

THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

# CASE STATISTICS



2021

Prepared by  
Office of the Clerk

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# THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO

## CASE STATISTICS

Maureen O'Connor  
Chief Justice

Sharon L. Kennedy

Judith L. French  
Justice until Jan. 1, 2021

Patrick F. Fischer

R. Patrick DeWine

Michael P. Donnelly

Melody J. Stewart

Jennifer Brunner  
Justice beginning Jan. 2, 2021  
Justices

Stephanie E. Hess  
Interim Administrative Director

Prepared by  
Office of the Clerk

Sandra H. Grosko ■ Clerk of the Court



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# SECTION 1

## CASELOAD ACTIVITIES

The following tables provide a summary of the 2021 caseload activity for the Court, including a listing of cases filed, final dispositions, and cases pending on December 31, 2021.

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

## Summary of Activity

CASES PENDING JANUARY 1, 2021	480
<hr/>	
CASES FILED	
<hr/>	
Jurisdictional Appeals	1,063
Merit Cases	447
Practice of Law Cases	97
<b>TOTAL CASES FILED</b>	<b>1,607</b>
<b>Cases Filed by Legal Category</b>	
Civil	310
Criminal	677
Domestic Relations, Probate, and Juvenile	72
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup>	451
Practice of Law	97
CASES DISPOSED	
<hr/>	
Jurisdictional Appeals	967
Merit Cases	431
Practice of Law Cases	134
<b>TOTAL CASES DISPOSED</b>	<b>1,532</b>
CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021	555
<hr/>	
CLEARANCE RATE	95%
<hr/>	

## JURISDICTIONAL APPEALS

Jurisdictional Appeals	987
Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals	5
Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption	18
Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications	53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,063</b>

## MERIT CASES

Original Actions	265
Habeas Corpus Cases	57
Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)	75
Certified Conflicts	11
Certified Conflicts Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption	2
Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals	5
Appeals from Public Utilities Commission	3
Appeals from Power Siting Board	1
Death Penalty Cases	0
Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in Death Penalty Case	1
Certified Questions of State Law	3
Appeals from Denial of DNA Testing in Capital Case	0
Appeals of Contest of Election under R.C. 3515.15	1
Petition Challenges pursuant to Article II, Section 1g of the Ohio Constitution	0
Contests of an Election pursuant to R.C. 3515.08	0
Cases Purporting to Invoke Unspecified Original Jurisdiction	18
Redistricting Cases	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>447</b>

PRACTICE OF LAW CASES<sup>2</sup>

Disciplinary Cases	91
Bar Admission Cases	4
Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases	1
Other Matters Relating to the Practice of Law	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>

**TOTAL CASES FILED****1,607**<sup>2</sup>See Appendix A for a breakdown of cases relating to the practice of law that were filed in 2021.

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

## Cases Disposed

### JURISDICTIONAL APPEALS<sup>3</sup>

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Jurisdictional Appeals <sup>4</sup>	902
Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals	3
Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption	13
Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications	49
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>967</b>

### MERIT CASES

---

Original Actions	240
Habeas Corpus Cases	48
Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)	57
Certified Conflicts	7
Certified Conflicts Involving Termination of Parental Rights/ Adoption	0
Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals	12
Appeals from Public Utilities Commission	4
Appeals from Power Siting Board	1
Death Penalty Cases	3
Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in Death Penalty Case	1
Certified Questions of State Law	1
Appeals from Denial of DNA Testing in Capital Case	0
Appeals of Contest of Election under R.C. 3515.15	1
Petition Challenges pursuant to Article II, Section 1g of the Ohio Constitution	0
Other Merit Cases	15
Jurisdictional Appeals Accepted for Merit Review <sup>5</sup>	41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>431</b>

### PRACTICE OF LAW CASES

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Disciplinary Cases	118
Bar Admission Cases	9
Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>134</b>

**TOTAL CASES DISPOSED** **1,532**

<sup>3</sup>This category includes jurisdictional appeals that were declined and the merits of the case were not reviewed by the Court.

<sup>4</sup>This category includes jurisdictional appeals that were accepted, held, and later summarily decided without briefing.

<sup>5</sup>This category does not include jurisdictional appeals that were accepted, held, and later summarily decided without briefing.

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Cases Pending December 31, 2021

## JURISDICTIONAL APPEALS

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Jurisdictional Appeals	227
Death Penalty Postconviction Appeals	0
Appeals Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption	0
Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Applications	0
Petitions to Transfer Board of Tax Appeals Appeal from Court of Appeals	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>227</b>

## MERIT CASES

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Original Actions	93
Habeas Corpus Cases	16
Direct Appeals (Cases Originating in Court of Appeals)	45
Certified Conflicts	15
Certified Conflicts Involving Termination of Parental Rights/Adoption	2
Appeals from Board of Tax Appeals	5
Appeals from Public Utilities Commission	3
Appeals from Power Siting Board	1
Death Penalty Cases	7
Certified Questions of State Law	2
Appeals from App.R. 26(B) Application in a Death Penalty Case	0
Appeals from Denial of DNA Testing in Capital Case	0
Other Merit Cases	6
Redistricting Cases	5
Jurisdictional Appeals Accepted for Review	107
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>307</b>

## PRACTICE OF LAW CASES

---

Disciplinary Cases	19
Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases	1
Other Matters Relating to the Practice of Law	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>

**TOTAL CASES PENDING** **555**



# SECTION 2

## CASELOAD

### 2017-2021

The following charts show the caseload activity of the Court, including total cases filed, total cases disposed, total cases pending, and appeals filed by pro se litigants for the years 2017 through 2021.

Also included in this section is a chart reflecting the number and percentage of jurisdictional appeals filed and accepted for review. This chart compares the years 2016 through 2020 because this data is measured by the year in which the appeal was filed. The most recent year for which the data is complete is 2020.

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Caseload 2017-2021

## CASES FILED BY CATEGORY – 2021

The clerk’s office categorizes cases according to the following designations:

- Civil
- Criminal
- Practice of Law
- Domestic Relations, Probate & Juvenile
- Miscellaneous.

The categories correspond to those used by Ohio’s courts of appeal.

### CASES BY CATEGORY

#### Civil

310 cases (19%)

#### Criminal

677 cases (42%)

#### Practice of Law

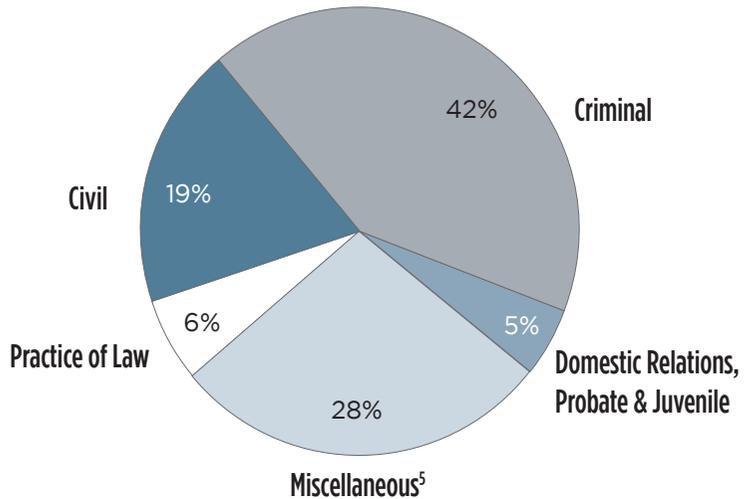
97 cases (6%)

#### Domestic Relations, Probate & Juvenile

72 cases (5%)

#### Miscellaneous<sup>5</sup>

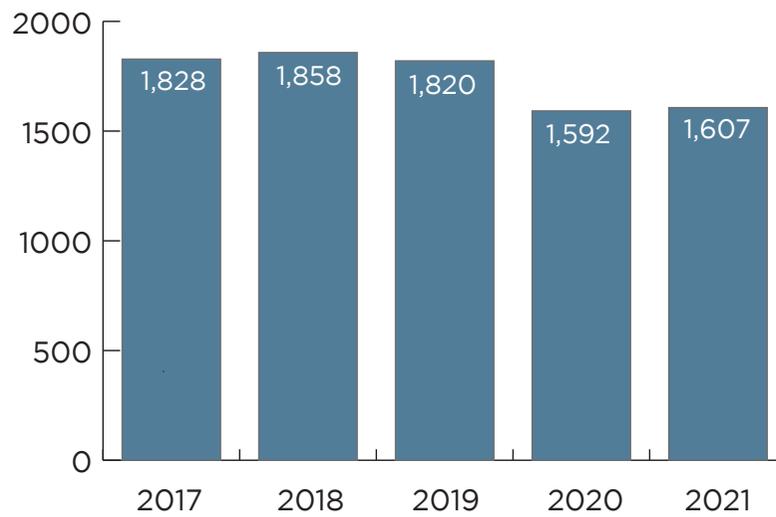
451 cases (28%)



<sup>5</sup> Miscellaneous cases include certified conflict cases, certified questions of state law, direct appeals, original actions, administrative appeals, and redistricting cases.

## CASES FILED 2017-2021

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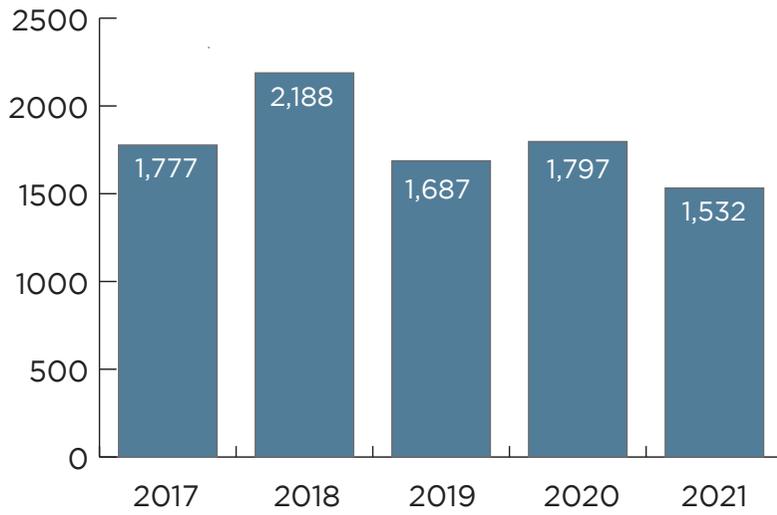


# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Caseload 2017-2021

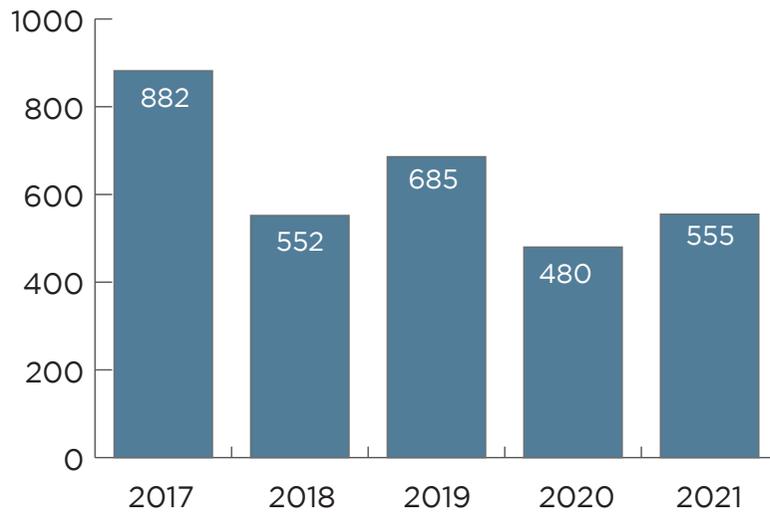
## CASES DISPOSED 2017-2021

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## CASES PENDING ON THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER 2017-2021

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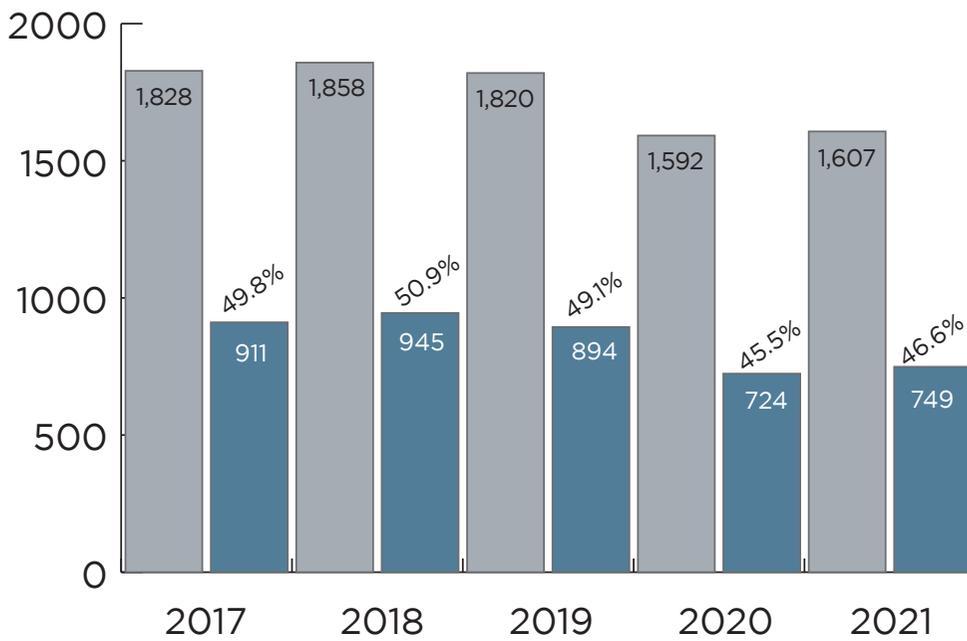


# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Caseload 2017-2021

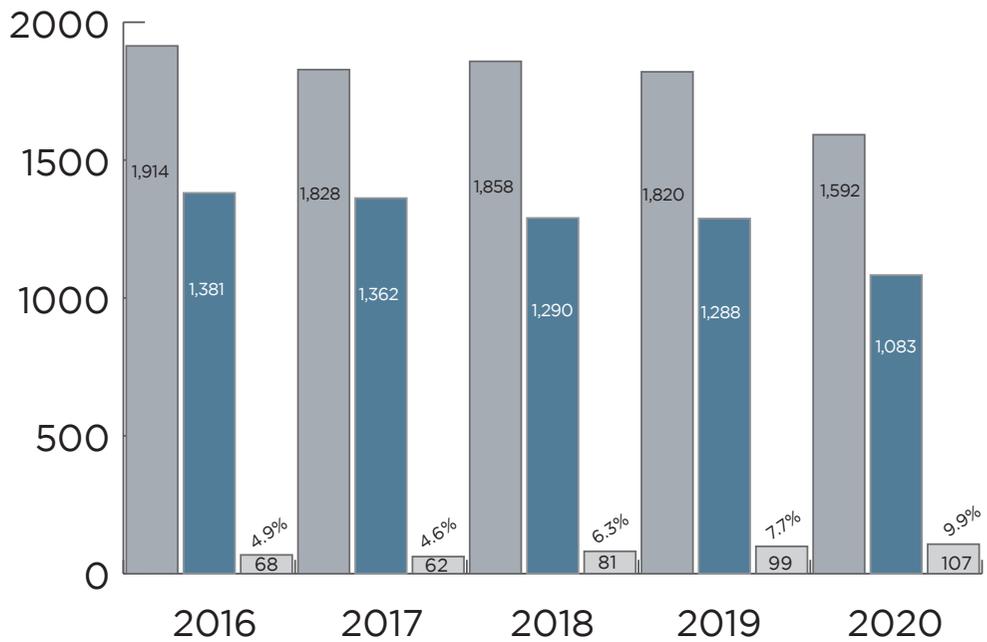
## CASES FILED BY PRO SE LITIGANTS 2017-2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
General Cases	1,828	1,858	1,820	1,592	1,607
Pro se Cases	911	945	894	724	749
Percent Pro se	49.8%	50.9%	49.1%	45.5%	46.6%



## JURISDICTIONAL APPEALS FILED 2016-2020 AND ACCEPTED FOR MERIT REVIEW

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Cases Filed	1,914	1,828	1,858	1,820	1,592
Appeals Filed	1,381	1,362	1,290	1,288	1,083
Appeals Accepted	68	62	81	99	107
Percent Accepted	4.9%	4.6%	6.3%	7.7%	9.9%





# SECTION 3

## TIME TO DISPOSITION

### 2017-2021

The following charts reflect the length of time from the origination of an action to final disposition in various categories of case types, including:

- All cases
- Jurisdictional appeals accepted for merit review
- Original actions
- Disciplinary cases
- Unauthorized practice of law cases
- Bar admission cases
- All cases decided with an opinion.

The charts provide data for the years 2017 through 2021 for purposes of comparison.

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Time to Disposition 2017-2021

ALL CASES  
From Case Filing to Final Disposition

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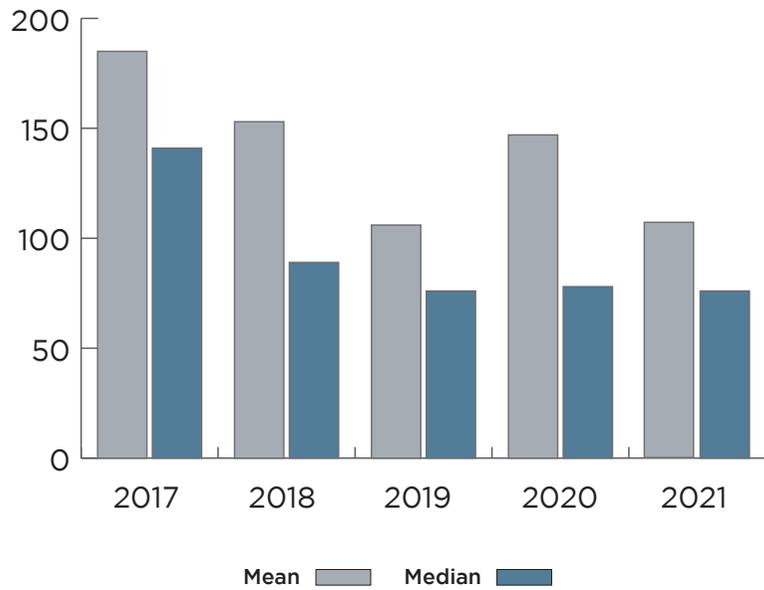
**2017 — 1,777 cases**  
185-day mean  
141-day median

**2018 — 2,188 cases**  
153-day mean  
89-day median

**2019 — 1,687 cases**  
106-day mean  
76-day median

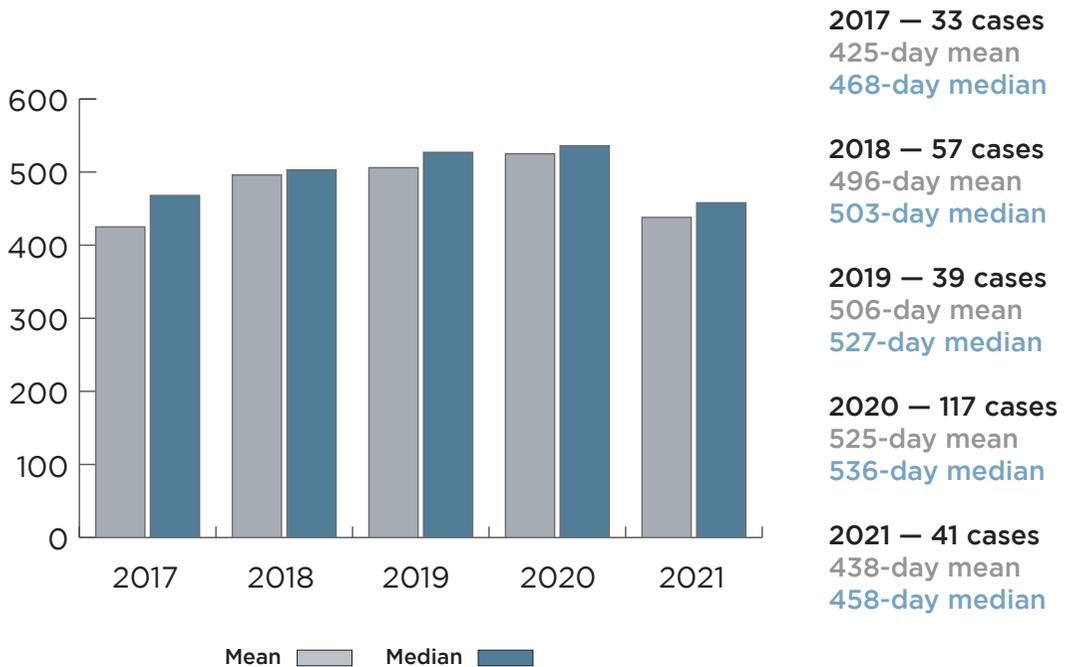
**2020 — 1,797 cases**  
147-day mean  
78-day median

**2021 — 1,532 cases**  
107-day mean  
76-day median



## JURISDICTIONAL APPEALS ACCEPTED FOR MERIT REVIEW From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition

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# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Time to Disposition 2017-2021

## JURISDICTIONAL APPEALS NOT ACCEPTED FOR MERIT REVIEW From Filing of Notice of Appeal to Final Disposition

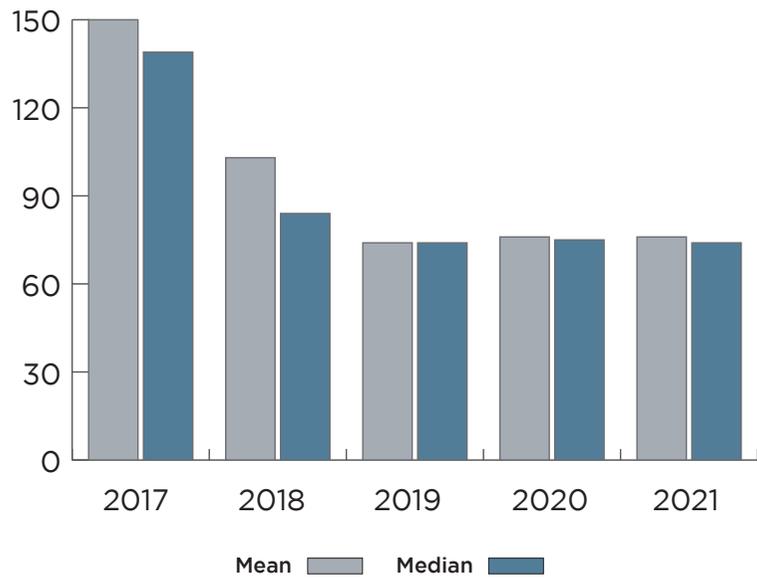
**2017 — 1,252 cases**  
150-day mean  
139-day median

**2018 — 1,483 cases**  
103-day mean  
84-day median

**2019 — 1,154 cases**  
74-day mean  
74-day median

**2020 — 1,066 cases**  
76-day mean  
75-day median

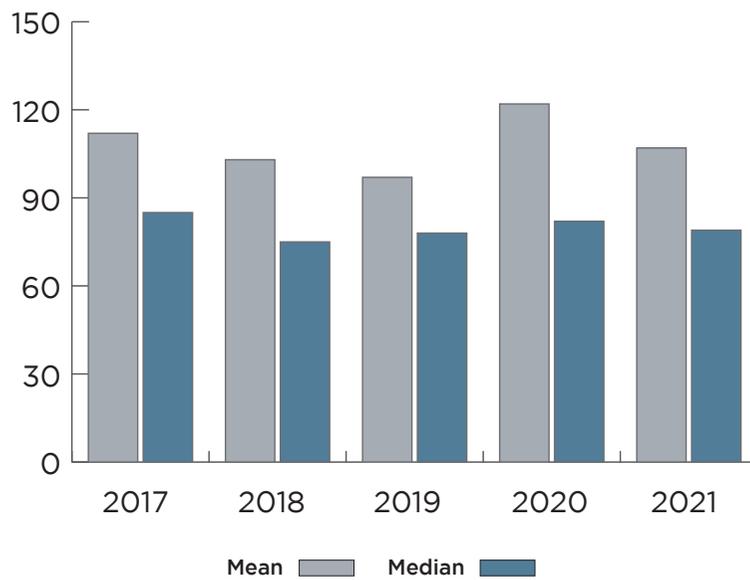
**2021 — 963<sup>6</sup> cases**  
76-day mean  
74-day median



<sup>6</sup>This total does not include appeals that were accepted and held and later summarily decided without briefing.

## ORIGINAL ACTIONS From Filing to Final Disposition

---



**2017 — 197 cases**  
112-day mean  
85-day median

**2018 — 288 cases**  
103-day mean  
75-day median

**2019 — 244 cases**  
97-day mean  
78-day median

**2020 — 280 cases**  
122-day mean  
82-day median

**2021 — 288 cases**  
107-day mean  
79-day median

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Time to Disposition 2017-2021

## DISCIPLINARY CASES

From Case Initiation to Final Disposition

---

**2017 — 39 cases**

264-day mean

219-day median

**2018 — 52 cases**

232-day mean

229-day median

**2019 — 47 cases**

227-day mean

193-day median

**2020 — 47 cases**

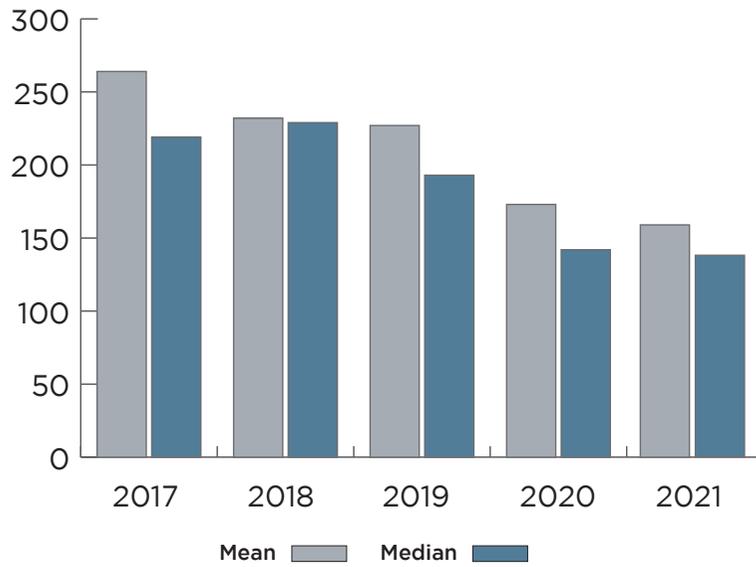
173-day mean

142-day median

**2021 — 47 cases**

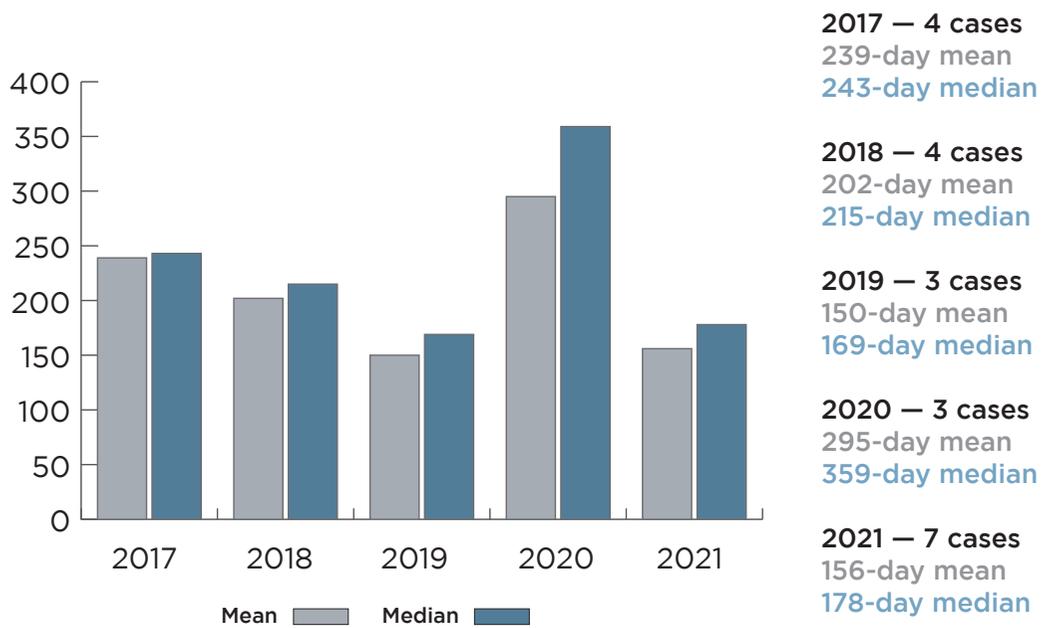
159-day mean

138-day median



## UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW CASES From Case Initiation to Final Disposition

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# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Time to Disposition 2017-2021

## BAR ADMISSION CASES From Case Initiation to Final Disposition

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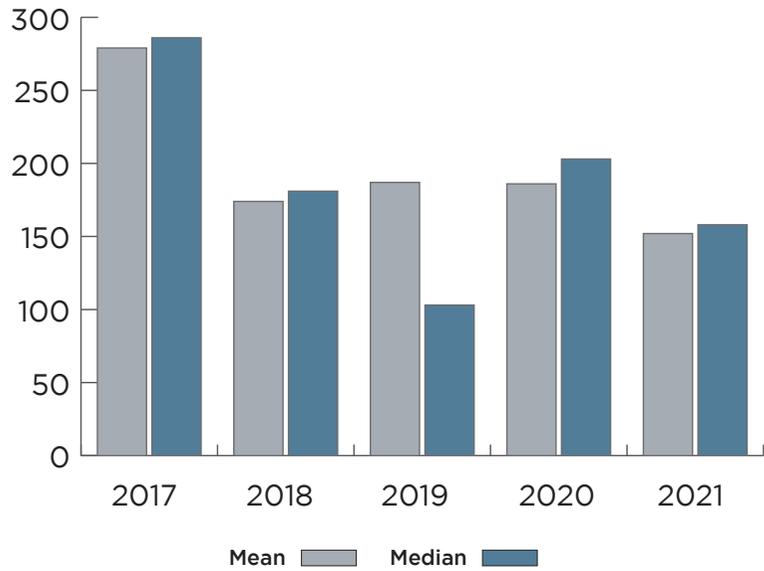
**2017 — 3 cases**  
279-day mean  
286-day median

**2018 — 6 cases**  
174-day mean  
181-day median

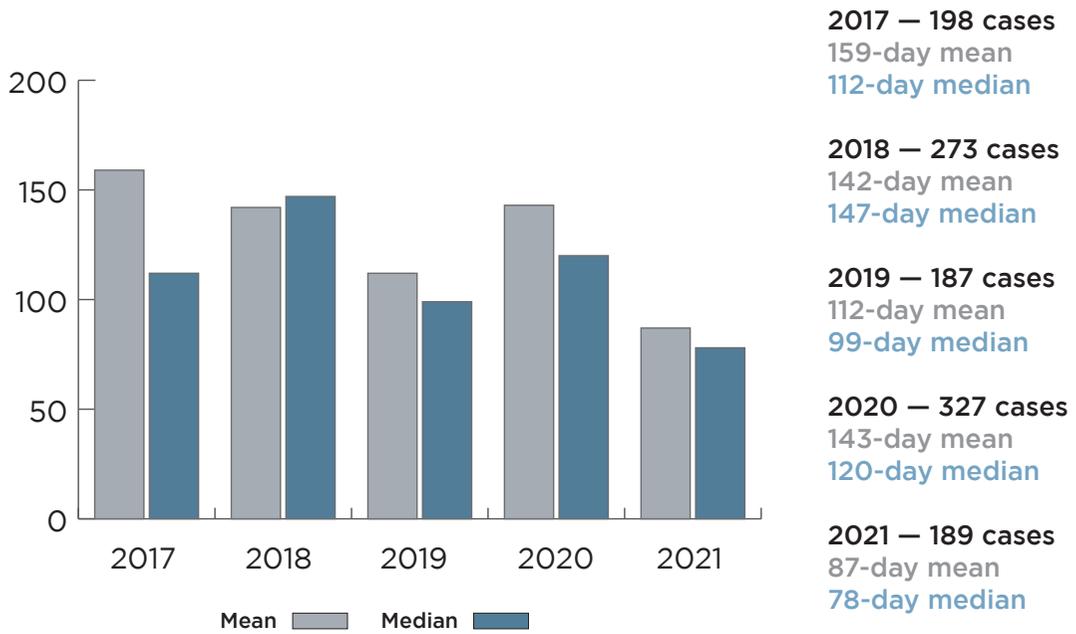
**2019 — 3 cases**  
187-day mean  
103-day median

**2020 — 4 cases**  
186-day mean  
203-day median

**2021 — 9 cases**  
152-day mean  
158-day median



## CASES DECIDED WITH AN OPINION From Submission to Court Until Issuance of Opinion





# SECTION 4

## BRIEFING TO ORAL ARGUMENT 2017-2021

The following charts show the time from the completion of briefing on a matter until oral argument is held. The time measured includes the six-week advance notice provided to parties who are scheduled to participate in oral argument. The charts provided are for:

- All cases argued
- Practice of law cases argued (including disciplinary cases, bar admission cases, and unauthorized practice of law cases).

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

Briefing to Oral Argument 2017-2021

## ALL DISPOSED CASES ARGUED<sup>7</sup> From Completion of Briefing to Oral Argument

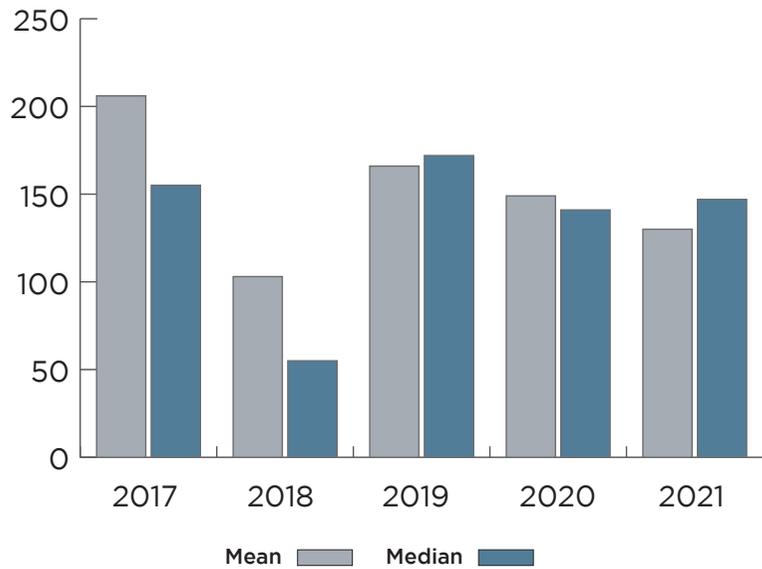
**2017 — 57 cases**  
206-day mean  
155-day median

**2018 — 93 cases**  
103-day mean  
55-day median

**2019 — 55 cases**  
166-day mean  
172-day median

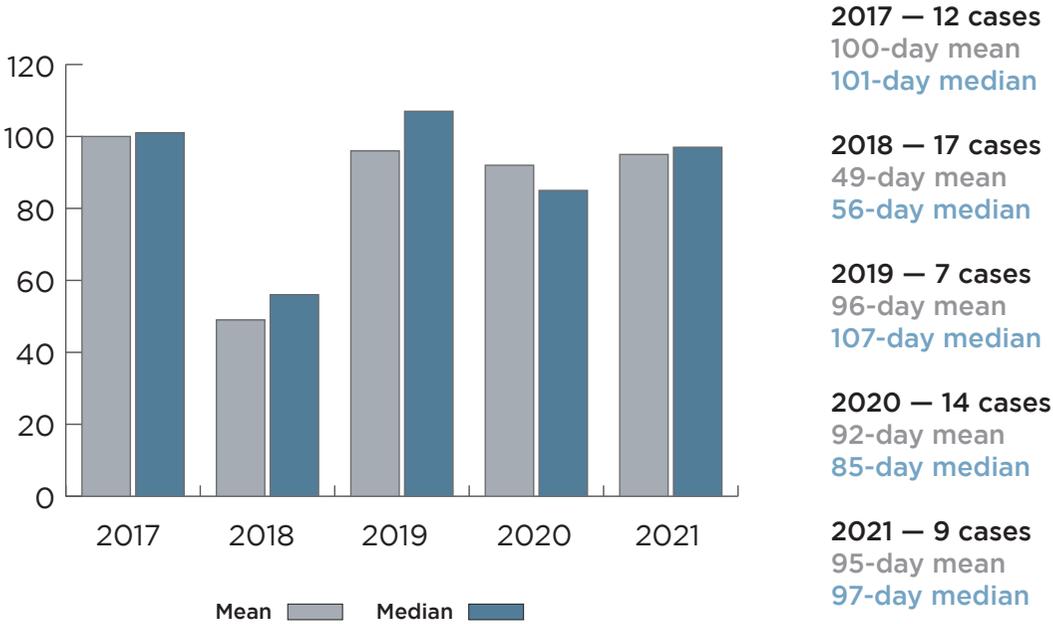
**2020 — 163 cases**  
149-day mean  
141-day median

**2021 — 45 cases**  
130-day mean  
147-day median



PRACTICE OF LAW CASES ARGUED – Disciplinary Cases, Bar Admission Cases & Unauthorized Practice of Law Cases  
From Completion of Briefing to Oral Argument

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# SECTION 5

## E-FILING

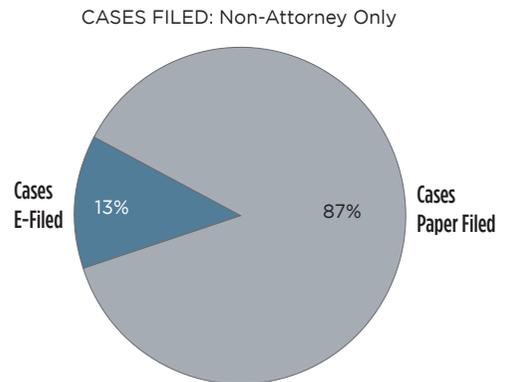
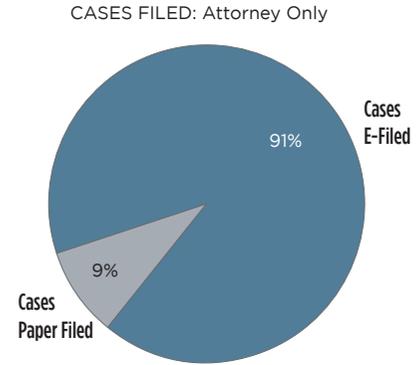
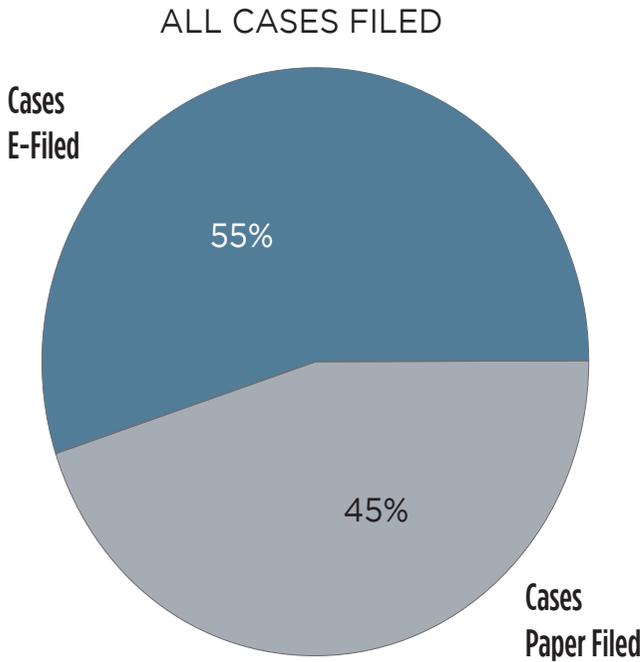
The following charts show a breakdown of the percentage of filings that were filed through the Court's E-Filing Portal.

# 2021 Case Statistics

E-Filing 2021

## TOTAL NEW CASES FILED 2021

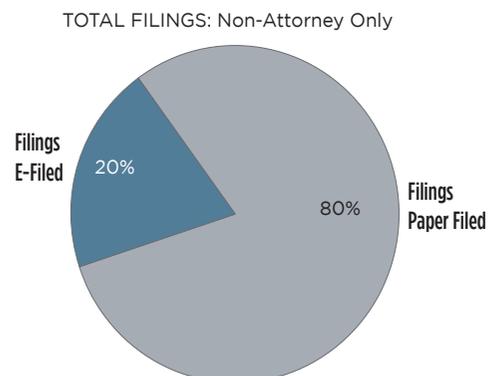
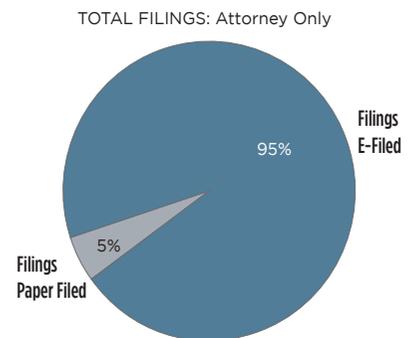
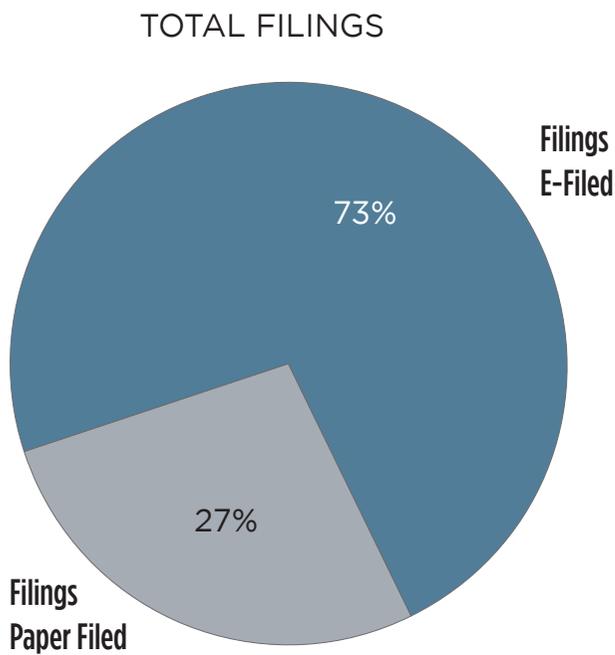
	All	Attorney Only	Non-Attorney Only
Total Cases Filed	1,607	866	741
Cases E-Filed	881 55%	786 91%	95 13%
Cases Paper Filed	726 45%	80 9%	646 87%



E-Filing  Paper Filing 

## TOTAL FILINGS IN 2021

	All	Attorney Only	Non-Attorney Only
Total Filings	10,139	7,190	2,949
Filings E-Filed	7,427 73%	6,847 95%	580 20%
Filings Paper Filed	2,712 27%	343 5%	2,369 80%



E-Filing  Paper Filing 



# SECTION 6

## APPENDICES

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

## Appendix A: Practice of Law Cases - Cases Filed

CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020 58

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### DISCIPLINARY CASES

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Cases on Report of Board	28
Consent to Discipline Cases	7
Attorney Retirement/Resignation Cases	35
Reciprocal Discipline Cases	4
Cases upon Felony Conviction	3
Cases upon Default of Child Support Order	1
Disciplinary Default Cases pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(14)	5
Cases on Motion for Interim Remedial Suspension	3
Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov.Bar R. V	5
TOTAL	<b>91</b>

### BAR ADMISSION CASES

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Character and Fitness Cases	4
TOTAL	<b>4</b>

### UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW CASES

---

Unauthorized Practice of Law/On Report of Board	1
TOTAL	<b>1</b>

### OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW

---

Motion to Show Cause	1
TOTAL	<b>1</b>

**TOTAL PRACTICE OF LAW CASES FILED 97**

## DISCIPLINARY CASES

**Cases On Report of Board**

Public Reprimand	3
Definite Suspension	19
Indefinite Suspension	5
Disbarment	3
Dismissed	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31</b>

**Consent to Discipline Cases**

Public Reprimand	7
Definite Suspension	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13</b>

**Attorney Retirement/Resignation Cases**

Retirement Accepted	35
Resignation Accepted with Disciplinary Action Pending	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>

**Reciprocal Discipline Cases**

Definite Suspension	1
Indefinite Suspension	2
Interim Default Suspension	1
Dismissed	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>

**Cases Upon Felony Conviction**

Interim Suspension	3
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**Cases Upon Default of Child Support Order**

Interim Suspension	1
--------------------	---

**Disciplinary Default Cases pursuant to Gov.Bar R. V(14)**

Definite Suspension	1
Indefinite Suspension	7
Dismissed	4 <sup>8</sup>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>

<sup>8</sup>Case Nos. 2019-0553, 2020-0936, 2020-1039, and 2020-1041 were dismissed upon the acceptance of the attorneys' resignations from the practice of law with disciplinary action pending.

# 2021 CASE STATISTICS

## Practice of Law Cases - Cases Disposed - Continued

### Cases on Motion for Interim Remedial Suspension

Interim Suspension	3
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### Judge Disciplinary Cases under Gov. Bar R.V

Definite suspension	3
---------------------	---

TOTAL	<b>3</b>
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### BAR ADMISSION CASES

#### Character and Fitness Cases

Applicant Approved	2
--------------------	---

Applicant Disapproved; May Reapply	6
------------------------------------	---

Applicant Disapproved; Barred from Reapplying	1
---	---

TOTAL	<b>9</b>
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### UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW CASES

#### Cases On Report of Board

Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law and civil penalty imposed	5
--	---

#### Cases On Consent Decree

Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law and civil penalty imposed	1
--	---

Respondent enjoined from actions constituting the unauthorized practice of law	1
--	---

TOTAL	<b>7</b>
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<b>TOTAL PRACTICE OF LAW CASES DISPOSED</b>	<b>134</b>
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CASES PENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021	21
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PRACTICE OF LAW CASE CLEARANCE RATE	138%
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PUBLISHED BY  
THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO  
Office of the Clerk  
March 2022







**THE SUPREME COURT *of* OHIO**

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