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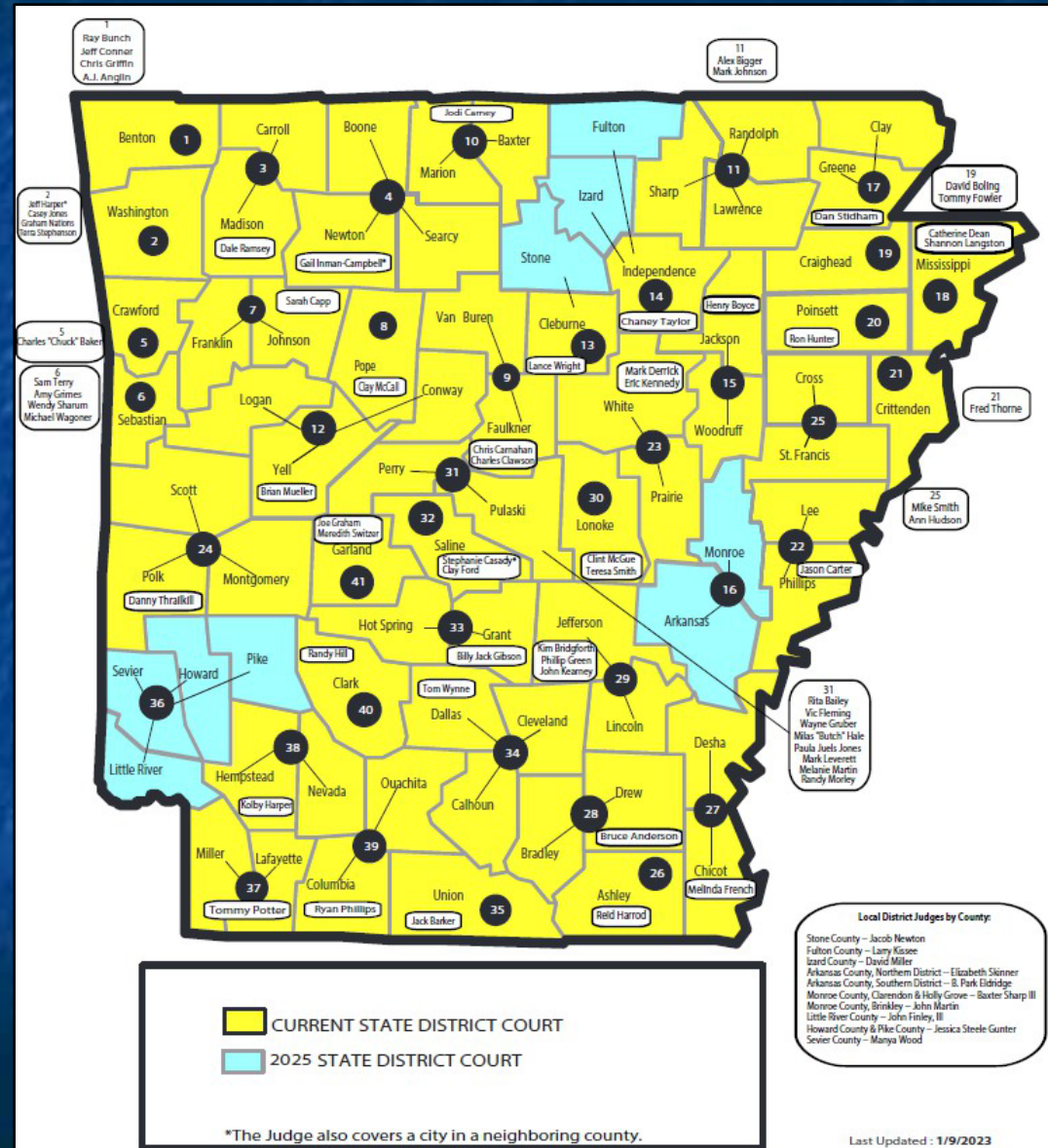
Information Regarding Arkansas District Courts

January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023

Arkansas District Courts

(Exhibit II on page 4)

- 39 State and 10 Local District Courts
- 66 full-time State District Judges and 10 Local District Judges



Arkansas Courts

Organizational Structure

(Exhibit I on page 3)

STATE DISTRICT COURTS

- 66 state district judges
- 39 districts
- 4-year terms
- Traffic and minor criminal
- Civil and small claims matters

Supreme Court Administrative Order 18

- Civil jurisdiction up to \$25,000
- Small claims jurisdiction up to \$5,000
- May hear limited circuit court matters

LOCAL DISTRICT COURTS

- 10 local district judges
- 9 counties
- 4-year term
- Traffic and minor criminal
- Civil and small claims matters

Supreme Court Administrative Order 18

- Civil jurisdiction up to \$5,000
- Small claims jurisdiction up to \$5,000

Annualized District Court Revenues/Inflows and Expenditures/Outflows

(Exhibit VII on page 13)

	<u>Revenues/Inflows</u>	<u>Expenditures/Outflows</u>
State *	\$ 59,308,958	\$ 35,934,040
Local	60,129,752	44,291,739
Total	\$ 119,438,710	\$ 80,225,779

* The \$23.4 million excess at the state level is primarily attributed to including the State Administration of Justice (AOJ) revenues of \$24.7 million and there being minimal expenses associated with District Courts.

State-Level Court Funding

(Appendix J)

- **\$26.5 million** attributed to a District
 - **\$19.4 million** in Uniform Filing Fees and Miscellaneous Revenues
 - **\$3.8 million** in Proportional Share of District Judge Salaries
 - **\$3.1 million** in Judicial Fine Collection Enhancement Fund Fees
 - **\$238,915** in Public Defender User and Attorney Fees

State-Level Court Funding (Cont.)

(Appendix J)

- **\$32.8 million** not attributed to a District
 - \$11.9 million from the State Central Service Fund
 - \$10.6 million from the Constitutional Officers Fund
 - \$1.2 million from the County Aid Fund
 - \$904,560 from Professional Bail Bondsman Fees
 - \$8.2 million from other sources

Uniform Filing Fees and Court Costs for District Courts

(Appendix C on page C-2)

District Courts

H.	For initiating a cause of action in the civil division of district court. § 16-17-705(b)(1) Court Technology Fee 15.00 apply on line 22 of Miscellaneous Fee/Fine Collection Report	\$ 65.00 \$15.00
I.	For initiating a cause of action in the small claims division of district court § 16-17-705(b)(2) Court Technology Fee 15.00 apply on line 22 of Miscellaneous Fee/Fine Collection Report	\$50.00 \$15.00
J.	For offenses which are misdemeanors or violations under state law or local ordinance, excluding violations of the Omnibus DWI Act, etc. § 16-10-305(a)(2)	\$ 100.00
K.	For traffic offenses which are misdemeanors or violations under state law or local ordinance, excluding violations of the Omnibus DWI Act, etc. § 16-10-305(a)(3)	\$ 75.00
HM.	For knowingly possessing less than four ounces (4 oz.) of a Schedule VI controlled substance; \$150.00 of court cost State Treasurer. § 16-10-305(a)(6) <i>(Repealed April 2, 2015 Act 895 of 2015)</i>	\$ 300.00
L.	For violations of the Omnibus DWI Act, §5-65-101 et seq.; The Underage DUI Law, §5-65-301 et seq.; § 5-75-101 et seq.; §27-23-114; or §15-42-127. § 16-10-305(a)(5)	\$ 300.00
M.	For non-traffic violations of local ordinances in district court. § 16-10-305(a)(4)	\$ 25.00
NL.	For failure to present proof of insurance at the time of a traffic stop, §27-22-103; §27-22-104; §27-22-111. § 16-10-305(a)(7)	\$ 25.00
NS.	For a violation of the mandatory seat belt use law § 27-37-701 et seq.; § 16-10-305(a)(7)	\$ 25.00

Uniform Filing Fees and Court Costs Collected by District Courts that Fund the AOJ Funds

(Appendices D and E)

- Cities and counties are allowed to keep a “retained share” to fund their AOJ Fund
- Any excess is submitted to DFA monthly to fund the State AOJ Fund

District Court Installment Fee Revenue

\$10 Installment Fee

- \$5 funds the State AOJ Fund
- \$2.50 funds the Judicial Fine Collection Enhancement Fund at the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
- \$2.50 is retained locally in the District Court Automation Fund

Calendar Year 2023

- \$5.1 million remitted to the State AOJ Fund
- \$2.6 million remitted to the Judicial Fine Collection Enhancement Fund at the AOC
- \$2.6 million retained locally in the District Court Automation Fund

AOJ Fund Uniform Filing Fees and Miscellaneous Revenues

Revenues from District Courts (\$19.4 million)

- \$14.3 million from Uniform Filing Fees and Court Costs
- \$5.1 million from District Court Installment Fees

Overall Remittances to the State AOJ Fund

- \$24.7 million (including additional \$5.3 million in revenues from Circuit Courts)

Top 5 and Bottom 5 Districts that Remitted Funds to the State AOJ Fund

(Exhibit IV on page 7)

Top 5		
Excess Over Allowed Retained Share		
1	District 1	\$ 1,473,487
2	District 25	\$ 788,671
3	District 23	\$ 761,207
4	District 29	\$ 719,153
5	District 2	\$ 630,472
Bottom 5		
Excess Over Allowed Retained Share		
1	District 35	\$ 6,238
2	District 40	\$ 15,380
3	Local District Court - Monroe County, Brinkley	\$ 25,758
4	Local District Court - Monroe County, Clarendon/Holly Grove	\$ 27,406
5	Local District Court - Arkansas County, Southern District	\$ 46,568

Top 5		
Installment Fee		
1	District 31	\$ 539,653
2	District 1	\$ 492,380
3	District 2	\$ 411,803
4	District 9	\$ 395,789
5	District 23	\$ 339,292
Bottom 5		
Installment Fee		
1	Local District Court - Monroe County, Clarendon/Holly Grove	\$ 2,125
2	District 22	\$ 5,778
3	Local District Court - Monroe County, Brinkley	\$ 9,601
4	Local District Court - Fulton County	\$ 11,395
5	Local District Court - Izard County	\$ 12,523

Top 5		
Overall		
1	District 1	\$ 1,965,867
2	District 23	\$ 1,100,499
3	District 2	\$ 1,042,275
4	District 25	\$ 918,523
5	District 31	\$ 853,872
Bottom 5		
Overall		
1	District 40	\$ 28,000
2	Local District Court - Monroe County, Clarendon/Holly Grove	\$ 29,531
3	Local District Court - Monroe County, Brinkley	\$ 35,359
4	District 22	\$ 57,044
5	District 35	\$ 61,524

Miscellaneous Fees and Fines >\$100,000 Collected and Remitted to DFA (Excluding AOJ Activity)

- **\$2.58 million** – Fine Installment Fees for Judicial Fine Collection Enhancement Fund (MJF)
- **\$1.2 million** – Fines for No Liability Insurance (SMP3)
- **\$111,826** – Child Passenger Protection Fund (SCP)
- **\$250,055** – Tickets Safety Violations for Large Trucks (AGA2)
- **\$509,956** – Overweight/Over Length Trucks (RRA2)
- **\$631,247** – Drug Crime Special Assessment (SEP)
- **\$543,897** – Court Technology Fee for Judicial Fine Collection Enhancement Fund (MJF2)

Distributions from the State AOJ Fund

(Appendix F)

- Totaled \$21.4 million in 2023
- Legislation requires that salaries for court reporters, trial court administrators, and Arkansas District Judges Council be funded at 100%
- Bond requirements provide for preferential payments to the Justice Building Construction Fund
- Distributions outside preferential categories are proportionally reduced in equal percentages

Local-Level Court Funding

(Appendix L)

- \$51.4 million in fines and fees
- \$6.8 million in court costs
- \$1.9 million in other revenues

*ALA contacted 336 entities
to obtain this information*

Local-Level Court Funding (Cont.)

- Bail bond fee (\$3 of each \$20 fee remitted quarterly to the county) to defray Public Defender Office expenses
- District Court installment fees (\$2.50 retained locally in the District Court Automation Fund)
- Court Security Grant Program
- County and City AOJ Funds
- Various fines

State and Local Expenditures

- \$1.2 million in State non-salary expenditures (Appendix K)
- \$34.7 million in State salary expenditures, including taxes and benefits (Appendix M)
- \$44.3 million in Local expenditures (Appendix N)

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