Court Performance & Statistical Services Division Department of Judicial Services Office of the Executive Secretary Supreme Court of Virginia

2022 COURT OF APPEALS OF VIRGINIA STATISTICAL REPORT

Sources: Virginia State of the Judiciary Annual Report 2022 Court of Appeals of Virginia Statistical Report January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 Expanded Workload of the Court of Appeals of Virginia – 2022



2022 Court of Appeals of Virginia Statistical Report

Figure 1: 2022 Filings, Dispositions & Appeals

1,971 cases were filed with the Court of Appeals in 2022, and the Court issued final dispositions for 1,328 cases. 401 Court of Appeals cases were appealed to the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Figure 2: 2022 Cases Filed

Of the 1,971 cases filed in 2022, 51.24% (1,010) were criminal appeals, and 46.17% (910) were civil appeals. The remaining 2.59% were matters of original jurisdiction and actual innocence.

Figure 3: 2022 Final Dispositions

Of the 1,328 final dispositions issued in 2022, 55.80% (741) were criminal matters, and 39.61% (526) were for civil appeals. The remaining 4.59% were original jurisdiction and actual innocence.

Figure 4: Five-year Trend: Filings, Dispositions & Appeals*

Total cases filed have declined since 2018, but a notable increase since 2021 rendered an overall -2.43% change. Final dispositions have also declined since 2018 with a -32.38% change between 2018 and 2022. Appeals to the Supreme Court have likewise declined since 2018 with a -51.22% change. The significant decline in the number of dispositions and resulting appeals to the Supreme Court are directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic and legislation passed by the General Assembly that greatly expanded the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals.*

Figure 5: 2022 Petitions**

79 petitions were denied in 2022, and 21 were granted to be heard on the merits of the case.**

Figure 6: 2022 Opinions & Orders

594 cases were decided by order in 2022. 588 were decided by unpublished opinions, and 80 were decided by published opinions.

Figure 7: 2022 CAV Appeals to SCV

399 appeals to the Supreme Court were refused in 2022. 38 were dismissed, and 9 were granted.

*From 2020 to 2021, there were substantial decreases in filings and dispositions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, legislation became effective on January 1, 2022 that eliminated the petition-based system for the vast majority of criminal appeals and limited summary dispositions. The legislative changes had a significant impact on the Court's case flow and the average time it takes for an appeal to be finalized. Consequently, this has resulted in a substantial decline in the total number of final dispositions. See <u>Expanded Workload of the Court of Appeals of Virginia - 2022</u>.

**327 additional petitions represent the criminal appeals noted prior to 1/1/2022 that were converted to criminal appeals of right as a result of the 2021 legislation mandating that all criminal cases be appeals of right.