworn in as a Magistrate Judge in January 2016. Judge Cohen replaced Judge Thomas C. Mummert III. Judge Cohen received her law degree from Cornell Law School and her undergraduate degree, with high honors, from the University of Michigan. Judge Cohen served as a law clerk to Judge Jean Hamilton while Judge Hamilton was on the Missouri Court of Appeals and was in private practice for 15 years. Judge Cohen's practice was devoted primarily to the litigation of labor, employment and civil rights matters in state and federal courts throughout the country, representing both plaintiffs and defendants. In 1997, Judge Cohen was appointed to the Circuit Court for the City of St. Louis by the late Governor Mel Carnahan. During her years on the Circuit Court, Judge Cohen presided over numerous civil and felony criminal cases and served a year as the presiding judge over the criminal divisions. In 2003, Judge Cohen was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals by Governor Bob Holden. She served as Chief Judge of the Missouri Court of Appeals from 2007-2008 and was the statewide chair of the Board of Certified Court Reporters for many years.



NATIONAL, CIRCUIT AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE & COURT ACTIVITIES

The Eastern District of Missouri is privileged to have District and Magistrate Judges who serve beyond the bench. Judges of the court continue to serve on committees that improve the administration of justice throughout the federal judiciary and preside over treatment courts dedicated to reducing recidivism and improving lives.

U.S. DISTRICT JUDGES

- Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel serves as the Chair of the Judicial Conference of the United States (JCUS) Committee on the Judicial Branch.
- District Judge Carol E. Jackson continued to serve on the Federal Judicial Center's (FJC) Committee on District Judge Education, contributing to many of its educational programs. She served as Faculty for both the National Workshop for District Judges and the Seminar for Mid-Career District Judges, as a Mentor Judge for the Orientation for New District Judges, and as a Member of the Judicial Competencies Working Group.
- District Judge Catherine D. Perry serves on the United States Judicial Panel of Multidistrict Litigation. She also continued as the Eastern District's representative to the Eighth Circuit Judicial Council, serving on the circuit's Defender Services, Rules, Ad Hoc Committee on Death Penalty Cases, and Jury System committees. Judge Perry also continued to serve on the district's Budget and Criminal Justice Act committees.

COMMITTEE & COURT ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

- District Judge Henry A. Autrey presided over Project G.R.I.P, a re-entry court for gang members seeking redirection. He also continued to serve as Chair of the Eastern District's Court Security Committee and as Court member of the district's IT Advisory Council.
- District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh Jr. presided of the Eastern District's Veterans Court. He also continued to serve on the Eighth Circuit's Committee on Model Jury Instructions.
- District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig co-presided of Pretrial Services' SAIL diversion program. She also continued to serve on the JCUS's Committee on Court Administration and Case Management. Judge Fleissig continued to chair the Eastern District's Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee.
- District Judge John A. Ross presided over the Eastern District's Janis C. Good Mental Health Court. He also continued to serve on the JCUS's Committee on Defender Services.
- District Judge Ronnie L. White served on the Eastern District's Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Committee. He was a panelist and round table participant at the 11th Annual Federal Practice Fundamentals seminar for attorneys recently admitted to the district's Bar and a judge for the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis' Mock Trial Competition.

U.S. SENIOR DISTRICT JUDGES

- Senior District Judge E. Richard Webber copresided over Pretrial Services' SAIL diversion program.
- Senior District Judge Jean C. Hamilton continued to serve the JCUS's Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules.

U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGES

- Chief Magistrate Judge Baker co-presided over the Eastern District's Janis C. Good Mental Health Court.
- Magistrate Judge David D. Noce was the presiding judge of Project EARN, the Eastern District's Drug Court and was a member of several of the district's committees. He served as Chair of the Model Civil Jury Instructions Subcommittee for the District Courts of the Eighth Circuit. Judge Noce was a member of the Advisory Committee of the Administrative Office publication *Federal Probation*.
- Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah was appointed by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. as the Magistrate Judge representative for JCUS's Defender Services.
- Magistrate Judge Noelle C. Collins co-presided over the Eastern District's Janis C. Good Mental Health Court and Project G.R.I.P. She was also elected the Eighth Circuit's Director of the Federal Magistrate Judges Association.
- Magistrate Judge Abbie Crites-Leoni was appointed to serve on the Eastern District's Criminal Justice Act Committee.



U.S. Magistrate Judges of the Eastern District of Missouri

ACADEMICS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

udges from the Eastern District of Missouri continue to contribute to the improvement of the legal profession and criminal justice system through their activities in academic institutions and professional organizations. These include:

- Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel served on the Executive Committee of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis.
- District Judge Henry A. Autrey served on the Board of Directors for the Eighth Circuit Bar Association.
- District Judge Ronnie L. White was a member of the St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Mound City Bar Associations.
- Chief Magistrate Judge Baker was elected to membership in the American Law Institute. She is the Immediate Past Chair of the American Bar Association's National Conference of Federal Trial Judges.
- Magistrate Judge David D. Noce was an editor of the Federal Courts Law Review. He was also an adjunct law professor at St. Louis University School of Law, presenting the course Jury Instructions and the Trial Process.
- Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah was an Adjunct Professor of Trial Practice and Procedure at Washington University School of Law.





U.S. District and Senior District Judges of the Eastern District of Missouri

JUDICIAL RECOGNITION & HONORS

udges of the Eastern District of Missouri received a number of professional honors in Calendar Year 2016. Among these are:

District Judge Catherine D. Perry received the American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Eighth Circuit.¹⁵ This award is given to those whose life and practice display character, integrity, and dedication to the highest standards of the legal profession and rule of law. Judge Perry was heavily involved in founding the Theodore McMillian Inns of Court at St. Louis University and the Judicial Learning Center at the Eagleton Courthouse.



The Honorable Catherine D. Perry receives the American Inns of Professionalism Award for the Eighth Circuit at the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference.

 15 This, or similar, information also appeared in the 8^{th} Circuit Library Newsletter, Vol. 2016, Issue No. 5.
District Judge Henry E. Autrey was inducted into St. Louis University's School of Law 'Order of the Fleur de Lis Hall of Fame'. Induction into the hall is the School of Law's highest honor and recognizes the pursuit of truth and service to humanity.¹⁶



The Honorable Henry E. Autrey is inducted into the Order of the Fleur de Lis Hall of Fame. Pictured with Judge Autrey are Dean Michael Wolff (former Missouri Supreme Court Justice) and student presenter Mark Timmerman. Photo by Kevin Lowder, courtesy of SLU LAW.

District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig was selected by the 2016 Women's Justice Awards selection committee as Missouri Lawyers Weekly's Woman of the Year. The award honors Judge Fleissig's contributions to improving the quality of justice and exemplifying the ideals of the legal profession's highest ideals.¹⁷



The Honorable Audrey G. Fleissig receives the Missouri Lawyers Weekly's Woman of the Year award.

District Judge Ronnie L. White received the Margaret Bush Wilson Lifetime Achievement Award from the St. Louis County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He was also honored with a Proclamation (for a career full of achievement) from St. Louis County and a Resolution from the St. Louis Chapter and nation body of The Moles.



The Honorable Ronnie L. White.

Chief Magistrate Judge Nannette A. Baker received the Alumni Professional Achievement Award from the University of Tennessee Alumni Board of Directors. This award recognizes alumni who have achieved a high level of success in their chosen field, and through that success has brought honor and credit to the University of Tennessee.



The Honorable Nannette A. Baker receives the Alumni Professional Achievement Award from University of Tennessee – Knoxville Chancellor Jimmy Cheek.

¹⁶ This, or similar, information also appeared in the 8th Circuit Library Newsletter, Vol. 2016, Issue No. 10.

 $^{^{17}}$ This, or similar, information also appeared in the 8^{th} Circuit Library Newsletter, Vol. 2016, Issue No. 4.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

FEDERAL PRACTICE FUNDAMENTALS

he Eastern District of Missouri and the Federal Practice Memorial Trust held the Eleventh Annual Federal Practice Fundamentals (Inside the Federal Courts: A Tutorial for New Practitioners) in November at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse. This annual seminar is targeted at attorneys newly practicing in the federal judiciary. Topics included federal civil procedure, amendments to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, temporary restraining orders, ethical standards & courtroom professionalism, alternative dispute resolution, and electronic filing & case management. Thirty-eight (38) people attended. More than three-quarters of attendees who completed a program evaluation form rated the overall seminar as very useful, a slightly higher proportion than last year. The remainder rated it somewhat useful. Responding attendees described the seminar as an excellent and comprehensive overview with useful handouts for future reference.



Magistrate Judge Shirley A. Padmore Mensah addresses the 11th Annual Federal Practice Fundamentals seminar on civil case procedure in the Eastern District.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT PANEL ATTORNEY SEMINAR

he Fourteenth Annual Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorney Seminar was held in May at the Thomas F. Eagleton Courthouse. District Judge John A. Ross opened the seminar and welcomed attendees. The agenda was covered numerous issues in criminal law. These included:

- U.S. Supreme Court term 2015-16 criminal law & procedure opinions
- Sentencing guidelines changes
- Johnson motions
- Ethics of proffer letters & plea agreements
- Case budgeting
- Ethics of e-discovery

One hundred and ten (110) attorneys attended the seminar. Almost all attendees who completed a program evaluation form rated the overall seminar as very or somewhat useful, and most seminar sessions received a similar rating. Almost three-fifths of responding attendees' additional comments were complimentary to all or a portion of the program.



Attendees at the Criminal Justice Act Panel Attorney Seminar.

BENCH & BAR SEMINARS

The Eastern District of Missouri hosted its annual Bench & Bar Seminar in the Southeastern (Cape Girardeau) and Northern (Hannibal) Divisions.

Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel and District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr. opened the Southeastern Division Bench & Bar Seminar and welcomed attendees. Sessions addressed the Southeast Division's year in review, legal ethics, federal rules updates, and a discussion of the Supreme Court's current term. Other presenters from the Eastern District were Senior Judge E. Richard Webber, Magistrate Judge Abbie Crites-Leoni, Magistrate Judge Patricia L. Cohen, and Clerk of Court Gregory J. Linhares. Outside presenters were Cynthia L. Fountaine, Dean of the Southern Illinois School of Law and Chad W. Flanders, Saint Louis University School of Law.



Magistrate Judge Abbie Crites-Leoni reviews the court's activities for the attendees at the Southeastern Division Bench & Bar Seminar.

Fifty-seven (57) people attended the seminar. Attendees received 4.4 MCLE credit hours. Everyone who completed a program evaluation form rated the overall program as either very or somewhat useful, with the presentation on the Supreme Court's current term receiving the most favorable ratings. Chief Judge Rodney W. Sippel opened the Northern Division Bench & Bar Seminar and welcomed attendees. Sessions addressed the history of the Eastern District, bankruptcy practice, litigation ethics, and federal rules updates. Other presenters from the Eastern District were Senior Judge E. Richard Webber, District Judge Catherine D. Perry, and Magistrate Judge John M. Bodenhausen. Outside presenters were – from the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Missouri – Judge Charles E. Rendlen, Clerk of Court Dana McWay, and Operations Manager Donna Bard; Diana Daugherty, Office of Chapter 13 Trustee, Michael Downey, Attorney at Law; and Burton Boxerman, historian.



The Judges' Roundtable at the Southeastern Division's Bench & Bar Seminar. From left to right, participating judges are Senior District Judge E. Richard Webber, District Judge Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr., Magistrate Judge Abbie Crites-Leoni, and Magistrate Judge Patricia L. Cohen.

Thirty-five (35) people attended the seminar. Attendees received 3.3 MCLE credit hours. As with the Southeastern Division seminar, everyone who completed a program evaluation form rated the overall program as either very or somewhat useful. The presentation on litigation ethics received the most favorable ratings.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COURT-CERTIFIED NEUTRALS SEMINAR

The Eastern District of Missouri and partnered with the Saint Louis University School of Law to provide the 2016 Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Court Certified Neutrals Seminar. The seminar was held at the Saint Louis University Law School, and a reception followed. Attorneys who attended the seminar earned four (4) hours of accredited continuing legal education in alternative dispute resolution, which fulfilled the Eastern District's biennial continuing education requirement for court-certification.

District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig opened the seminar and welcomed attendees. The seminar agenda was:

- Overview of ADR in the Eastern District
- Friendly Persuasion in Mediation
- Ethics Priorities and Conundrums for Mediators
- Ethical Issues in Mediation panel discussion
- Ask the Judges panel discussion

Eighty (80) attorneys attended the seminar. More than nine-tenths of attendees who completed a program evaluation form rated the overall program as either very or somewhat useful. Responding attendees described the seminar as well presented with good information and an opportunity to hear about others' experiences.



District Judge Audrey G. Fleissig moderates the 'Ask the Judge' panel discussion at the ADR Court-Certified Neutrals Seminar. From left to right, participating judges are Magistrate Judge John M. Bodenhausen, District Judge Carol E. Jackson, District Judge John A. Ross, District Judge Ronnie L. White, Magistrate Judge Noelle C. Collins, and Magistrate Judge David D. Noce.

Professor James A. Wall, Jr. of the University of Missouri presented *Friendly Persuasion in Mediation*. He reviewed the literature on the affects mediator techniques may have on mediation outcomes. Dr. Wall shared his original research on mediators' perception and behavior during the mediation process. He also outlined effective strategies and tactics mediators could employ, and behaviors to avoid, to improve the effectiveness of mediation.



Professor James A. Wall, Jr of the University of Missouri-Columbia addresses the attendees on effective techniques in mediation.

Retired United States Magistrate Judge Karen Klein presented *Ethics Priorities and Conundrums for Mediators*. She outlined the things mediators must do to remain neutral & impartial, control the mediation process, and maintain confidentiality. Judge Klein also discussed ethical issues for attorneys representing clients in mediation; including the attorney's role in mediation, resolving attorney/client conflicts, confidentiality of settlement terms, and (payment of) court-imposed sanctions.



Former Magistrate Judge Karen Klein, District of North Dakota, addresses the attendees on mediation ethics.

Michael S. Geigerman, Managing Director of United States Arbitration & Mediation, moderated a question and answer session with a panel of mediators. Six hypothetical scenarios that may present ethical dilemmas for the mediator during the mediation process were discussed by the panel members and audience.



Professor Susan A. FitzGibbon introduces the 'Ethical Issues in Mediation' panel discussion. From left to right, participating mediators are Michael S. Geigerman (moderator), Booker T. Shaw, Professor Karen Tokarz, James W. Reeves, Judge Karen Klein, Colleen C. Jones, and Peter J. Dunne.

U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE UTILIZATION

CIVIL CASE ASSIGNMENT

By local rule 2.08(a), the Eastern District's Magistrate Judges are eligible to be directly assigned new civil cases at filing – excluding prisoner petitions, bankruptcy appeals, civil forfeiture cases; Multidistrict Litigation filings & transfers; and cases with motions for temporary restraining orders or class certifications. In 2016, 671 new civil filings were directly assigned to the Eastern District's magistrate judges, an estimated 33% of available cases. (Table 18) {*See table in next column.*} For the 5-year time period from 2012 to 2016, the numbers of new civil cases available to and assigned to Magistrate Judges decreased by about one-tenth.

Table 18. Magistrate Judge Utilization –
2016 Utilization Statistics and 2012-16 Averages

Maggurag	2016	201	2-16
Measures	2010	Average	% Change
new civil case filings	2,491	2,569	-6%
assigned exclusively to US District Judges	474	433	5%
available to US Magistrate Judges	2,017	2,135	-11%
assigned to US Magistrate Judges	671	681	-14%
% of new assigned to US Magistrate Judges	33%	32%	-4%

CIVIL CONSENT AND CONSENT DISPOSITIONS

n accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636(c), upon consent of parties, a U.S. Magistrate Judge may conduct any or all proceedings in a jury or nonjury civil matter and order the entry of judgment in the case. For new civil filings initially assigned to magistrate judges in 2016, the Eastern District's estimated full consent rate was 52%. For the 5year time period from 2012 to 2016, the Eastern District's consent rate averaged 59%.

The Eastern District consistently has one of the highest counts of civil consent terminations by magistrate judges in the federal judiciary. In 2016, there were 406 in the Eastern District, which was the tenth highest among the 94 U.S. District Courts.¹⁸ For the 5-year time period from 2012 to 2016, the number of civil consent terminations by the Eastern District's magistrate judges decreased by an estimated 27%, ranging from 406 to 546 with an average of 493. In contrast, civil consent terminations terminated by magistrate judges increased by an estimated 10% nationally.

¹⁸ Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts. Table M-5. U.S. District Courts – Civil Consent Cases Terminated by U.S. Magistrate Judges under 28 U.S.C. Section 636(c).

ATTORNEY APPOINTMENTS & REPRESENTATION

ASSIGNMENTS IN CIVIL CASES

n 2016, 20 attorneys were appointed pro bono counsel in 15 civil cases in the Eastern District of Missouri. This is similar to 2015, when there were 16 pro bono counsel appointments in 16 civil cases. In broad categories, 2016 pro bono appointments were in prisoner petition (18), tort (1), and contract (1) cases.

REPRESENTATION IN CRIMINAL CASES

n 2016, the Federal Public Defender's Office accounted for more than one-half of criminal defendants with attorney representation, while private attorneys appointed under the Criminal Justice Act and privately retained attorneys accounted for less than one-quarter each.¹⁹ (Figure 17)

Figure 17. 2016 Attorney Representation in Criminal Cases, by Attorney Status



For the 5-year time period from 2012 to 2016, the number of criminal defendants represented by the Federal Public Defender's Office increased by an estimated 45%. (Table 19) This is approximately three-times the increase for representation under the Criminal Justice Act or by privately retained attorneys.

Table 19. Attorney Representation in Criminal Cases – 2016 Entries of Appearance (EoA) and 2012-16 Averages & Trends

		2012-	2016
Measures	2016 EoA	Average	Percent Change
Federal Public Defender	964	818	45%
Criminal Justice Act	351	310	12%
Privately retained	395	387	15%



Attorney attendees at the Eastern District's Criminal Justice Act Program.

¹⁹ Data include multiple entries of appearance/appointments in a single case and representation in probation and supervised release revocation proceedings.



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2012-2016 New Case Filings Report January 1 – December 31						
Division/Case Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Civil Cases ¹	2012	2010	2011	2010	2010	
EASTERN CIVIL CASES	2,401	2,621	2,118	1,959	2,107	
SOUTHEASTERN CIVIL CASES	216	197	189	242	295	
Northern Civil Cases	93	116	110	90	89	
TOTAL CIVIL CASES	2,710	2,934	2,417	2,291	2,532	
CRIMINAL CASES ²	- JI		I			
EASTERN CRIMINAL CASES	420	467	349	508	512	
Felony Cases	388	436	329	484	488	
MISDEMEANOR CASES	32	31	20	24	24	
SOUTHEASTERN CRIMINAL CASES	127	103	94	128	120	
FELONY CASES	71	86	68	96	106	
MISDEMEANOR CASES	56	17	26	32	14	
TOTAL FELONY CASES	459	522	397	580	594	
TOTAL MISDEMEANOR CASES	88	48	46	56	38	
TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES	547	570	443	636	632	
CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS						
EASTERN CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS	610	709	555	712	758	
FELONY DEFENDANTS	578	678	534	688	729	
 MISDEMEANOR DEFENDANTS 	32	31	21	24	29	
SOUTHEASTERN CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS	150	121	108	139	135	
 Felony Defendants 	94	104	82	107	120	
 Misdemeanor Defendants 	56	17	26	32	15	
TOTAL FELONY DEFENDANTS	672	782	616	795	849	
TOTAL MISDEMEANOR DEFENDANTS	88	48	47	56	44	
TOTAL CRIMINAL DEFENDANTS	760	830	663	851	893	
MISCELLANEOUS CASES ³						
EASTERN MISCELLANEOUS CASES	715	663	728	596	748	
SOUTHEASTERN MISCELLANEOUS CASES	35	40	15	26	25	
TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS CASES	750	703	743	622	773	
TOTAL NEW CASE FILINGS ⁴	4,007	4,207	3,603	3,549	3,937	

APPENDIX A

New civil case filings include sealed civil cases and Multidistrict Litigation transfer cases, but exclude reopened cases.
 New criminal case filings include sealed criminal cases and excludes probation/supervised release transfers.
 New miscellaneous case filings include sealed miscellaneous cases.
 Total new case filings include civil, criminal, and miscellaneous case filings.

2016 Civil Caseload Report – I							
	District	Eastern	Southeastern	Northern			
Total Civil Case Filings ¹	2,532	2,144	299	89			
New Civil Case Filings ²	2,491	2,107	295	89			
Reopened Case Filings	41	37	4				
Civil Case Filings by Type	2,532	2,144	299	89			
Contracts	230	207	18	5			
Real Property	34	29	4	1			
Torts	566	537	25	4			
Civil Rights	224	200	17				
Prisoner Petitions	744	545	169	30			
Forfeiture/Penalty	9	9					
Labor	193	184	8				
Immigration	5	5		· · · · ·			
Intellectual Property Rights	42	40	2				
Social Security	258	173	45	40			
Tax Suits	4	4	10	10			
Bankruptcy	21	20	1				
Other Statutes	202	191	10				
Civil Cases Closed by Type	3,623	3,286	273	64			
Contracts	253	231	19	3			
Real Property	35	34	1	5			
Torts	1652	1629	18	5			
Civil Rights	222	207	10	3			
Prisoner Petitions	693	529	144				
Forfeiture/Penalty		<u> </u>	144	20			
Labor	188	179	8				
Immigration	5	5	0	I			
Intellectual Property Rights	56	54	2				
Social Security	237	147	59				
Tax Suits	4	4		51			
Bankruptcy	13	12	1				
	256	246	9				
Other Statutes Civil Cases Pending by Type	2,466	2,153	209	104			
Contracts	2,400	2,153	14	7			
Real Property	17	12	3	2			
Torts		·····	22				
	762 209	736 175	22	4 13			
Civil Rights							
Prisoner Petitions Forfeiture/Penalty	600 9	493 9		27			
			E				
Labor Immigration		155 2	5				
			1				
Intellectual Property Rights	27	26		40			
Social Security	304	199		49			
Tax Suits	3	3					
Bankruptcy	12	12		<u></u>			
Other Statutes	159	150	7	2			
Performance Measures	1E O month-	16 0 months	10.0 manili -	0.0 month -			
Average Age of Pending Cases	15.2 months	16.0 months	10.0 months	9.9 months			
Clearance Rate	1.43	1.53	0.91	0.72			
Mean Time to Disposition	26.2 months	28.0 months	7.7 months	11.8 months			
Mean Time to Disposition (5% trimmed) 3	27.1 months	27.1 months	7.2 months	11.7 months			
Median Time to Disposition	34.0 months	8.2 months	3.2 months	13.1 months			
Inventory Control Index	8.2 months	7.9 months	9.2 months	19.2 months			

APPENDIX B

Total civil case filings include sealed civil cases, Multidistrict Litigation transfer cases, and reopened cases. New civil case filings include sealed civil cases and MDL transfer cases, but exclude reopened cases. 5% trimmed mean excludes the lowest and highest 2.5% of disposition times from the calculation of the mean. 1. 2. 3.

	2016 Civil Caseload Report – II							
	District	Eastern	Southeastern	Northern				
Total MDL Transfer Case Filings ¹	44	44	0	0				
MDL 1964	41	41		· ·				
MDL 2669	3	3						
Filings with Pro Se Party(ies) by Type	651	485	139	27				
Self-Represented (SR)	108	95	12	1				
Contracts	4	4		•				
Real Property	4	3	1					
Torts	12	11	1					
Civil Rights	56	53	3					
Prisoner Petitions ²	13	9	4					
Forfeiture/Penalty	0	,						
Labor	1	1						
Immigration	0							
Intellectual Property Rights	0							
Social Security	12	9	2	1				
Tax Suits	0	/	۷۲					
Bankruptcy	1	1						
Other Statutes	5	4	1					
Self-Represented Prisoner (SRP)	543	390	127	26				
Contracts	0	J70	127	20				
Real Property	0							
Torts	1	1						
Civil Rights	3	3						
Prisoner Petitions	535	382	127	26				
Forfeiture/Penalty	1		127	20				
Labor	0	I						
Immigration Intellectual Property Rights	0							
	0	1						
Social Security Tax Suits		1						
	0							
Bankruptcy	0							
Other Statutes	2	2	2 & 3 Years					
Civil Cases Pending, by Type & Age Total Civil Cases Pending	<1 Year	1 & 2 Years		>3 Years				
÷	1,549 141	436 47	202 10	279 4				
Contracts				4				
Real Property	14	2	1	210				
Torts	443	50	50	219				
Civil Rights	158	42	6	3				
Prisoner Petitions	307	148	111	34				
Forfeiture/Penalty	5	2	2					
Labor	111	31	10	8				
Immigration	1	1		-				
Intellectual Property Rights	24	2		1				
Social Security	227	77						
Tax Suits	2	1						
Bankruptcy	12							
Other Statutes	104	33	12	10				

APPENDIX C

1.

MDL refers to Multidistrict Litigation. Counts include filings and transfers in, but do not include reopenings. Prisoner petition cases include miscellaneous cases filed by non-prisoners attacking convictions, such as petitions for writ of coram nobis or audita querela. 2.

2012-2016 Alternative	2012-2016 Alternative Dispute Resolution Activity Report									
Civil Case Categories	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016					
Referrals to ADR		•								
Contracts	117	86	86	90	80					
Real Property	14	4	7	9	4					
Torts	124	93	64	76	82					
Civil Rights	152	123	92	112	85					
Labor	48	61	55	57	40					
Intellectual Property Rights	22	18	18	13	13					
Tax Suits	3	1	1	0	1					
Other	58	68	56	60	62					
Total	538	454	379	417	367					
ADR Settlement Rate										
Contracts	34%	43%	43%	41%	48%					
Real Property	57%	25%	80%	50%	50%					
Torts	42%	49%	52%	48%	50%					
Civil Rights	47%	42%	53%	57%	49%					
Labor	59%	59%	69%	59%	50%					
Intellectual Property Rights	46%	47%	38%	20%	42%					
Tax Suits	0%	0%	0%							
Other	28%	32%	50%	40%	38%					
Total	42%	45%	52%	48%	47%					

APPENDIX D

Alternative Dispute Resolution I	Participant Su	rvey Re	esults	- 201	6 respo	nse	S	
Survey Question			Re	sponse	e Catego	ory		
	Plainti	ff		Defe	ndant			
Relationship to the case	41%	41% 50%			1%			9%
	Contract Dispute	Perso Inju			berty nage	Em	ploymer	nt Other
Type of case	3% 24% 6%		%	% 27%		39%		
	None	1-3	3	4	-6		7-9	10+
Number of prior mediation experiences	41%	26%	%	6	%		0%	26%
	Yes			ln j	oart			No
Case resolved in mediation	42%			9	%			48%
	Yes				lo		N/	A / Resolved
Mediation increased prospect of future resolution	24%			39	9%			36%
	Very Satisfied		Fairl Satisfi			newł atisf		Very Dissatisfied
Satisfaction with mediation	58%		24%	, D		9%		9%
	Decrease time spent		No eff on tin			Increase time spent		Not sure
Effect of mediation on time spent pursing this matter	41%		15%	, D	12% 3		32%	
		Yes					No)
Mediator sufficiently explained mediation process		100%					0%	0
Mediator treated {me} fairly		100%				0%		
	Y€	es		Ν	lot sure			No
Mediator adequately prepared to discuss case	100)%		0%			0%	
Mediator had appropriate level of expertise	97	%			3%		0%	
	Ye	es		I	n part			No
Mediator permitted you/your attorney to fully explain your position	100)%			0%		0%	
Allowed to participate in mediation session as much as {I} wanted	97	%			3%		0%	
Mediator discussed strengths/weaknesses of case		100%					0%	<u> </u>
Mediator recommended how to achieve a settlement		93%					79	
Mediator was persistent in moving to a resolution		93%						-
{I} Felt unfairly pressured to settle by mediator		10%					909	
			Son	nowk	!	Very		
	Very Fairly Satisfied Satisfied			Somewhat Dissatisfied			Dissatisfied	
Overall satisfaction with the mediator	87%		10%	, D		3%		0%
		Yes					No)
Would use mediator again or recommend to others		100%					0%	6
Would use mediation again or recommend to others		100%					0%	6

APPENDIX E

APPENDIX F

2016 Criminal Caseload Report – I							
	District	Eastern	Southeastern	Northern			
Total Criminal Case Filings ¹	632	512	120	0			
Felony Case Filings	594	488	106				
Misdemeanor Case Filings	38	24	14				
Cases Filed by Offense	632	512	120				
Homicide	0						
Robbery	2		2				
Assault	4	4					
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	0						
Larceny & Theft	28	25	3				
Embezzlement	5	3	2				
Fraud	101	96	5				
Auto Theft	3	3					
Forgery & Counterfeiting	6	6					
Sex Offenses	53	40	13				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	12	10	2				
Controlled Substances Offenses	95	64	31				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	285	239	46				
Immigration Laws	13	10	3				
Federal Statutes	25	12	13				
Cases Closed by Offense	602	494	108				
Homicide	0						
Robbery	6	2	4				
Assault	3	3					
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	0						
Larceny & Theft	25	21	4				
Embezzlement	4	3	1				
Fraud	96	87	9				
Auto Theft	0						
Forgery & Counterfeiting	5	5					
Sex Offenses	54	42	12				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	21	17	4				
Controlled Substances Offenses	89	71	18				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	264	225	39				
Immigration Laws	7	4	3				
Federal Statutes	28	14	14				
Cases Pending by Offense	620	531	89				
Homicide	0						
Robbery	2	1	1				
Assault	3	3					
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	0						
Larceny & Theft	25	24	1				
Embezzlement	4	3	1				
Fraud	106	103	3				
Auto Theft	3	3					
Forgery & Counterfeiting	4	4					
Sex Offenses	62	49	13				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	37	35	2				
Controlled Substances Offenses	102	76	26				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	243	209	34				
Immigration Laws	10	9	1				
Federal Statutes	19	12	7				

1. Criminal case filings include sealed criminal cases.

2016 Criminal Caseload Report – II								
	<1 Year	1 & 2 Years	2 & 3 Years	>3 Years				
Cases Pending by Offense & Age	462	68	18	72				
Homicide								
Robbery	1			1				
Assault	2			1				
Burglary, Breaking & Entering								
Larceny & Theft	20	5						
Embezzlement	3	1						
Fraud	76	11	2	17				
Auto Theft	3							
Forgery & Counterfeiting	3			1				
Sex Offenses	47	8	1	6				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	6	5	4	22				
Controlled Substances Offenses	74	12	8	8				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	209	22	3	9				
Immigration Laws	8			2				
Federal Statutes	10	4		5				
Performance Measures	District	Eastern	Southeastern	Northern				
Average Age of Pending Cases ¹	8.1 months	8.3 months	6.9 months					
Filed/Closed Ratio	0.95	0.96	0.90					
Mean Time to Disposition	12.9 months	13.7 months	9.0 months					
Mean Time to Disposition (5% trimmed) ²	10.01 months	10.4 months	8.4 months					
Median Time to Disposition	8.4 months	9.0 months	6.7 months					

APPENDIX G

Count begins with the case filing date. The count excludes cases in unassigned.
 5% trimmed mean excludes the lowest and highest 2.5% of disposition times from the calculation of the mean.

2016 Criminal Defendant Report							
	District	Eastern	Southeastern	Northern			
Total Criminal Defendant Filings	893	758	135	0			
Felony Defendant Filings	849	729	120	-			
Misdemeanor Defendant Filings	44	29	15				
Criminal Defendants Filed/Closed Ratio	0.93	0.94	0.90				
Defendants Filed by Offense	893	758	135				
Homicide	0						
Robbery	2		2				
Assault	4	4	1				
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	0		11				
Larceny & Theft	32	28	4				
Embezzlement	6	4	2				
Fraud	180	173	7				
Auto Theft	5	5	1				
Forgery & Counterfeiting	6	6	†				
Sex Offenses	53	40	13				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	19	17	2				
Controlled Substances Offenses	241	200	41				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	307	259	48				
Immigration Laws	13	10	3				
Federal Statutes	25	12	13				
Defendants Closed by Offense ¹	831	709	122				
Homicide	0						
Robbery	7	2	5				
Assault	3	3	1				
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	0		1				
Larceny & Theft	34	27	7				
Embezzlement	4	3	1				
Fraud	149	139	10				
Auto Theft	0						
Forgery & Counterfeiting	5	5	tt				
Sex Offenses	54	42	12				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	76	72	4				
Controlled Substances Offenses	173	148	25				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	291	250	41				
Immigration Laws	7	4	3				
Federal Statutes	28		14				
Defendants Pending by Offense	930	832	98				
Homicide	0						
Robbery	2	1	1				
Assault	3	3					
Burglary, Breaking & Entering	0						
Larceny & Theft	27	26	1				
Embezzlement	8	7	1				
Fraud	176	171	5				
Auto Theft	5	5	İ — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —				
Forgery & Counterfeiting	4	4	††				
Sex Offenses	61	48	13				
Marijuana Drug Offenses	85	83	2				
Controlled Substances Offenses	269	235	34				
Other Miscellaneous General Offenses	255	233	33				
Immigration Laws	10	9	1				
Federal Statutes	25		7				
	23	10	1				

APPENDIX H

1. Defendants whose probation/supervised release were revoked during the reporting period are not included in the closed defendants' totals.

2016 Trial Starts and Completions Report													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2015
Civil Trial Starts													
Jury	1	3	3	1	1	0	2	3	6	2	2	0	24
Bench	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	6
Total	3	3	3	3	1	0	2	4	6	2	3	0	30
Civil Trials Completed													
Jury	1	0	4	3	1	0	1	3	7	1	3	0	24
Bench	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	6
Total	3	0	4	5	1	0	1	3	8	1	4	0	30
Criminal Trial Starts													
Jury	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	10
Bench	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	5
Total	3	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	1	15
Criminal Trials Com	pleted												
Jury	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	10
Bench	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	5
Total	3	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	1	15
Total Trial Starts													
Jury	3	4	4	2	1	1	2	3	8	4	2	0	34
Bench	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	11
Total	6	4	4	5	1	1	2	4	8	5	4	1	45
Total Trials Completed													
Jury	3	1	5	4	1	1	1	3	9	3	3	0	34
Bench	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	11
Total	6	1	5	7	1	1	1	3	10	4	5	1	45

APPENDIX I

2016 Lengths of Civil and Criminal Trials Completed										
	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4-9 Days	10-19 Days	20+ Days	Total			
Civil Trials (jury & bench)	4	3	9	12	2		30			
Criminal Trials (jury & bench)	5	3	4	3			15			
Total	9	6	13	15	2	0	45			

2016 Juror Usage Report									
	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	2015				
Juror Utilization Statistics									
Civil Juries	7	2	11	5	25				
Criminal Juries	3	0	2	2	7				
Total Number of Jurors	326	214	324	195	1,059				
Selected (S)	114	30	109	63	316				
Challenged (C)	173	49	160	102	484				
Participated in Voir Dire	38	58	55	30	181				
Did not Participate in Voir Dire	1	77	0	0	78				
Juror Usage Performance Measures									
Jurors not S/C who participated in Voir Dire	12%	27%	17%	15%	17%				
Jurors not S/C who did not participate in Voir Dire	0%	36%	0%	0%	7%				
Jurors participated in Voir Dire	100%	64%	100%	100%	93%				
Juror Utilization (NSSC)	12%	63%	17%	15%	24%				

APPENDIX J

1. Effective juror utilization, as defined by the Judicial Conference of the United States, is thirty percent or less of jurors not selected, serving, or challenged (NSSC) on the first day of service. The NSSC statistic is calculated for each court by combining the percentage of prospective jurors who did not participate in voir dire and the percentage in voir dire that were neither selected nor challenged on the first day of service.



APPENDIX K



Serving the Public, the Bench and the Bar in $\mathbf{2016}$

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI THOMAS F. EAGLETON U.S. COURTHOUSE 111 S. 10TH STREET, SUITE 3.300 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102 (314) 244-7900 WWW.MOED.USCOURTS.GOV