



State of South Dakota
Unified Judicial System
Office of the State Court Administrator



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November 2016

Dear Friends:

The enclosed Annual Report highlights the workload and other activities undertaken by the Unified Judicial System from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. This information is compiled and maintained by the State Court Administrator's Office and encompasses the work of South Dakota's Supreme Court, Circuit Courts, Magistrate Courts and the State Court Administrator's Office.

Each year the State Court Administrator's Office staff examines and verifies the data contained in this Annual Report. This information is essential for allocating judicial resources, providing oversight to the work of the courts, communicating information and ultimately providing a path for the management of the Unified Judicial System. The Annual Report also provides information to policy makers, court users and the public about the work of the courts and is an important component in ensuring public trust and confidence in the judicial branch.

The statistics presented in this Annual Report would not be possible without the contributions of all our judicial personnel and the vital component they play in the process of reporting quality data. Should information you seek about the courts not be found in this Report nor on our website, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "M. S. Smith", written over a horizontal line.

State Court Administrator

Our Mission: Justice for All
Our Vision: We are stewards of an open, effective, and accessible court system, worthy of the public's trust and confidence.