





SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

СОИТ	TENTS	
OUR		8
OUR \	/ISION	8
CORE	VALUES	8
A. ME	SSAGE FROM CHANCELLOR, AG HON. JUSTICE MME. YONETTE CUMMINGS-EDWARDS, O.R, CCH, THE CHANCELLOR OF THE JUDICIARY (AG)	9
1. LE <i>4</i>	ADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT	11
1.1	The Leadership of the Judiciary	11
Cou	JRT OF APPEAL	12
	Supreme Court	
	JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEAL	
1.3	The Judges of the High Court	17
1.4	THE COMMISSIONERS OF TITLE	20
5.5	REGISTRAR AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE	21
1.6 TH	IE MAGISTRACY	23
2. R		28
т	The Honourable Mr. Justice Brassington Granville Reynolds	28
٦	The Honourable Mr. Justice Franklin Delano Holder	30
3. OV	/ERVIEW	32
	3.1 The Court of Summary Jurisdiction or Magistrates' Court	32
	3.2 The High Court	34
	3.3 The Court of Appeal	
	3.4 The Caribbean Court of Justice	35
4. CO	DURT PERFORMANCE	36
4.1.	. COURT OF APPEAL	36
4.2	HIGH COURTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA	40
Α.	HIGH COURT OF DEMERARA	41
	Judicial Registry	41

The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022 land court _____ 44 Family Court 45 Family Court Child Care Facility ______ 54 Probate _____ 57 Marshals' Section 63 Mediation Section 76 Β. The High Court of Berbice 77 Judicial Registry _____ 77 Land Court 83 Family Court 84 Probate 86 Marshal's Department 88 C. The High Court of Essequibo 98 Judicial-Registry and Family ______ 98 Land Court_____ 100 Probate 101 Marshal's Department ____ 102 D MAGISTRATES' COURT 107 JUDICIAL 108 BAILIFF SECTION 119 APPEALS AND DEPOSITIONS 122 E SUPPORT SERVICES 131 Personnel Department 131 Verbatim Court Reporting unit (VCRU) 149 Annual Financial Report 156 5. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES______ 182 1.1 LAUNCH OF E-NOTICE BOARDS 182 1.2 DESIGNATION OF MARCH 10 AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN JUDGES. _______184 1.3 OPENING OF THE APRIL 2022 – CRIMINAL SESSION 185 1.4 TRAINING WORKSHOP 185 1.5 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS 186 1.6 Cultural, Social & Educational Activities 186 186 Emancipation Day Amerindian Heritage Month 187

	The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022
Diwali	191
Breast Cancer Awareness	192
International Day of Persons with Disabilities	194
Educational Activities	195
1.7 New Court Site	
1.8 Re-commissioning of the Mibikuri Magistrate's Court	
1.9 ORIENTATION	198
1.10 October-December 2022 Criminal Assizes	200
1.11 Drug treatment Court	202
6 ABBREVIATIONS OF TERMS	205

. 46
48
. 50
. 52
. 55
60
. 61
. 62
64
65
66
. 67
72
. 73
. 74

	The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022
Figure 16 Matters filed in Marshal's Section 2021/2022	
Figure 17 Criminal Matters - Berbice	
Figure 18 Family Division Berbice	
Figure 19 Probate Section Berbice	
Figure 20 Civil Jurisdiction Marshal Section	
Figure 21 Matters filed under Family Division	
Figure 22 Berbice Civil Jurisdiction	
Figure 23 Berbice Family Division matters	
Figure 24 Monthly execution sales 2021	
Figure 25 Execution sales 2022	
Figure 26 Marshal's section - Essequibo	
Figure 27 Civil matters served in Essequibo	
Figure 28 Family matters filed in Essequibo	
Figure 29 Matters served by Marshals in Essequibo	
Figure 30 Matters filed & pending - Essequibo	
Figure 31 Criminal cases filed	
Figure 32 Criminal cases brought forward to 2022.	
Figure 33 Cases disposed in 2022	

Table 1 Statement of Claims 2022	41
Table 2 Judgement Summons 2022	41
Table 3 Adoption Summons 2022	42
Table 4 Full Court Appeal 2022	42
Table 5 Fixed Date Application	43

Table 6 Matters of Land 2022	
Table 7 Types of Matters	
Table 8 2021, 2022 & Variance	
Table 9 Comparison of 2021 & 2022	
Table 10 Comparison 2021/2022	
Table 11 Intake Matters 2021/2022	53
Table 12 Access to Childcare facilities	
Table 13 In person applications 2022	
Table 14 Probate Section 2022	
Table 15 Matters Pending	
Table 16 Execution Sales in Demerara	
Table 17 Execution Auction Sales in Demerara	
Table 18 Berbice Matters 2021/2022	
Table 19 Indictment 2022	
Table 20 Full Court matters	
Table 21 Petition for Bail - Berbice	
Table 22 Land court matters 2022	
Table 23 Family Matters - Berbice	
Table 24 Probate section Berbice	
Table 25 Execution Sales 2021	
Table 26 Execution Sales 2022	
Table 27 Criminal matters in Essequibo	
Table 28 Civil Matters in Essequibo	
Table 29 Land Court matters 2022	

Table 30 Probate matters in Essequibo	
Table 31 Criminal Cases filed in 2022.	
Table 32 Pending criminal cases brought forward to 2022	
Table 33 Matters concluded in 2022	
Table 34 Pending Civil Matters	
Table 35 Civil matters filed in 2022.	
Table 36 Civil matters disposed in 2022	
Table 37 Bailiff section 2021	
Table 38 Bailiff Section 2022	
Table 39 Matters disposed 2022 -Bailiff section	
Table 40 Appeals & Depositions 2022	
Table 41 Appeals & Depositions brought from 2021	
Table 42 Appeals & depositions filed in 2022	
Table 43 Appeals & Depositions concluded 2022	
Table 44 Tickets in 2022	
Table 45 Matters filed - Bailiff Section 2022	
Table 46 Matters disposed - Bailiff section 2022.	
Table 47 Matters pending - Bailiff section 2022	
Table 48 Matters pending from 2021 - Bailiff section	
Table 49 Audio Production	
Table 50 Total audio recording hours	
Table 51 Edited transcripts - Jan to Dec 2022	152
Table 52 Employment Expenditure	
Table 53 Actual other Expenditure 2022	

Table 54 Actual recurrent expenditure	
Table 55 Comparison of Actual recurrent expenditure 2018-2022	166
Table 56 Actual capital expenditure by activity	171
Table 57 Capital expenditure (developmental0 2018-2022	172
Table 58 Actual revenue 2022	
Table 59 Actual revenue collected 2018-2022	

OUR MISSION

To uphold the rule of law and provide access to and timely delivery of justice in a fair, transparent and efficient manner.

OUR VISION

Encouraging and maintaining public trust and confidence through an independent, effective and accountable judicial system.

CORE VALUES

- ACCESSIBILITY
- FAIRNESS
- EQUALITY
- INTEGRITY
- TIMELINESS
- IMPARTIALITY
- RESPONSIVENESS

A. MESSAGE FROM CHANCELLOR, AG HON. JUSTICE MME. YONETTE

CUMMINGS-EDWARDS, O.R, CCH, THE CHANCELLOR OF THE JUDICIARY



Reflecting on the past year, I am immensely pleased with the significant strides made in our pursuit of digital transformation within the judiciary and the improvement in quality and delivery of services.

Throughout this year, our commitment to embracing technology has borne fruit, marking a transformative period in the history of our judicial system. The integration of digital tools and innovative platforms has not only streamlined our internal processes but has also revolutionized the way we connect with and serve our citizens. It is our intention that this trajectory will continue into the New Year and years ahead.

The adoption of digital platforms has facilitated greater accessibility to court services and information. It has also enhanced transparency and empowered individuals to engage with the judiciary more seamlessly. Our efforts in deploying technology-driven initiatives have significantly reduced barriers to access justice, ensuring a more inclusive approach for all members of our society. One such measure is the implementation of E- Notice Boards at the magistrates' courts. It is geared to inform citizens of the cases being heard and at which courts and this reduces time in court attendance.

The re-commissioning, rehabilitation and construction of new courts were realized in the year under review. These initiatives are geared towards ensuring access to justice for all citizens. The placement of courts at strategic locations throughout the length and breadth of Guyana reduces the time spent on travelling to courts and transportation and other costs attendant thereto for those seeking justice. There have also been structural improvements to the aesthetics of the courts. This enterprise is also geared to ensure that courts are adequately equipped to dispense justice. Further, persons accessing the services can do so in comfort and ease as far as possible.

Emphasis was also placed on continuing judicial and legal education and administrative training of judicial officers, clerical and support staff. Several training programs were facilitated by our Judicial Education Institute (JEI) and some were sponsored by international justice sector partners. Our staff enjoyed training both locally and internationally. The inescapable value of building capacity of staff at all levels is a priority.

Notwithstanding our successes, a few challenges presented themselves. They came in the form of depletion of workforce as some staff sought employment within the oil and gas industry. This industry offered attractive remuneration packages which could not be matched by the public service. We have also seen the retirement of two judges and this vacuum though deleterious, has not prevented the delivery of our services.

Our journey toward digital transformation remains an ongoing commitment. Looking ahead, we aim to further enhance our digital infrastructure and optimize processes. We will continue the advancement towards a more technologically robust and user-friendly judiciary. We will also continue to meet the growing demands of justice.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all our dedicated staff, court users, and stakeholders whose unwavering support and collaborative efforts have been instrumental in driving this remarkable progress. Together, we stand committed to advancing the cause of justice through technological innovation. We are obligated to ensure that the digital transformation continues to serve the needs of our citizens effectively.

As we conclude this year, I am confident that our continued dedication to our goals will pave the way for a more accessible, efficient, and effective judiciary in the years to come.

1. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

1.1 THE LEADERSHIP OF THE JUDICIARY



Hon. Chancellor (ag) Madam Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards O.R, CCH



Chief Justice (ag) Madam Justice Roxane George C.C.H, S.C

COURT OF APPEAL



THE SUPREME COURT



HIGH COURT OF DEMERARA

HIGH COURT OF BERBICE



HIGH COURT OF ESSEQUIBO



1.2 JUDGES OF THE COURT OF APPEAL



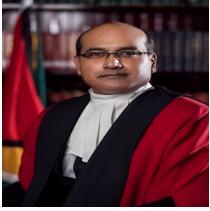
Hon. Chancellor (ag) Madam Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards O.R, CCH



Chief Justice (ag) Madam Justice Roxane George O.R, S.C



Hon. Madam Justice Dawn Gregory



Hon. Justice Deo Rishi Persaud

1.3 THE JUDGES OF THE HIGH COURT



Chief Justice of the Judiciary (ag), Hon. Madam Justice Roxane George O.R, S.C



Hon. Justice Brassington Reynolds, Puisne Judge



Hon. Justice Franklyn Holder Puisne Judge





Hon. Justice Nareshwar Harnanan, Puisne Judge

Hon. Justice Navindra Singh, Puisne Judge



Hon. Madam Justice Sandra Kurtzious, Puisne Judge



Hon. Madam Justice Priya Sewnarine-Beharry, Puisne Judge



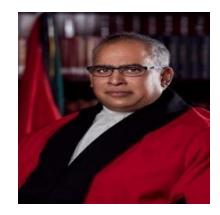
Hon. Madam Justice Jo-Ann Barlow, Puisne Judge



Hon. Justice Gino Persaud, Puisne Judge



Hon. Madam Justice Simone Morris-Ramlall Puisne Judge



Hon. Justice Sandil Kissoon, Puisne Judge



Hon. Madam Justice Damone Younge Puisne Judge



Hon. Madam Justice Fidela Corbin-Lincoln, Puisne Judge

1.4 THE COMMISSIONERS OF TITLE



COT. Mrs. Priscilla Chandra-Haniff



COT. Ms. Nicole Pierre

5.5 REGISTRAR AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE

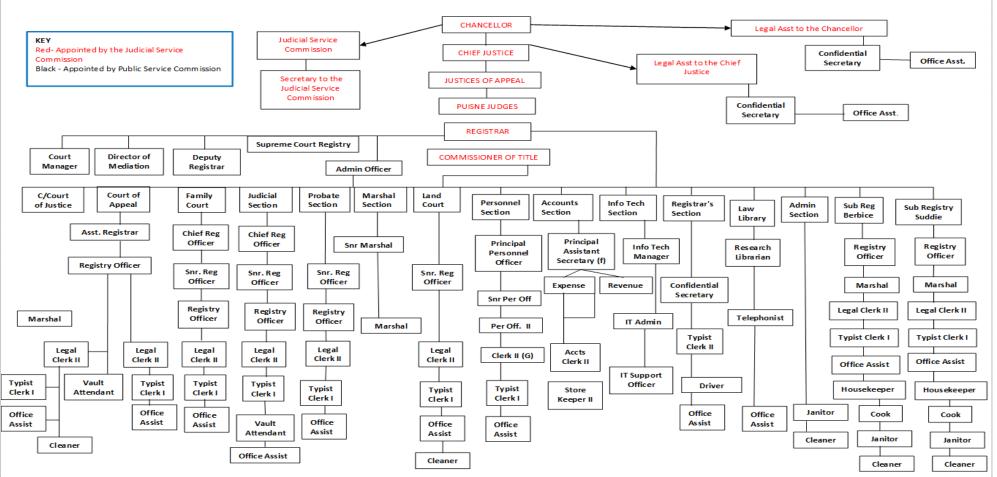


Madam Registrar Sueanna Lovell



Deputy Madam Registrar Alicia Lowenfield

ORGANISATIONAL CHART - SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE



1.6 THE MAGISTRACY



Chief Magistrate, Ann McLeannan



Senior Magistrate, Allan Wilson



Principal Magistrate, Sherdel Issacs-Marcus



Principal Magistrate, Judy Latchman



Principal Magistrate, Faith Mc Gusty



Senior Magistrate, Fabayo Azore



Magistrate, Leron Daly



Senior Magistrate, Alex Moore



Senior Magistrate, Zamilla Ally-Seepaul



Senior Magistrate Clive Nurse



Senior Magistrate, Sunil Scarce



Magistrate, Dylon Bess



Magistrate, Robindranauth Singh



Magistrate, Rhondell Weever



Magistrate, Alisha George



Magistrate, Rushelle Liverpool



Magistrate, Anette Singh



Magistrate, Renita Singh



Magistrate, Christel Lambert



Magistrate, Marissa Mittleholzer



Magistrate, Peter Hugh



Magistrate, Wanda Fortune



Magistrate, Esther Sam

The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022 **ORGANISATIONAL CHART - MAGISTRATE'S COURTS** CHANCELLOR CHIEF JUSTICE REGISTRAR Berbice West Demerara Corentyne East Demerara Georgetown Essequibo Magisterial District **Magisterial District** Magisterial District Magisterial District Magisterial District Magisterial Fort Wellington Senior Magistrate Principal Magistrate Magistrate Court Senior Magistrate Chief Magistrate Senior Magistrate Senior Magistrate Magistrate Magistrate Principal Senior Magistrate Magistrate Magistrate Clerk of Court I Clerk of Court I Principal Clerk of Court I Clerk of Court I Clerk of Court II Clerk of Court Senior Legal Clerk Clerk of Court I Clerk of Court I Senior Legal Clerk Senior Legal Clerk Senior Legal Clerk Clerk of Court I Senior Legal Clerk III Legal Clerk III Magistrate Senior Legal Clerk Legal Clerk III Legal Clerk III Legal Clerk III Senior Legal Clerk Legal Clerk II Legal Clerk II Legal Clerk III Legal Clerk II Magistrate Legal Clerk II Legal Clerk II Head Bailiff Typist Clerk II Typist Clerk II Legal Clerk II Bailiff Senior Legal Clerk Typist Clerk II Senior Bailiff Typist Clerk II Senior Office Assistant Senior Office Assistant Bailiff Typist Clerk I Legal Clerk III Bailiff Typist Clerk II Bailiff Senior Bailiff Senior Bailiff Cleaner Cleaner Legal Clerk II Senior Bailiff Bailiff Bailiff Office Assistant Bailiff Bailiff Clerk Stenographer Bailiff Office Assistant Office Assistant Office Assistant Janitor Typist Clerk II KEY Vault Attendant Cleaner Cleaner Cleaner Cleaner Red-Appointed by the Judicial Service Commission Black - Appointed by Public Service Commission Telephonist I/II Office Assistant Cleaner

2. RETIREMENTS

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE BRASSINGTON GRANVILLE REYNOLDS



The Honourable Mr. Justice Brassington Granville Reynolds retired from the Judiciary after serving as a Magistrate and then a Puisne Judge. His Honour has served as a Commissioned Officer in the Guyana Defence Force for over twenty-eight (28) years. He is a Lieutenant Colonel, seconded – Judicial Service Commission. While serving in the Military, his Honour completed numerous

Military Courses including.

- Standard Officers' Course No 6 (Guyana 1976)
- ▶ Junior Command and Staff Course (Guyana 1984)
- Senior Command and Staff Course (Guyana 1992)
- ▶ Law of War Course No. 40, San Remo (Italy 1994)
- International Humanitarian Law National Instructors Course (Geneva, Switzerland 1994)
- ▶ Legal Framework for peacekeeping Course (Nova Scotia, Canada 1995)
- Civil Military Strategy for internal Development Course (Fort Hulbertfield, Florida, USA 1995) and
- Senior Command and Staff Course (Brazil 1998)

He read for his bachelor's degree of Laws (LLB) and graduated with honours at the University of the West Indies, Barbados in 1983 and completed his Legal Education Certificate at the Hugh Wooding Law School, Trinidad in 1987 and was admitted to the Guyana Bar in that same year. Justice Reynolds was appointed as a Temporary Magistrate with effect from 15th January 2001. He was later appointed to act as a Puisne Judge on the 25th April, 2007 and was confirmed on the 25th October, 2013.

During his tenure, he has served in both the Civil and Criminal jurisdiction.

His Honour was the recipient of the following awards.

- > 25th Anniversary Medal
- Military Efficiency Medal
- Military Service Medal and
- Brasilian Medalha Do Pacificador

Prior to his ascension to the bench, his Honour served in various capacity in the Guyana Defence Force including Principal Instructor, Recruit Division (Training Corps) and Commanding Officer, Legal Services Department, Force Headquarters among others.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Brassington Granville Reynolds has served the Judiciary and Guyana as a true patriot and the Supreme Court of Judicature extends gratitude to his Honour for his service and wishes him great success in his future endeavors.



THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE FRANKLIN DELANO HOLDER

The Honourable Mr. Justice Franklin Delano Holder has retired from the Judiciary after serving for over thirteen years (13) as a Puisne Judge. His Honour attended the University of Guyana where he completed the 1st year in Political Science. He read for

his bachelor's degree of Laws (LLB) part one (1) at the University of Guyana and the University of the West Indies. He completed part two (2) and three (3) for his bachelor's degree of Laws at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus then proceeded to the Hugh Wooding Law School, St. Augustine Trinidad to attain his Council of Legal Certificate.

His Honour was formally called to the Guyana Bar in January 1996. Justice Holder was appointed to act in the Office of a Puisne Judge on the 27th day of February 2009 and later confirmed to be a Puisne Judge on the 25th of October 2013. He has served in both the Civil and Criminal jurisdiction. During the latter years of his tenure as a Puisne Judge, he served in the Commercial Court.

Prior to his ascension to the bench, his Honour served as a Legal Assistant attached to the State Solicitor/Public Trustee/Official Receiver Office (November 1990-January 1991). From April 1991 to January 1993, he served as State Counsel attached to the Attorney General's Chamber. In 1992, he was the Attorney General's representative on the Guyana-Venezuela Joint Commission on Drugs. He also served as the Attorney General's representative on the CARICOM, Inter-Governmental Task Force, Senior Legal Advisor (ag), Deputy State Solicitor (ag) and the Attorney General's representative on the Rules Making Committee, for the Rules of the High

Court. He was later confirmed in the position of Senior Legal Advisor with effect from November 1994.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Franklin Delano Holder has indeed served the Judiciary and Guyana well and the Supreme Court of Judicature extends gratitude to his Honour for his service and wishes him great success in his future endeavors.

3. OVERVIEW

The Judiciary of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana is the third arm of a tri-partite state and functions independently of the other arms, that is to say, the Executive and Legislative arms. The concept that there are three distinct functions of government: legislative, executive and judicial, discharged by three separate agencies – the Legislative in the form of Parliament, the Executive in the form of the ministers and the government departments and agencies for which they are responsible and the Judiciary in the form of the judges and courts - is the cornerstone of our Constitution. In accordance with this principle of the separation of powers our Constitution provides expressly at Article 122 A (1) that:

> "All courts and all persons presiding over the courts shall exercise their function independently of the control and direction of any other person or authority; and shall be free and independent from political, executive and any other form of direction and control."

In this regard therefore, Article 123 of the Constitution further provides for the establishment of a Supreme Court of Judicature consisting of the Court of Appeal and the High Court. Guyana, in April 2005, adopted the Caribbean Court of Justice as its final appellate court. Guyana's judicial system can best be described as a four-tiered system made up as follows:

3.1 THE COURT OF SUMMARY JURISDICTION OR MAGISTRATES' COURT.

The summary jurisdiction of judicial system is governed by the Summary Jurisdiction (Magistrates) Act, Cap 3:05 which establishes the Magistrates' Court and sets out its practice and procedure, provides for the appointment of magistrates and the regulation of their duties.

In their civil jurisdiction, magistrates adjudicate petty debt claims for the recovery of any debts or damages where the amount claimed does not exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) as well as claims for rent.

In their criminal jurisdiction, magistrates hear and determine complaints in respect of summary and indictable offences. Indictable cases can be tried summarily where the provision of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act Chap.12:02 as amended by the Administration of Justice Act. 1978. (A.J.A) are applied for or by embarking on a Preliminary Inquiry. The magistrates also function as Coroners in the conduct of inquests. There are ten (10) magisterial districts which are administered through eight Head Offices and are listed hereunder starting with the districts in the east of Guyana as follows:

- i. The Corentyne Magisterial District with head office at Whim.
- ii. The Berbice Magisterial District with its head office at New Amsterdam.
- iii. The West Berbice Magisterial District with head office at Fort Wellington.
- iv. The East Demerara Magisterial District with its head office at Vigilance.
- v. Georgetown Magisterial District with head office in Georgetown
- vi. The West Demerara Magisterial District with head office at Vreeden-Hoop
- vii. The Essequibo Magisterial District with its head office at Suddie.

- viii. The Upper Demerara River Magisterial District with head office at Linden.
- ix. The Northwest Magisterial District which is administered by the Georgetown and Essequibo offices.
- x. The Rupununi Magisterial District with head office at Lethem which is the last Magisterial District that declared opening on February 2, 2018.

These ten Magisterial Districts are currently served by twenty-three (23) Magistrates. The Magistrates' Courts have both criminal and civil jurisdiction. They exercise jurisdiction in relation to summary criminal matters. These Courts also conduct Preliminary Inquiries into serious criminal matters to determine whether a case has been established against an accused person sufficient to put them on trial in the High Court. They also conduct trials into indictable matters which are by election tried summarily by virtue of the provisions of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act, Cap 10:02, as amended by the Administration of Justice Act, 1978.

3.2 THE HIGH COURT

The High Court of the Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and such a number of Puisne Judges as may be prescribed by Parliament. This is provided for in Article 125 of the Constitution. Parliament has prescribed that the number of Puisne Judges to be twenty (20). Currently, however, the High Court is functioning with twelve (12) Puisne Judges. The High Court is governed by the High Court Act, Cap 3:02 and the Rules made thereunder and sits in Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo. There are two sub-registries outside of Demerara located at Essequibo and Berbice respectively. The High Court has several divisions including the Constitutional Court, the Commercial Court, and the Land Court. The Family Court Division was opened in June 2016.

There is also the Full Court of the High Court which is an appellate court that hears appeals from interlocutory or summary decisions of High Court judges as well as appeals from the magistrates' courts. The Full Court is established by sections 75 to 84 of the High Court Act.

3.3 THE COURT OF APPEAL

The Court of Appeal is governed by the Court of Appeal Act, Cap 3:01 and is a court of review.

3.4 THE CARIBBEAN COURT OF JUSTICE

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) is governed by the Caribbean Court of Justice Act 2004 and replaces the Guyana Court of Appeal as the final appellate court for Guyana.

4. COURT PERFORMANCE

4.1. COURT OF APPEAL

NUMBER OF MATTERS FILED FOR THE COURT OF APPEAL IN THE YEAR 2022

During the year, a total of two hundred and fifty-seven (257) appeals, ninety-five (95) Applications/ Motions and sixty-eight (68) chamber matters were filed to the Court of Appeal. The following categories of matters filed are:

A total of one hundred and eighty-four (184) civil appeals, sixty-five (65) civil applications/motions, fifty- nine (59) civil chambers applications, seventy-three (73) criminal appeals, thirty (30) criminal applications/motions, nine (9) criminal chamber applications. The following table below shows a summary of matters filed during 2022.

YEAR	CIVIL APPEALS	CIVIL APPLICATIONS /MOTIONS	CHAMBERS CIVIL	CRIMINAL APPEALS	CRIMINAL APPLICATIONS/MOTIONS	CHAMBERS CRIMINAL	TOTAL
2022	184	65	59	73	30	9	420
TOTAL %	44%	16%	14%	17%	7%	2%	100%

CIVIL FULL BENCH MATTERS DISPOSED FOR 2022

The following table reflects a summary of Civil matters disposed of by the Court of Appeal.

FULL BENCH MATTERS	GRANTED	LEAVE TO APPEAL	WITHDRAWN	REFUSED	SETTLED	DISMISSED	DECISIONS GIVEN	RE-HEARING /DE NOVO	TOTAL
Civil Appeals	8	0	0	0	0	14	21	0	43
Civil Motions	10	8	0	5	0	0	17	0	40
Total	18	8	0	5	0	14	38	0	83
Total %	22%	9.6%	0%	6%	0%	17%	46%	0%	100%

GRANTED- A total of 18 civil matters were granted, which shows an aggregate of 22%

LEAVE TO APPEAL -A total of 8 civil leave to appeal were granted, which shows and aggregate of 9.6%

WITHDRAWN- No Civil matters were withdrawn.

REFUSED -A total of 5 civil matters were refused, which shows an aggregate of 6%

SETTLED -No Civil matters were settled.

DISMISSED - A total of 14 civil matters were dismissed, which shows an aggregate of 17 % **DECISION** - A total of 38 civil decisions were delivered, which shows an aggregate of 46% **RE-HEARING/DE NOVO-**No Civil matters were ordered for re-hearing.

CRIMINAL FULL BENCH MATTERS DISPOSED FOR 2022

The following table reflects a summary of Criminal matters disposed of by the Court of Appeal.

FULL BENCH PROCEEDINGS	GRANTED	LEAVE TO APPEAL	WITHDRAWN	REFUSED	SETTLED	DISMISSED	DECISION	RE-HEARING /de novo	TOTAL
Criminal Appeals	14	0	0	0	0	3	20	3	40
Criminal Applications/ Motions	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Total	14	33	0	0	0	3	20	3	73
Total %	19%	45%	0%	0%	0%	4%	28%	4%	100%

GRANTED A total of 14 Criminal matters were granted, which shows an aggregate of 19% **LEAVE TO APPEAL** A total of 33 Criminal leave to appeal were granted, which shows and aggregate of 45%

WITHDRAWN No Criminal matters were refused.

REFUSED No Criminal matters were refused.

SETTLED No Criminal matters were settled.

DISMISSED A total of 3 Criminal matters were dismissed, which shows an aggregate of 4 %

DECISION A total of 20 Criminal decisions were delivered, which shows an aggregate of 28%

RE-HEARING/DE NOVO A total of 3 Criminal matters were ordered for re-hearing, which shows an aggregate of 4%

CHAMBERS MATTERS DISPOSED FOR 2022

The following table reflects a summary of chamber matters disposed

	GRANTED	DISMISSED	STRUCK OUT	REFUSED	WITHDRAWN	SETTLED	TOTAL
CIVIL SUMMONS	16	16	3	14	5	4	58
CRIMINAL BAIL PETITIONS	1	1	0	7	1	0	10
TOTAL	17	17	3	21	6	4	68
TOTAL %	25%	25%	4%	31%	9%	6%	100%

GRANTED A total of 17 Chamber matters were granted, which shows an aggregate of 25% **DISMISSED** A total of 17 Chamber matters were dismissed, which shows an aggregate of 25 % **STRUCK OUT** A total of 3 Chamber matters were struck out, which shows an aggregate of 4 % **REFUSED** A total of 21 Chamber matters were refused, which shows an aggregate of 31 % **WITHDRAWN** A total of 6 Chamber matters were withdrawn, which shows an aggregate of 9 % **SETTLED** A total of 4 Chamber matters were settled, which shows an aggregate of

4.2 HIGH COURTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

There are three High Courts of the Republic of Guyana. These are:

- (i) The High Court of Demerara
- (ii) The High Court of Berbice
- (iii) The High Court of Essequibo

The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022 A. HIGH COURT OF DEMERARA JUDICIAL REGISTRY STATEMENT OF CLAIM JANUARY-MARCH **APRIL-**JULY – **OCTOBER-**TOTAL AS JUNE SEPTEMBER DECEMBER OF DECEMBER 2022 FILED 116 82 81 98 377 PENDING 49 55 255 67 84 CONCLUDED 49 33 26 14 122 Table 1 Statement of Claims 2022

JUDGEMENT SUMMONS

JANUARY-MA	RCH	APRIL- JUNE	JULY – SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER- DECEMBER	TOTAL AS OF DECEMBER 2022
FILED	13	10	14	8	45
PENDING	1	6	6	6	19
CONCLUDED	12	4	8	2	26

Table 2 Judgement Summons 2022

ADOPTION SUMMONS

JANUARY-MAI	RCH	APRIL- JUNE	JULY – SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER- DECEMBER	TOTAL AS OF DECEMBER 2022
FILED	8	5	13	5	31
PENDING	1	3	6	4	14
CONCLUDED	7	2	7	0	16

able 3 Adoption Summons 2022

FULL COURT APPEAL

JANUARY-MA	RCH	APRIL- JUNE	JULY – SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER- DECEMBER	TOTAL AS OF DECEMBER 2022
FILED	25	34	27	30	116
PENDING	10	12	15	17	54
CONCLUDED	15	22	12	13	62

Table 4 Full Court Appeal 2022

FIXED DATE APPLICTION

JANUARY-MA	RCH	APRIL- JUNE	JULY – SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER- DECEMBER	TOTAL AS OF DECEMBER 2022
FILED	459	449	498	466	1872
PENDING	33	65	63	58	219
CONCLUDED	426	384	435	408	1653

Table 5 Fixed Date Application

LAND COURT

Summary of Matters at Land Court in the year 2022

Land Court Petitions and Land Registration Applications Summary 2022

	Petitions	Land Registration Applications
	Demerara	Demerara
Pending at 31 December 2021	669	41
Filed Jan-Dec 2022	277	66
Total	946	107
Concluded in Jan - Dec 2022		71
	255	
Pending at 31 December 2022	691	36

Table 6 Matters of Land 2022

FAMILY COURT

Table 7 and Figure 1 shows the various categories of matters dealt with at the Family Courtand Orders granted.

Category	Amount	Nisi Orders	Withdrawn /Dismissal	Struck Out	Concluded	Pending
Divorce	1500	713	44	-	485	258
Division of Property	29	-		-	22	7
Application Relating to Children	204	-	-	-	204	-
Form 11 Applications only	25	-	-	6	19	-
Total	1758	713	44	6	730	265

Table 7 Types of Matters

46

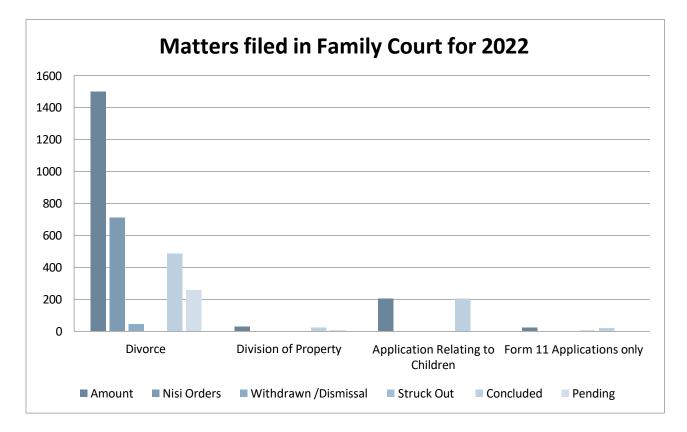


Figure 1 Types of Matters in Family Court 2022

Table 8 & Figure 2: Shows the contrast between Custody, Access with Maintenance & Division of Property, Custody, Access with Maintenance and Custody with Access Applications over twelve (12) months - (January- December 2022) period which highlights a noticeable increase in comparison to the total numbers filed for 2021.

Intake Matters	2021	2022	Variance 2021-2022	Percentage
Custody, Access with Maintenance & Division of Property	1	2	1	0.01
Custody, Access with Maintenance	3	26	23	0.23
Custody with Access	10	178	168	1.68
Total	14	206	192	1.92

Table 8 2021, 2022 & Variance

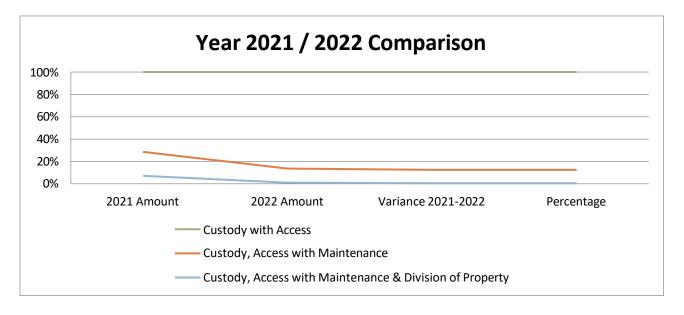


Figure 2 Comparison of years & Variance

Table 9 & Figure 3: Shows the comparison between Division of Property, Injunction, Division of Property with Maintenance and Maintenance with Access Applications over a period of twelve (12) months - (January-December 2022), which shows a reduction when compared with the total number of matters in the same category for 2021.

Table 3a:

Intake Matters	2021	2022	Variance	Percentage
	Amount	Amount	2021-2022	
Division of Property	37	27	10	0.1
Injunction	1	-	-	-
Division of Property	-	2		
with Maintenance			2	0.02
Maintenance with	-	-	-	-
Access				
Total	38	29	12	0.12

Table 9 Comparison of 2021 & 2022



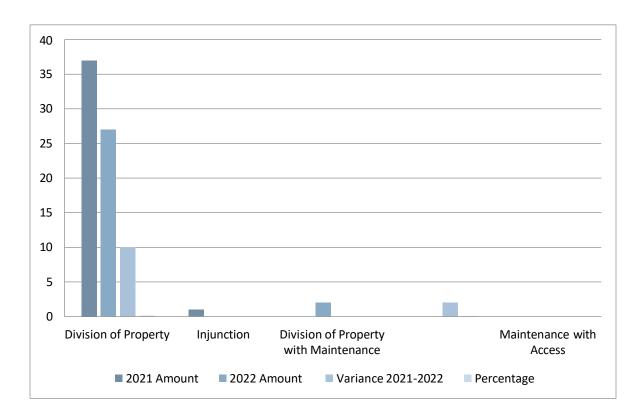


Figure 3 Comparison of 2021/2022

Table 10 & Figure 4: Shows the comparison between Divorce with Custody, Divorce with Maintenance, Divorce with Access, Divorce with Division of Property, Divorce with Custody & Access, Divorce with Custody & Maintenance, Divorce with Maintenance & Access and Divorce with Custody, Access & Maintenance Applications over a period of twelve (12) months - (January- December 2022). When compared to the same category of matters filed for the year 2021 a relative increase can be seen.

Table 4a:

Intake Matters	Numbers for 2021	Numbers for 2022	Variance 2021- 2022	Percentage
Divorce with Custody	38	30	8	0.08
Divorce with Maintenance	6	-	-	-
Divorce with Access	4	5	1	0.01
DivorcewithDivisionofProperty	33	50	17	0.17
Divorce with Custody & Access	-	7	7	0.07
Divorce with Custody & Maintenance	-	3	-	-
DivorcewithMaintenance&Access	3	2	1	0.01
Divorce with Custody, Access & Maintenance	4	5	1	0.01
Total	88	102	35	0.35

Table 10 Comparison 2021/2022

Figure 4

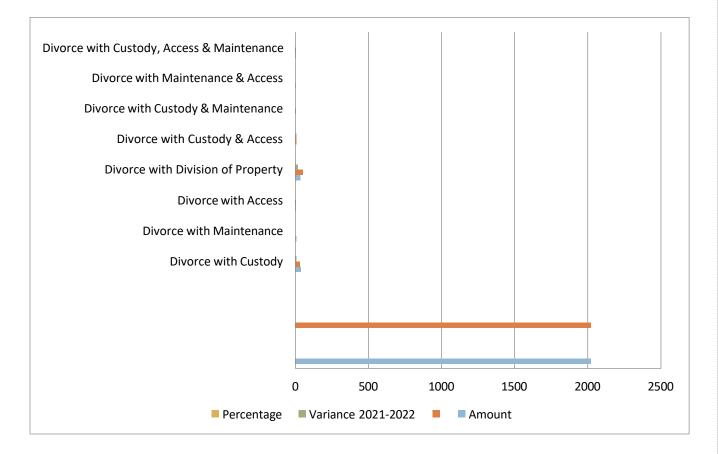


Figure 4 Compariosn2021/2022

Table 11: Shows the comparison between Divorce, Custody, Maintenance, Access andGuardianship Applications over period of twelve (12) months (January-December 2022).When compared with the previous year (2021) an increase can be seen.

Intake Matters	Amount 2021	Amount 2022	Variance 202 2022	1- Percentage
Divorce	1482	1500	18	0.18
Custody	121	125	4	0.04
Maintenance	2	8	6	0.06
Access	15	31	16	0.16
Guardianship	21	40	19	0.19
Total	1641	1704	63	0.63

Table 11 Intake Matters 2021/2022

FAMILY COURT CHILD CARE FACILITY

Table 12 & Figure 5: Shows the number of children accessing the Childcare Facilities for a twelve (12) months period - (January-December 2022).

Source of referral	Number of Children Accessing Child Care Facilities
Court Referral	32
CC & PA Cases	50
Sexual Offence Matters	8
Drop-Ins	5
Total	95

Table 12 Access to Childcare facilities

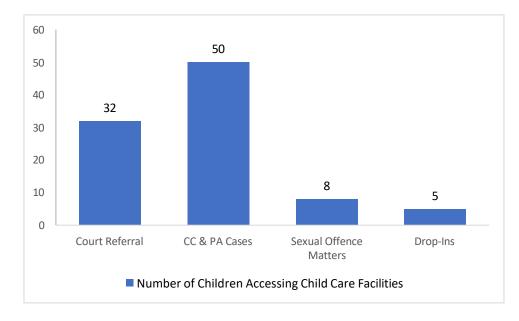


Figure 5 Access to Childcare facilities

APPLICANTS IN PERSON SERVICE

The Family Court offers a service to members of the public who are desirous of representing themselves due to various reasons. The table below shows the numbers of appointments that were made for the year 2022, the number of matters that were filed and the number that are pending. However, it should be noted that people have either cancelled their appointment or did not attend their interviews, while some persons are yet to attend the Registry to have their documents filed. A total of eight hundred and thirty-four (834) appointments were made for the year 2022, of which a total of three hundred and twenty-seven (327) interviews were conducted. One hundred and thirty-six (136) matters were filed, two (2) were cancelled after the interviews were conducted, one hundred and forty-seven (147) matters are still awaiting to be filed, and a total number of two hundred and twenty-two (222) persons did not honor their appointments.

Interview conducted	327
Filed	136
Pending to be filed	147
Missed Appointment	222
Cancelled After interview conducted	2
Total appointments booked	834

Table 13 In person applications 2022

57

TABLE SHOWS STATUS OF MATTERS FILED IN THE PROBATE SECTION AND WORK DONE DURING 2022

	Particulars	Application For Probate	Application For Letters of Administration	Re- Sealing Of Grant	Estate Withdrawn	Wills Deposited	Caveats Entered	Citations	Affidavit Verifying Accounts
Georgetown	Filed in 2022	373	760	3	12.5	1135	181	10	Nil
Disposed	227	491	2					2	
Georgetown	at 2022-12-31	l (Withdrawn)	(Withdrawn)		2	48	88	1	
Georgetown Pending at 2022-12-31	49 (Out of Order)	82 (Out of Order) 187	1	17.1	1087	93	9	÷	
		96 (Processing)	(Processing)						

Table 14 Probate Section 2022

AN ANALYSIS OF THIS INFORMATION SHOWS THAT: -

a) One thousand one hundred and thirty-six (1136) applications for Probate, Letters of Administration and Re-sealing of Grants were filed for 2022. Of that number, 720 estates

were granted and given off to Attorneys-at-Law, making a total 416 estates pending at 31st December, 2022.

- b) Of the 416 estates pending, 1 estate was withdrawn leaving a total 415 estates pending at 31st December, 2022.
- c) Of those 415 estates pending, 283 are in order and processing and 132 were defective for various reasons and notices were sent out to the attorneys-at-Law to have them rectified.
- d) 1135 wills were deposited in 2022, Of that number, 48 were uplifted in 2022 and a total of 1087 wills remain at the Probate Registry as at 31st December, 2022 for safe keeping.
- e) 181 caveats were filed in 2022, of that number 88 caveats expired in 2022 leaving 93 caveats still in force at 31st December, 2022.
- f) 10 citations were filed in 2022. Of that amount 9 were issued in 2022 and 9 citations are pending at 31st December, 2022 to be served and returns attach to the said citations.
- g) There was no affidavit verifying account filed in 2022.
- h) There was no affidavit of life filed in 2022.

TABLE SHOWS STATUS OF MATTERS PENDING AT 1st JANUARY 2021 and

COMPLETED OF 31ST DECEMBER 2022

Particulars	Application For Probate	Application For Letters of Administration	Re- Sealing Of Grant	Estate Withdrawn	Wills	Caveats	Citations
Pending At 2021-12-21	62	169	-	-	1060	67	-
Disposed At 2022-12-31	51	132	-	11	35	67	-
Pending At 2022-12-31	11	37	3	-	1025	-	-

Table 15 Matters Pending

STATUS OF MATTERS FILED IN THE PROBATE SECTION AND WORK DONE DURING 2022

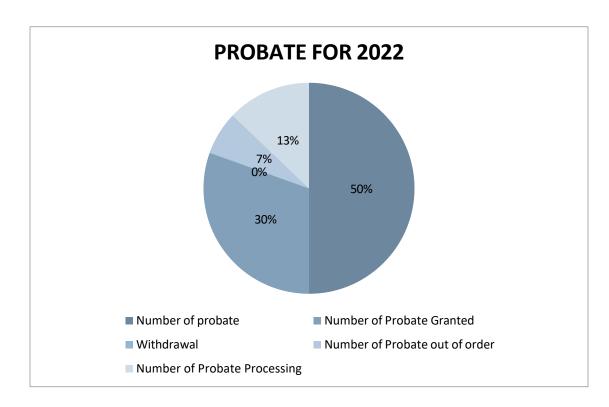


Figure 6 Matters filed Probate 2022

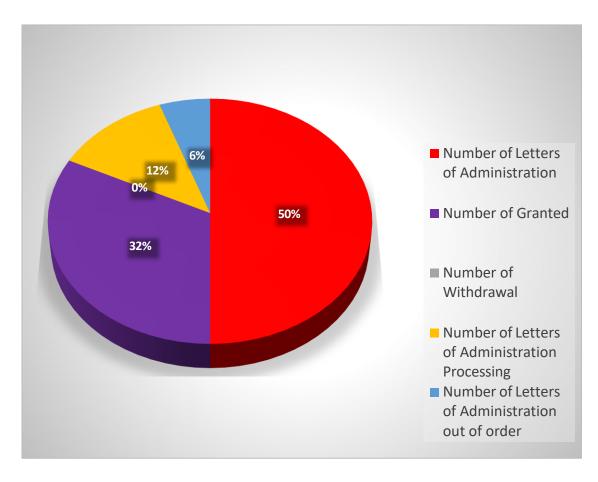


Figure 7 Letters of Administration 2022

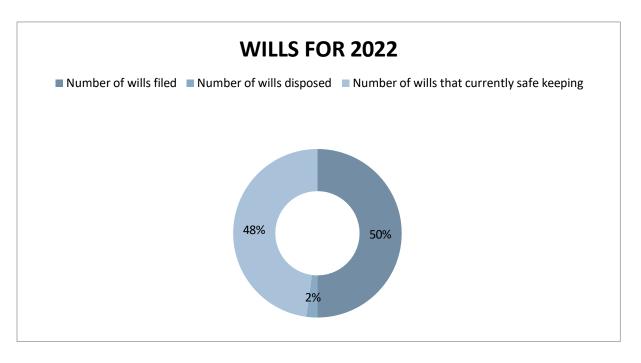


Figure 8 Wills for 2022

MARSHALS' SECTION

Performances for the Judicial years 2021 and 2022 in the respective categories reveals that for Georgetown, the General Office, in 2021 the performances effected via services/executions have aggregated in a sum of 1195 of 2133 matters which resulted in an overall percentage of 56%. While in 2022 the performances disposed 1055 of 2144 matters thereby producing a percentage of 49% for that year. In 2022, more matters were filed in the system but a decrease in matters disposed accordingly in context of notifying the other parties, executing enforcement orders etc. The comparison in percentage for years (2021 & 2022) resulted in 7% of which indicated that 2021 was more active in delivery of requisite services on a case-by-case basis thereby achieving goals, social Justice and objectives.

For the Family Division, with regard to services demanded by the general public within the General Office, in 2021 we have recorded 3754 of 6771 matters as being disposed and generating a percentage performance of 55%. In 2022, the performance reflected improvement for disposal of 4815 from7819 matters, resulting in a performance percentage of 62% for work completed. For the year 2021, performances were just above average in services delivered for the general public and 2022, there was an increase which indicates an industrious year as the influx of matters were greater than year 2021. As it is, some matters may have been settled after filing thus, those matters have remained in the pending status quo so, as was done before we will have to liaise with Judicial

for information regarding those matters and proceed at a suitable time with the disposal of all such matters accordingly.

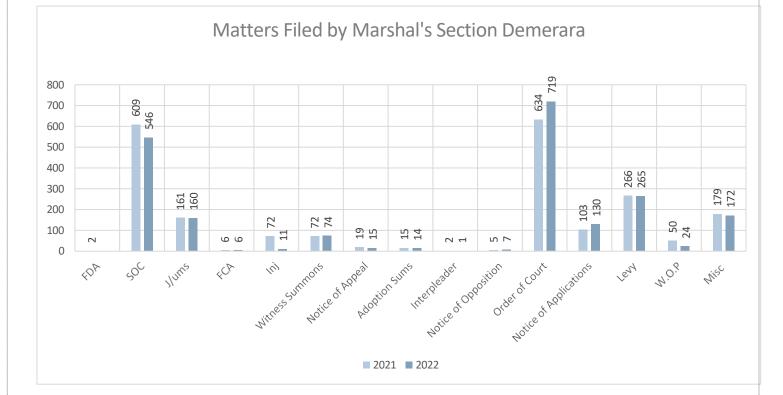


Figure 9 Matters filed by Marshal Section

For Demerara, based on the data exhibited in the chart, it shows that SOC matters were higher than the other matters within 2021, while in 2022 there was a decline in 10% for SOC matters filed. Other Matters which demanded vast attention into the filing system within 2021, were SOC, O/C, Levy while the others remain at minimal in flux throughout that year. Similarly, the year 2022 has shown almost identical figures for Levies and Full Court Appeals filed but varied for Orders of Court as it was recorded that a higher percentage was filed for this year.

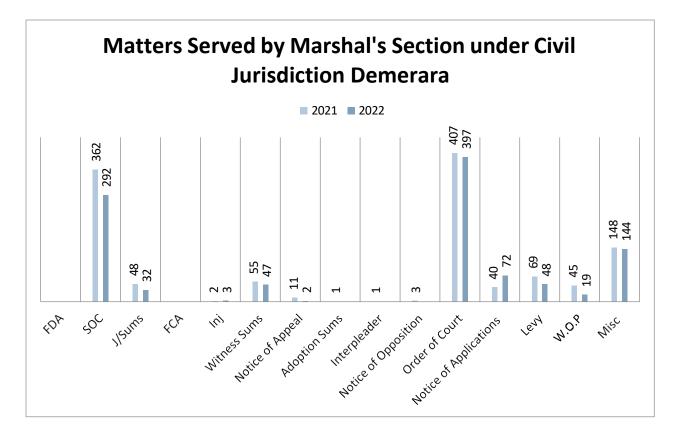


Figure 10 Matters served under civil jurisdiction.

From the Chart above, over the 2021 period, Orders of Court represented the modal matters, being 407 in totality while in 2022 there was a slight decrease as 397 were recorded. For both years, SOC were served whereby in 2021 as indicated above was more productive via the demands for the service of which was responded with high degree of efficiency and effectiveness. The other document that stood out in a high degree of productivity is the Miscellaneous set documents which consists of praecipe for Citation, Petitions for Declaration of Titles, warrants to arrest/ release, Notices, urgent without Notice Applications, warning to Caveat etc. and clearly from the chart 2021 overall was more a busy and successful year in delivering the services The others were very minimal in productivity due to the low in flux of matters requiring service.

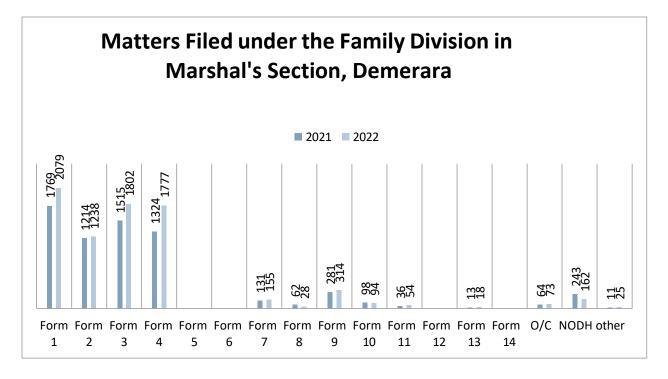


Figure 11 Matters filed under Family Division 2021/2022

Performances by Marshals under this division were productive. Much work was done via filing mostly of FORM 1 as usual. Petition for Divorce and Other Matrimonial Causes, Form 2.;Statement of Arrangements for Children, Form 3; Notice of Proceedings (Respondent) and Form 4; Acknowledgement of Service (Respondent) for both years. In 2022, there has been a higher influx of matters received for service compared to 2021. Overall, both years have recorded a high percentage of matters filed. Form 9 was the other document used to engage the Court in relation to Child (ren) and has seen a moderate filing percentage for both years while the other documents filing were extremely low.

Conclusively, persons have been using the legal system to gain dissolution of Marriage at a high filing rate from which in the Chart indicates that numbers were more than any other matter across the civil jurisdiction.

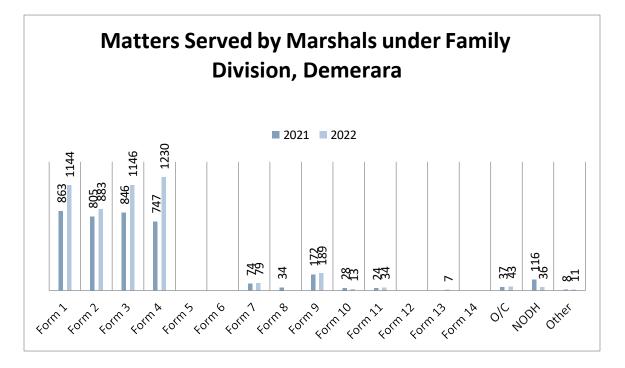


Figure 12 Matters served under Family Division

Based on the data revealed in the chart, a high volume of service was required and so, as indicated for both years, the service demanded was delivered with a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness of Form 1 to Form 4. In 2021, performances of Marshal's service of the aforementioned documents were commendable and for 2022, it was better in the context of Marshal's service having recorded a higher number because matters filed, it was expected that the number for matters disposed was high too. So, as can be seen overall Forms 1 to 4 continued to be brought before Court thus, upon the request for Marshal's Service the Section responded and generated a performance above average. The forms represent Petitions for Divorce along with supporting documents inclusive of Statement of Arrangement for Child(ren) which were duly disposed.

Execution Sales held in Demerara for 2021 and 2022

With regards to Execution Sales prepared and conducted periodically over the two years, it has been recorded that in Demerara for 2021, 74 out of 235 properties were exposed for Sale of which recorded a 31% execution. Therefore, it was projected that the year would end with a low percentage. While in 2022 there was a vast decrease in properties exposed for Execution Sale in the sum 173 properties of which 75 out of that amount were sold at percentage of 43% which shows that the latter year despite lesser properties were exposed for sale, a higher performance sale rate was achieved.

DEMERARA

Execution Auction Sales held by Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature for the Judicial year 2021.

Months	Dates	Total Properties	Total Sales
		Advertised	
January	26-01-21	11	1
	28-01-21	9	6
February	02-02-21	10	2
	04-02-21	10	5
	09-02-21	10	6
	11-02-21	10	3
	18-02-21	10	2
	26-02-21	19	9
March	09-03-21	18	3
	18-03-21	10	2
April	-	-	-
May	18-05-21	15	7
June	22-06-21	12	3
	29-06-21	11	3
July	27-07-21	10	2
August	3-08-21	11	4
	17-08-21	10	2
September	14-09-21	11	1
	21-09-21	10	-

October	26-10-21	10	2
November	16-11-21	11	6
December	7-12-21	13	3

Table 16 Execution Sales in Demerara

DEMERARA

Execution Auction Sales held in the compound of Supreme Court of Judicature by Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature for the Judicial year 2022

Jan-Mar 2022

Months	Dates	Total Properties Advertised	Total Sales
January	18-01-22	10	4
February	15-2-22	10	2
March	1-03-22	10	4
	15-03-22	10	4
Total		40	14

Table 17 Execution Auction Sales in Demerara

<u>Apr-Jun 2022</u>

Months	Dates	Total Properties Advertised	Total Sales
April	5-04-22	14	6
	12-4-22	10	3
	19-04-22	10	5
May	10-05-22	11	8
	17-05-22	11	4
	24-05-22	11	3
June	21-06-22	13	8
	28-06-22	10	5
Total		90	42

Jul-Sept 2022

Months	Dates	Total Properties Advertised	Total Sales
July	12-07-22	11	6
August	2-08-22	11	3
	30-08-22	11	5
September	13-09-22	10	5
Total		43	19

72

Oct-Dec 2022

Months	Dates	Total Properties Advertised	Total Sales
October	-	-	-
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
Jan-Dec Grand	-	173	75
total			

DEMERARA

Chart Showing Total Execution Auction Sales held by Registrar of the Supreme Court of

Judicature for the Judicial year 2021.



Figure 13 Execution Sales 2021

DEMERARA

<u>Chart Showing Total Execution Auction Sales held by Registrar of the Supreme Court of</u> <u>Judicature for the Judicial year 2022</u>.

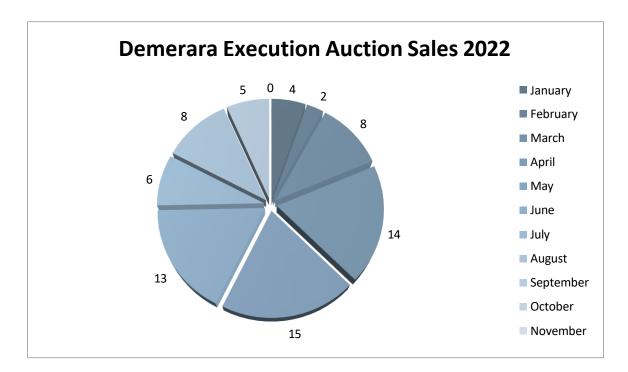


Figure 14 Execution Sales 2022

DEMERARA

Chart Showing comparison in Total Execution Auction Sales held quarterly by Registrar in

the Compound of The Supreme Court of Judicature for the Judicial year.

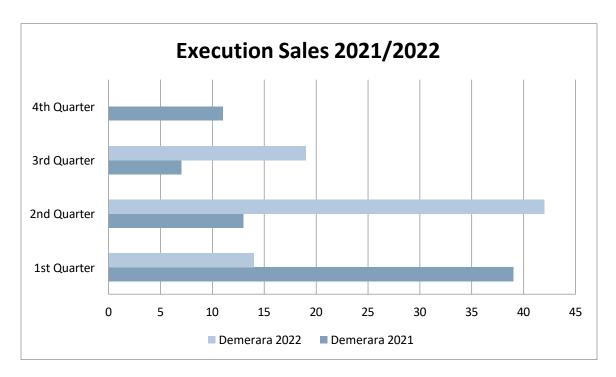


Figure 15 Quarterly Execution Sales 2021/2022

DEMERARA

Chart Showing comparison of matters filed, served and pending over the Judicial years

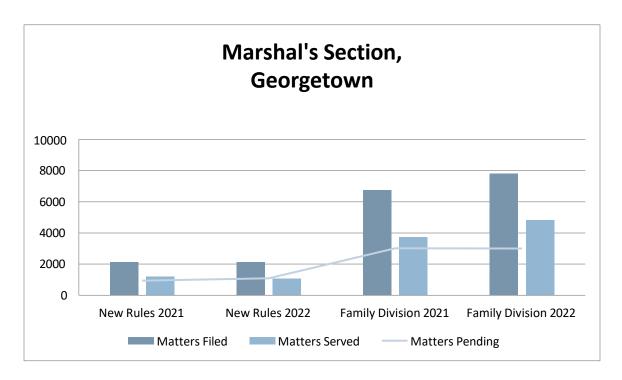


Figure 16 Matters filed in Marshal's Section 2021/2022

Matters referred	64
Matters mediated	57
Matters awaiting mediation	7
Status	
Matters resolved	12
Matters returned to court	19
Matters pending	25
Matters awaiting mediation	1

The records reveal a significant decrease in matters referred to mediation for the period under review (64 compared to 91 in 2021).

The number of matters scheduled for mediation (both new and ongoing) decreased from **333 to 320 (scheduling continued to pose challenges)** whilst the number of matters successfully resolved increased from 31 to 37.

The number of unresolved matters returned to court also increased from 32 to 58.

The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022 B. THE HIGH COURT OF BERBICE JUDICIAL REGISTRY BERBICE CIVIL COURT ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY - DECEMBER 2022

> 0 Specially Indorsed Writ of Summons Summons & Other Adoption (Old) Adoption New Judgment Summons Judgment Summons Statement of Claim Fixed Date FDA Converted to Writ Applications Under the regular Application SOC Jurisdiction

> > Pending 31/12/2021 Filed Jan-Dec 2022 Disposed Jan-Dec 2022 Pending 2022/12/31

	Pending 31/12/2021	Filed Jan-Dec 2022	Disposed Jan-Dec 2022	Pending 2022/12/31
Specially Endorsed Writ	5	0	3	2
Writ of Summons	16	0	15	1
Summons & Other Applications	0	0	0	0
Adoption (Old)	463	0	0	463
Adoption New	4	22	10	16
Judgment Summons	1	0	0	1
Judgment Summons Under the regular	59	31	32	58
Jurisdiction				
Statement of Claim	172	128	87	213
Fixed Date Application	250	426	332	344
FDA Converted to SOC	29	0	2	27

Table 18 Berbice Matters 2021/2022

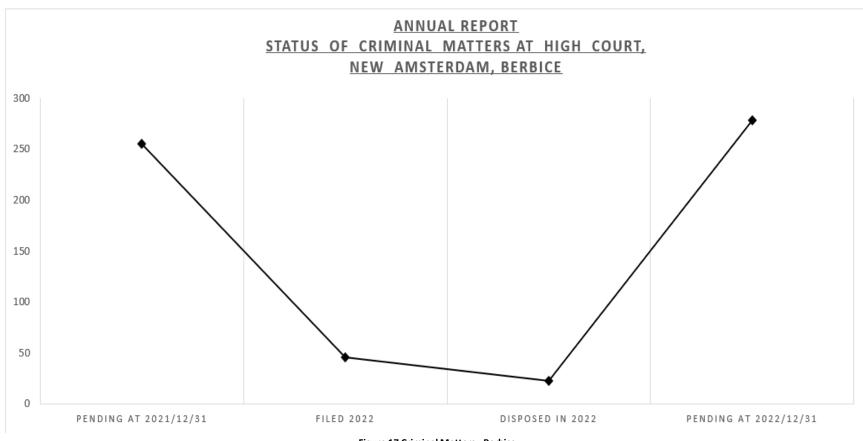


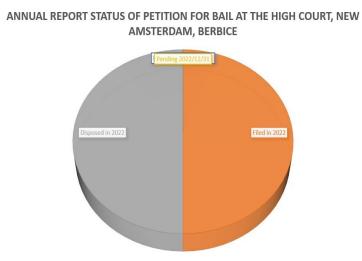
Figure 17 Criminal Matters - Berbice

	INDICTMENT
Pending at 2021/12/31	255
Filed 2022	46
Disposed in 2022	23
Pending at 2022/12/31	278

Table 19 Indictment 2022

	Pending at	Filed	Disposed	Pending
	2021/12/31	in	in 2022	2022/12/31
		2022		
Criminal	1	1	2	2
Civil	21	16	11	26
Consideration/Dismissal	0	0	0	0

Table 20 Full Court matters



Pending at	Filed in 2022	Disposed	Pending
2021/12/31		in 2022	2022/12/31
0	56	56	0

Table 21 Petition for Bail - Berbice

LAND COURT

Summary of Matters at Land Court in the year 2022

Land Court Petitions and Land Registration Applications Summary 2022				
	Petitions	Land Registration		
		Applications		
	Berbice	Berbice		
Pending at 31 December 2021	962	1091		
Filed Jan-Dec 2022	210	87		
Total	1172	1178		
Concluded in Jan - Dec 2022	57	184		
Pending at 31 December 2022	1115	994		

Table 22 Land court matters 2022

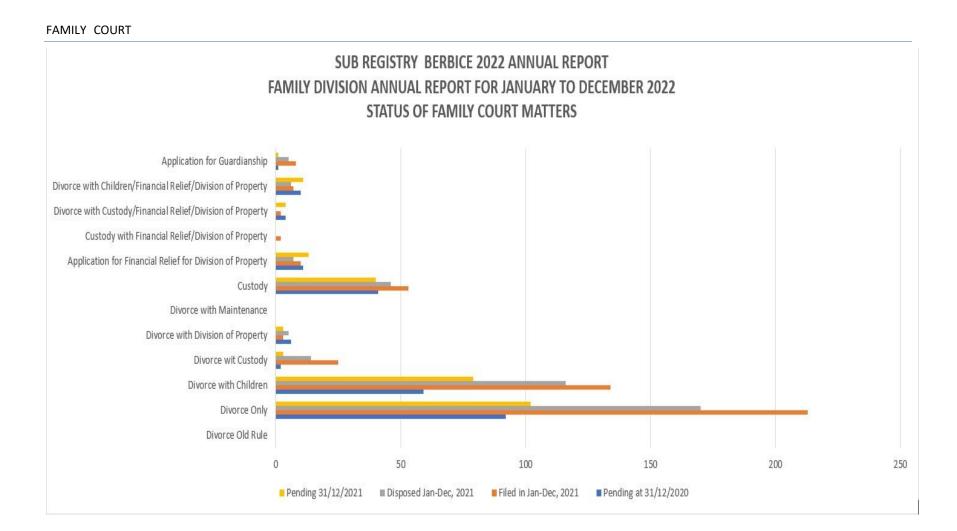


Figure 18 Family Division Berbice

85

	Pending at 31/12/2021	Filed in Jan-Dec, 2022	Disposed Jan-Dec, 2022	Pending 31/12/2022
Divorce Old Rule	0	0	0	0
Divorce Only	92	213	170	102
Divorce with Children	59	134	116	79
Divorce wit Custody	2	25	14	3
Divorce with Division of Property	6	3	5	3
Divorce with Maintenance	0	0	0	0
Custody	41	53	46	40
Application for Financial Relief for Division of Property	11	10	7	13
Custody with Financial Relief/Division of Property	0	2	0	0
Divorce with Custody/Financial Relief/Division of Property	4	2	0	4
Divorce with Children/Financial Relief/Division of Property	10	7	6	11
Application for Guardianship	1	8	5	1

Table 23 Family Matters - Berbice

PROBATE

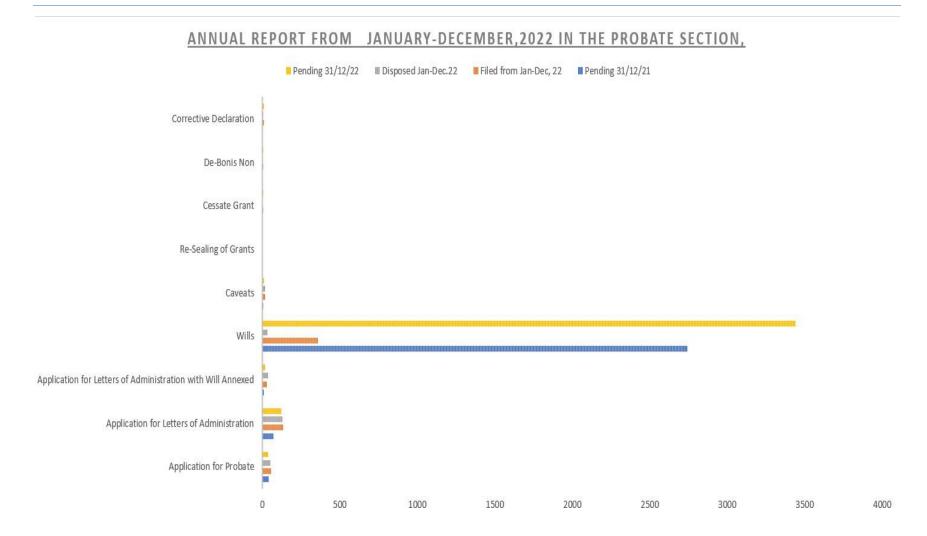


Figure 19 Probate Section Berbice

	Pending 31/12/21	Filed from Jan- Dec, 22	Disposed Jan- Dec.22	Pending 31/12/22
Application for Probate	42	54	52	36
Application for Letters of Administration	72	135	130	123
Application for Letters of Administration with	10	29	36	18
Will Annexed				
Wills	2743	360	32	3439
Caveats	1	18	16	9
Re-Sealing of Grants	0	0	0	0
Cessate Grant	0	2	0	4
De-Bonis Non	0	2	0	6
Corrective Declaration	0	9	1	8

Table 24 Probate section Berbice

MARSHAL'S DEPARTMENT

When comparing judicial years 2021 and 2022, for the respective categories under Berbice, the General Office, in 2021 the performances revealed that 129 of 656 matters were disposed of which means that 19% of the matters were made via service and/or execution. In 2022, there was a recorded increase in performance because more matters were filed, along with pending matters for service which the marshals successfully effected service. The aggregated sum of 432 of 694 matters was executed quantifying a percentage of 62% registering a significant increased performance by the unit. This shows more persons are increasingly seeking justice through Courts and thus, the Section delivered a commendable performance.

Under the Family Division, the Section via demands for service have responded and so, in 2021 delivered an under-par performance that is to say 769 of 2349 matters were disposed resulting of a 32% percentage in performance. However, in 2022 the performances have increased as the statistics revealed that 854 of 2278 matters were disposed of which covers 37% of effected services. Even though both years there were over 2000 matters filed and minimal percentages in overall performances were realized, the Section remains poised and readily equipped to deliver when approached with hope that the litigants be as supportive in having the matters served.

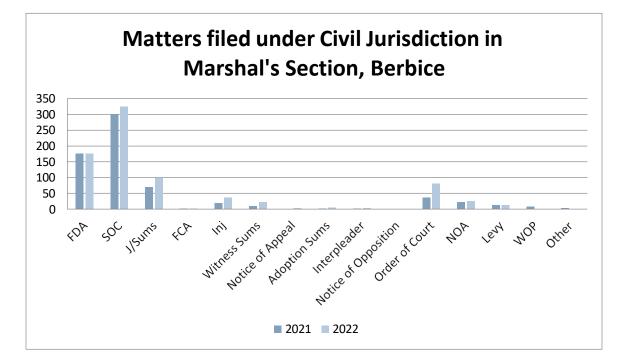


Figure 20 Civil Jurisdiction Marshal Section

Based on the data exhibited in the chart, SOC matters were the modal matters filed within 2022 while in 2021, there was a slight decline for the same type of matters. Other Matters that demanded vast attention into filing system within 2021, were O/C and Judgment summons while the others remain at minimal due to the low in flux throughout that both years. For FDA matters exhibited as still being filed have been filed prior to Chancellor's Notice for service by litigants and since has not been disposed.

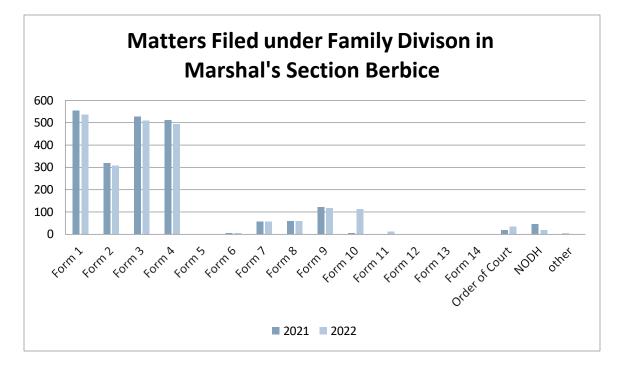


Figure 21 Matters filed under Family Division

The chart illustrates matters filed under Family Division in Berbice for Divorce, Custody, Application for Financial Relief/ Division of Property, Maintenance, Petition for Nullity, for both years, matters have ben evenly disposed within seven forms namely, form 1,2,3,4,7,8,9. Unfortunately, for the others, the same cannot be said due to the variations shown on the chart.

Based on the data revealed in the filing chart, it was expected that a high volume of service would have been required and so, as indicated for both years the service demanded was delivered with a high degree of efficiency and effectiveness of Form 1 to Form 4, of which in 2021 performances of Marshal's service of the aforementioned documents were commendable as well for 2022, it was identical in the context of Marshal's service having recorded a higher amount due to the fact of once more matters filed, it is expected that the number of matters disposed be high.

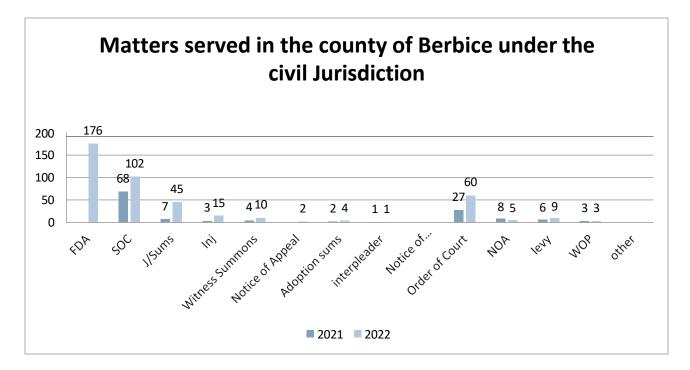


Figure 22 Berbice Civil Jurisdiction

The bar chart shows the comparison between 2021 and 2022 regarding matters served by Marshals with the aim of providing an understanding of the work performance during the period. However, a few matters served in 2022 have stood out mainly for FDA, SOC and Orders of Court indicating that performances within this year were far better than 2021.

The data above indicates that overall, the year 2022 has seen a sharp increase in the number of civil matters served in the Berbice Marshal Section, while some remain constant when compared to the same period in the year 2020. A closer look at the diagram shows that SOC matters served in 2022 increased significantly compared to year 2021; on the other hand, similarly, Order of Court has increased which reflected as a sharp increase in the numbers served.

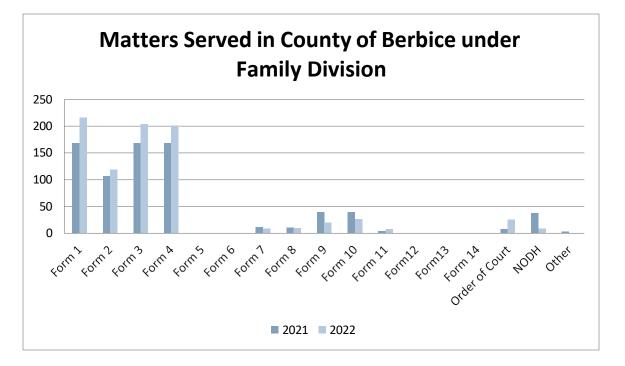


Figure 23 Berbice Family Division matters

In analyzing the data illustrated above, a comparison was made between the periods January to December of 2021 and January to December 2022, as it relates to the number of Family Division Forms that were disposed of in the Berbice Marshal Section.

Divorce Petitions in 2022 increased compared to the year 2021; the Form 2 (statement of arrangement of child/ children in 2022 has seen a small increase as compared 2021; the form 3 (Notice of Proceedings) and form 4 (Acknowledgment of service) like divorce petitions increased by a significant margin and this is attributed to the fact that the three forms accompany each other. However, Form 5 and Form 6 remain the same as the previous year with no service; form 7 and form 8 have remained constant, form 9 and form 10 have decreased in the numbers served. Lastly, the number of Orders of Court served has increased when compared to the previous year (2021), and also the notice for directions hearings showed a major decrease when compared to the year 2021.

Execution Sales held in Berbice for 2021 and 2022

In Berbice, Execution Sales were held similarly in each year 2021 and 2022 whereby in 2021 despite challenges in respect to having valuations for *in rem* matters, 60 properties were exposed of which 20 were sold, producing a performance percentage of 33%. The year 2022 performances were similar. According to the statistics the numbers showed that out of 22 properties, 7 were sold, scoring 31% achieving a better completion percentage. Within the latter year, only three lists were created for three months being March, June and September. The list for September was suspended on the basis of a dire need to further revise aspects of the rules in order to alleviate complaints and more importantly, to enable an efficient and effective operation of the Execution Sales.

Execution Auction Sales held in the compound of Sub Registry New Amsterdam Berbice by Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature for the Judicial year 2021.

Months	Dates	Total Properties Advertised	Total Sales
January	29-01-21	10	7
February	-	-	-
March	03-03-21	10	5
April	-	-	-
Мау	6-05-21	14	2
June	-	-	-
July	13-07-21	6	2
September	30-09-21	9	2
December	16-12-21	11	2
Total		60	20

Table 25 Execution Sales 2021

Execution Auction Sales held in the compound of Sub Registry New Amsterdam Berbice by Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature for the Judicial year 2022

Months	Dates	Total Properties Advertised	Total Sales
January	-	-	-
February	-	-	-
March	09-03-22	10	3
April	-	-	-
May	-	-	-
June	03-06-22	12	4
July	-	-	-
August	-	-	-
September	-	-	-
October	-	-	-
November	-	-	-
December	-	-	-
Total		22	7

Table 26 Execution Sales 2022

<u>Chart Showing Total Execution Auction Sales held monthly by Registrar at Sub Registry</u> Berbice for the Judicial year 2021.



<u>Chart Showing Total Execution Auction Sales held monthly by Registrar at Sub Registry</u> Berbice for the Judicial year 2022.

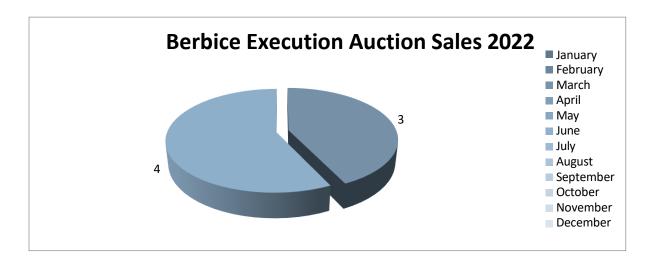


Figure 25 Execution sales 2022

C. THE HIGH COURT OF ESSEQUIBO

JUDICIAL-REGISTRY AND FAMILY

<u>CRIMINAL</u>

A total of Sixty-One (61) Criminal Depositions were filed during the year 2022. One Hundred and Fifty-Nine (159) were pending as at December 31st 2021 making a total of Two Hundred and Twenty (220) Criminal Matters to be heard in 2022. Twenty-Five (25) matters were disposed in 2022 leaving a total of One Hundred and Ninety-Five (195) matters pending at December 31st, 2022.

TABLE SHOWING CRIMINAL MATTERS IN ESSEQUIBO

Pending as at December 31 st , 2021	159
Filed in 2022	16
Disposed in 2022	25
Pending as at December 31 st , 2022	195

Table 27 Criminal matters in Essequibo

CIVIL

A total of One Hundred and Sixty-Five (165) Civil Matters were filed in 2022 and One Hundred and Five (105) were pending as at December 31st 2021 making a total of Two Hundred and Seventy (270) matters to be heard in 2022. One Hundred and Thirty (130) of those matters were disposed in 2022 leaving a total of One Hundred and Forty (140) matters pending as at December 31st, 2022.

TABLE SHOWING CIVIL MATTERS IN ESSEQUIBO

	Specially endorsed Writ	Writ of Summons	Summons and other Applications	Fixed Date Applications	Judgment Summons	Family Division	Statement of claim	Total
Pending at December 31 st , 2021	11	13	1	7	3	46	24	105
Filed in 2022	-	-	-	36	6	97	26	165
Disposed in 2022	-	-	-	30	5	84	11	130
Pending at December 31 st , 2022	11	13	1	13	4	59	39	140

Table 28 Civil Matters in Essequibo

LAND COURT

Summary of Matters at Land Court in the year 2022

Land Court Petitions and Land Registration Applications Summary 2022					
	Petitions	Land Registration Applications			
	Essequibo	Essequibo			
Pending at 31 December 2021	171	22			
Filed Jan-Dec 2022	83	22			
total	254	44			
Concluded in Jan - Dec 2022	56	11			
Pending at 31 December 2022	198	33			

Table 29 Land Court matters 2022

PROBATE

Fifteen (15) applications for Probate and Thirty-One (31) applications for Letters of Administration were filed in 2022. Twelve (12) applications for Probate and Fourteen (14) applications for Letters of Administration were disposed. Thirty-Seven (37) Wills were filed and Thirteen (13) disposed. Six (6) Caveats and One (1) Citation were filed.

	Application for Probate	Application for Letters of Administration	Wills Deposited	Caveats Entered	Citation	Application to Sell by Private Treaty	Affidavit Veri fyi ng Accounts
Pending at December							
31 st , 2021	28	34	292	21	9	-	-
Filed in 2022	15	31	37	6	1	-	-
Disposed in 2022	12	14	13	-	-	-	-
Pending at December							
31 st , 2022	31	51	316	27	10	-	-

Table 30 Probate Land Matters in Essequibo

MARSHAL'S DEPARTMENT

In 2021, performances under this Section showed that the general office executed 105 of 134 matters, completing 78% of the service requested by the litigants, while in 2022, the statistics revealed a decrease that is a disposal of 96 of 124 matters, thereby completing a percentage in performance of 77%.

As it relates to Family Division, in 2021 the Section performance mirrored one of average as opposed to that of Berbice Section achieving a 64% by disposing 233 of 360 matters. On the other hand, in 2022 the Section performance increased marginally having achieved success in 284 of 435 matters resulting in percentage of 65% output.

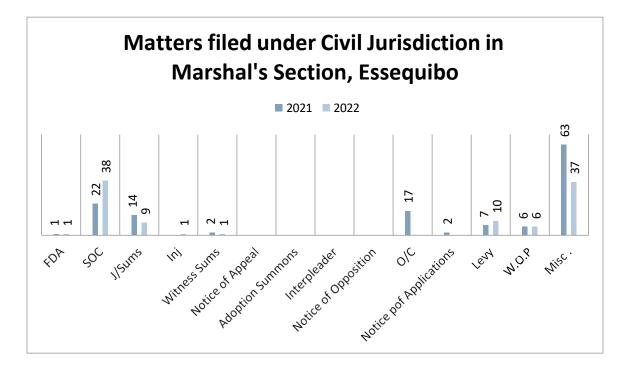


Figure 26 Marshal's section - Essequibo

In Essequibo, high volumes were recorded as the Petitions, Declaration for Titles, supporting documents etc. Under miscellaneous for 2021 as compared to 2022 as displayed on the chart there was a minimal number. The others were constant throughout both years as the Section was not required to provide much service since the influx of matters recorded in the filing system was just below average. Nevertheless, the Section ensured that all request for Service were done in despite a low influx of matters was received thereby giving persons a fair opportunity to justice.

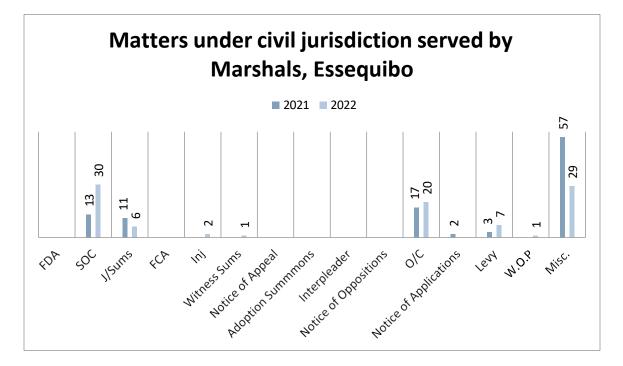


Figure 27 Civil matters served in Essequibo.

The filed matters under miscellaneous was high in 2021 compared to 2022 as the latter year saw a minimal volume of matters filed, while for the others, the services were constant in all categories. Nevertheless, a good year's performance was achieved as was the case in the other Sections.

The matters reported as filed in the system dictated how much work would have been required and in 2021, 57 out of 63 miscellaneous matters were served indicating a high percentage of 90% executed as opposed to 2022 which revealed a percentage of 78% and remained constant right across the other categories.

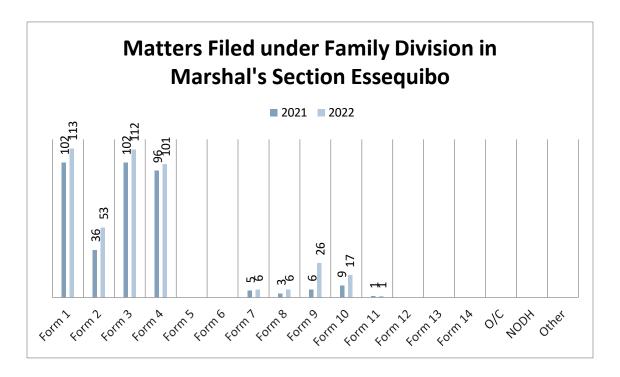


Figure 28 Family matters filed in Essequibo.

In 2022 this section has been very industrious in ensuring all the following forms filed for Forms 1, 2, 3 and 4 of which the volume of matters received in system were marginally higher than that of 2021. While for the other Forms there was a low volume due to the requirement of each litigation or matters received for Marshal Service.

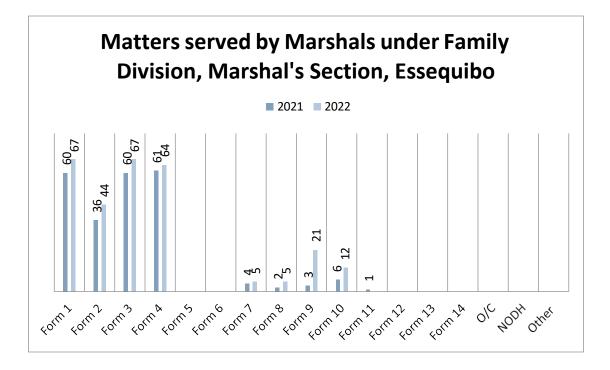


Figure 29 Matters served by Marshals in Essequibo

In 2021 based on the data exhibited in the filing system, the service provided by this Section has been significantly high in comparison with 2022, hence for both years the Section was equally engaged in offering the Service demanded in an efficient and effective way. For both years, for Forms 1, 2, 3 & 4, the Section was required to deliver a service in this aspect and has responded efficiently and effectively. For the other Forms, the record has shown low statistics throughout both years.

Essequibo

Chart Showing comparison of matters filed, served and pending over the Judicial years.

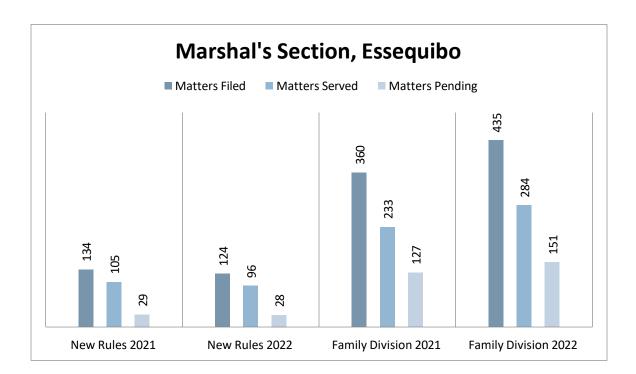


Figure 30 Matters filed & pending - Essequibo.

D MAGISTRATES' COURT

OVERVIEW

The Magistrates' Courts are among ten (10) Magisterial Districts for administrative purposes, which are governed through Head-Offices. These offices can be found in the following Magisterial Districts:

1. Georgetown Magisterial District with a sub-office Diamond/Grove Magistrates' Court with head office at Georgetown.

2. Corentyne Magisterial District with its head office at Whim.

3. Berbice Magisterial District with its head office at New Amsterdam.

4. East Demerara Magisterial District with its head office at Vigilance.

5. West Demerara Magisterial District with its head office at Vreed-en-hoop.

6. Essequibo Magisterial District with its head office at Suddie.

7. Northwest Magisterial District is administered at Georgetown.

8. Rupununi Magisterial District with its head office at Lethem.

9. West Berbice Magisterial District with its head office at Fort Wellington.

10. Upper Demerara River Magisterial District with its head office at Linden.

The Magisterial Districts are served by twenty-four Magistrates.

The Magisterial Districts are in charge of accepting all civil and criminal documents for hearing by the sitting Magistrates of the various Courts. They are also in charge of safeguarding all records of all proceedings adjudicated by the Magistrates, issuing certified copies of proceedings and case jackets in completed matters, as well as issuing orders of Court and other documents required by attorneys-at-law, litigants, and other members of the public, and informing the public about pending matters. The separate Magisterial Districts' head offices undertake the same functions, which can be classified as follows:

- (i) Judicial
- (ii) Bailiff
- (iii) Appeals and Depositions
- (iv) Financial
- (v) Collecting Office

JUDICIAL

This section is responsible for the smooth functioning of the Civil and Criminal arms of the Court. It ensures that all legal procedures are implemented and observed from the time of filing to the time of final disposition.

Criminal Cases FILED IN 2022

Districts	Summary	Indictable (Murder, Rape, Manslaug hter,	Narcotics	Traffic	Prelimina ry Inquiries	Paper Committa	Inquest	Traffickin g in Person	Domestic Violence
Georgetown Magisterial District and North West Magisterial District	2347	535	104	2709	45	12	18	0	0
East Demerara Magisterial District	2571	571	228	1393	32	22	21	0	605
West Berbice Magisterial District	362	83	21	475	5	10	0	0	314
Berbice Magisterial District	1923	148	84	728	41	0	6	0	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	1609	203	49	880	49	26	0	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	662	187	47	286	13	0	0	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	2456	300	64	1400	20	0	0	0	600
Essequibo Magisterial District	1052	56	85	361	15	0	31	0	0
Rupununi Magisterial District	218	69	29	186	3	5	29	1	12
TOTAL	13200	2152	711	5709	8418	75	105	1	1531

Table 31 Criminal Cases filed in 2022.

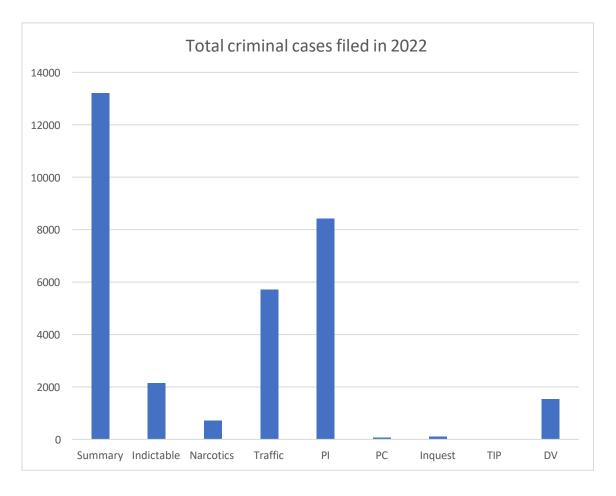


Figure 31 Criminal cases filed.

Criminal Cases PENDING PRIOR TO 2022

Districts	Summary	Indictable (Murder, Rape, Manslaughter, causing)	Narcotics	Traffic	Preliminary Inquiries	Paper Committal	Inquest	Trafficking in Person	Domestic Violence
Georgetown Magisterial District and North West Magisterial District	818	1549	181	2166	11	0	100	14	0
East Demerara Magisterial District	559	632	137	459	102	119	99	0	293
West Berbice Magisterial District	284	33	6	41	21	11	7	0	14
Berbice Magisterial District	1923	158	84	728	41	0	6	0	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	579	203	28	135	26	21	0	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	158	138	14	104	5	0	20	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	2914	50	123	1998	113	0	28	0	820
Essequibo Magisterial District	484	14	36	90	33	0	35	0	0
Rupununi Magisterial District	14	9	9	13	4	4	10	0	0
Total	7733	2786	618	5734	356	155	305	14	1127

Table 32 Pending criminal cases brought forward to 2022

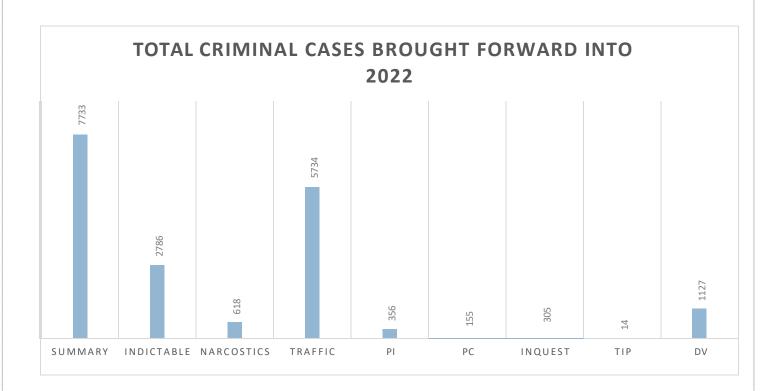


Figure 32 Criminal cases brought forward to 2022.

Districts	Summary	Indictable (Murder, Rape, Manslaughter, causing)	Narcotics	Traffic	Preliminary Inquiries	Paper Committal	Inquest	Trafficking in Person	Domestic Violence
Georgetown Magisterial District and North West Magisterial District	2998	917	91	2660	21	5	9	0	0
East Demerara Magisterial District	2967	800	234	1507	93	71	0	0	0
West Berbice Magisterial District	621	104	24	505	15	18	0	0	325
Berbice Magisterial District	1899	140	68	663	35	0	2	0	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	1493	145	30	866	43	18	0	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	630	134	42	295	4	0	0	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	1450	240	100	1300	41	0	0	0	1000

Criminal Cases Matters CONCLUDED/DISPOSED OF IN 2022

Essequibo Magisterial District	1314	48	73	395	23	0	17	0	0
Rupununi Magisterial District	217	44	18	192	6	7	0	0	11
Total	13589	2572	680	8383	281	119	28	0	1336

Table 33 Matters concluded in 2022

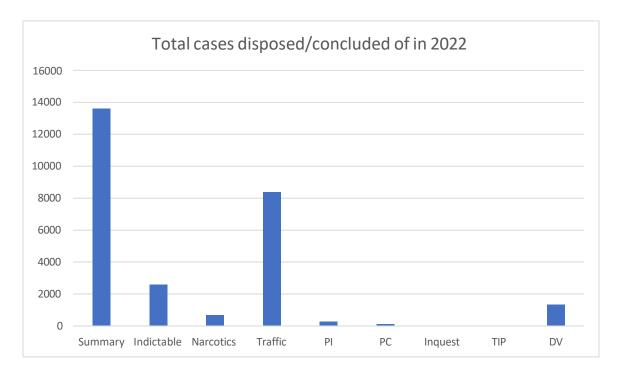


Figure 33 Cases disposed in 2022.

STATUS OF CIVIL CASES MATTERS

Pending/balance brought forward from 2021.

Districts	Possession	Others (claims & other claims)
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	29	265
East Demerara Magisterial District	3	55
West Berbice Magisterial District	0	0
Berbice Magisterial District	9	20
Corentyne Magisterial District	4	1
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	6	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	74	81
Essequibo Magisterial District	3	3
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	0
TOTAL pending prior to 2021	128	425

Table 34 Pending Civil Matters

Districts	Possession	Others (claims
STATUS OF CIVIL CASES MAI	I IERS FILED IN	1022

STATUS OF CIVIL CASES MATTERS FILED IN 2022

Districts	Possession	Others (claims & other claims)
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	152	15
East Demerara Magisterial District	102	75
West Berbice Magisterial District	4	4
Berbice Magisterial District	30	58
Corentyne Magisterial District	10	34
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	15	22
West Demerara Magisterial District	53	61
Essequibo Magisterial District	3	12
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	0
TOTAL filed in 2022	369	281

Table 35 Civil matters filed in 2022.

STATUS OF CIVIL CASES MATTERS

DISPOSED/CONCLUDED IN 2022

Districts	Possession	Others (claims & other
		claims)
Georgetown Magisterial District &		
North West Magisterial District	152	155
East Demerara Magisterial District	115	105
West Berbice Magisterial District	4	4
Berbice Magisterial District	34	64
Corentyne Magisterial District	10	33
Upper Demerara River Magisterial	9	11
District		
West Demerara Magisterial District	33	50
Essequibo Magisterial District	4	13
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	0
TOTAL Disposed/concluded	361	435

Table 36 Civil matters disposed in 2022.

BAILIFF SECTION

This section is responsible for the serving of summonses in Criminal and Civil matters, executing levies and Ejectment warrants.

STATUS OF BAILIFF SECTION; Pendin	ng/ Bal brought forward from 2021.

Districts	Summons	Ejection Warrant	Writ of Execution	Auction Sale
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	311	0	2	0
East Demerara Magisterial District	9	9	0	0
West Berbice Magisterial District	0	1	15	1
Berbice Magisterial District	0	0	2	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	36	0	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Essequibo Magisterial District	0	9	152	11
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	347	19	171	12

Table 37 Bailiff section 2021

Total pending December 2021= 549

STATUS OF BAILIFF SECTION Filed in 2022

Districts	Summons	Ejection Warrant	Writ Execution	of Auction Sale
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	276	10	7	0
East Demerara Magisterial District	142	10	9	1
West Berbice Magisterial District	366	1	1	0
Berbice Magisterial District	70	2	2	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	19	2	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	431	2	3	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	133	7	0	0
Essequibo Magisterial District	0	0	1	0
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1437	32	23	1

Table 38 Bailiff Section 2022

Total filed in 2022 = 1493

STATUS OF BAILIFF SECTION

Disposed in 2022

Districts	Summons	Ejection	Writ of	Auction Sale
		Warrant	Execution	
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	171	9	7	0
East Demerara Magisterial District	104	13	6	0
West Berbice Magisterial District	366	0	0	0
Berbice Magisterial District	70	2	0	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	19	2	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	246	2	2	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	133	4	0	0
Essequibo Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1109	32	15	0

Table 39 Matters disposed 2022 - Bailiff section.

Total disposed in 2022= 1156

APPEALS AND DEPOSITIONS

Filed In 2022	407
Disposed In 2022	168
Pending From 2021	2180

Table 40 Appeals & Depositions 2022

Notices of Appeal (Civil and Criminal) from decisions of Magistrate are filed in this section. Records of the appeal and the relevant documents were prepared and sent to the Registrar of the Supreme Court. Depositions taken by the Magistrate in Preliminary Inquiries in Indictable matters are lodged in this section. If the Accused is committed to stand trial at the High Court, it is then typed and sent to the Registrar of the Supreme Court. Appeals and Depositions filed and sent to the High Court during the year under review.

STATUS OF APPEALS AND DEPOSITIONS

Pending/ Bal brought forward from 2021.

Districts	Civil	Criminal	Paper Committal	Preliminary Inquiries
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	171	1068	2	16
East Demerara Magisterial District	8	388	15	27
West Berbice Magisterial District	0	13	12	7
Berbice Magisterial District	11	136	0	1
Corentyne Magisterial District	14	82	6	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	0	31	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Essequibo Magisterial District	8	180	5	4
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	4	1	1
TOTAL	212	1871	41	56

Table 41 Appeals & Depositions brought from 2021.

STATUS OF APPEALS AND DEPOSITIONS

Filed in 2022

Districts	Civil	Criminal	Paper Committal	Preliminary Inquiries
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	4	48	13	35
East Demerara Magisterial District	1	13	10	9
West Berbice Magisterial District	0	5	18	17
Berbice Magisterial District	0	10	12	6
Corentyne Magisterial District	144	12	2	4
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	0	3	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Essequibo Magisterial District	0	9	13	9
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	2	4	4
TOTAL	149	102	72	84

Table 42 Appeals & depositions filed in 2022.

STATUS OF APPEALS AND DEPOSITIONS

Disposed/concluded/sent to high court in 2022.

Districts	Civil	Criminal	Paper	Preliminary
			Committal	Inquiries
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	0	2	11	22
East Demerara Magisterial District	0	0	20	20
West Berbice Magisterial District	0	0	16	7
Berbice Magisterial District	0	3	12	7
Corentyne Magisterial District	0	0	12	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
West Demerara Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Essequibo Magisterial District	0	1	14	11
Rupununi Magisterial District	0	5	5	3
TOTAL	0	8	90	70

Table 43 Appeals & Depositions concluded 2022.

Districts	NO. OF TICKET FILED JAN- DEC 2022	TOTAL NO. OF TICKET PAID JAN-DEC 2022 IN OFFICE	AMOUT OF MONEY COLLECTED IN OFFICE \$	NO. OF TICKET SENT TO COURT	TOTAL NO. OF TICKET DISPOSED	AMOUNT PAID IN COURT \$
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	1,049	317	1,887,000	799	1,040	-
East Demerara Magisterial District			7,606,000	5232	2495	\$382,500
West Berbice Magisterial District	-	-	1,919,500	3,115	3,323	122,500
Berbice Magisterial District	449	134	762,500	341	194	2
Corentyne Magisterial District	1388	93	712500	1295	1295	177000
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	1491	389	2,397,500	1354	1095	NIL
West Demerara Magisterial District	579	60	\$450,000.00	519	519	-
Essequibo Magisterial District	589	285	1,605,000	314	314	217,500
Rupununi Magisterial District	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5,595	1278	17,340,000 Fickets in 2022	12,969	10,275	899,502

127

STATUS OF BAILIFF SECTION

Filed in 2022

Districts	Summons	Ejection	Writ of	Auction
		Warrant	Execution	Sale
Georgetown Magisterial District & North West Magisterial District	276	10	07	-
East Demerara Magisterial District	142	10	09	01
West Berbice Magisterial District	366	1	1	-
Berbice Magisterial District	61	0	2	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	19	02	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	431	02	03	Nil
West Demerara Magisterial District	133	04	-	-
Essequibo Magisterial District	-	-	01	-
Rupununi Magisterial District	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1428	29	23	1

Table 45 Matters filed - Bailiff Section 2022

Districts	Summons	Ejection	Writ of	Auction
		Warrant	Execution	Sale
Georgetown Magisterial District & North	171	09	07	-
West Magisterial District				
East Demerara Magisterial District	104	13	06	Nil
West Berbice Magisterial District	366	-	-	-
Berbice Magisterial District	61	0	0	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	19	02	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	246	02	02	Nil
West Demerara Magisterial District	133	04	-	-
Essequibo Magisterial District	-	-	-	-
Rupununi Magisterial District	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1428	29	23	01

Table 46 Matters disposed - Bailiff Section 2022.

STATUS OF BAILIFF SECTION

Pending in 2022

Districts	Summons	Ejection	Writ of	Auction
		Warrant	Execution	Sale
Georgetown Magisterial District & North	416	01	02	-
West Magisterial District				
East Demerara Magisterial District	47	06	03	01
West Berbice Magisterial District	-	02	16	1
Berbice Magisterial District	0	0	08	00
Corentyne Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	221	Nil	01	Nil
West Demerara Magisterial District	-	03	-	-
Essequibo Magisterial District	-	09	153	11
Rupununi Magisterial District	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	684	21	183	22

Table 47 Matters pending - Bailiff Section 2022.

STATUS OF BAILIFF SECTION

Pending in from 2021

Districts	Summons	Ejection	Writ of	Auction
		Warrant	Execution	Sale
Georgetown Magisterial District & North	311	-	02	-
West Magisterial District				
East Demerara Magisterial District	09	09	-	Nil
West Berbice Magisterial District	-	01	15	01
Berbice Magisterial District	0	0	06	0
Corentyne Magisterial District	0	0	0	0
Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	36	Nil	Nil	Nil
West Demerara Magisterial District	-	-	-	-
Essequibo Magisterial District	-	09	152	11
Rupununi Magisterial District	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	356	19	175	12

Table 48 Matters pending from 2021 - Bailiff Section.

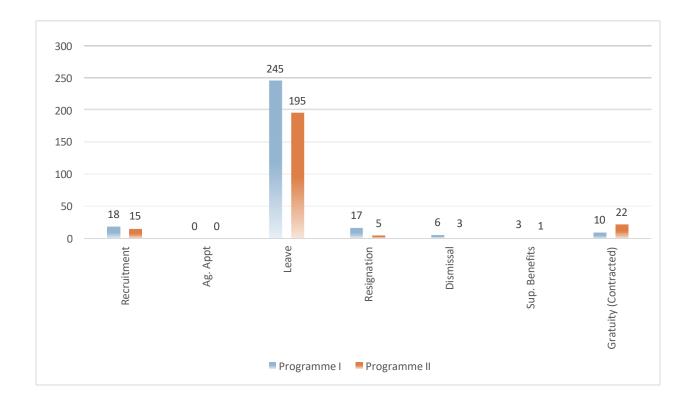
E SUPPORT SERVICES

- I. Personnel Department
- II. Verbatim Court Reporting (VCRU)
- III. Annual Financial Report

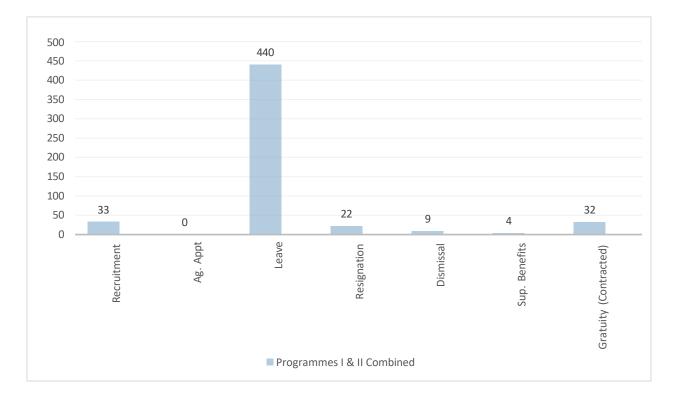
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

Matters processed by programme 1 includes the Court of Appeal and the High Courts in Demerara, Berbice and Essequibo, while programme 2 refers to the Magisterial Districts across Guyana.

The following matters were processed for 2022:



<u>Chart II</u>



Matters Processed by both Programme I and II combined.

Chart I shows the number of matters processed by programme while chart II displays information about the number of matters processed by programme I and II combined.

In chart II, the majority of matters processed for 2022 were leave, followed by recruitment, gratuity (contracted), resignation, dismissal and lastly, superannuation benefits. However, there was no acting appointment processed for 2022 since the life of the Public Service Commission expired in August 2021.

VERBATIM COURT REPORTING UNIT (VCRU)

Data Analysis

Audio Production for Court 1A, Court 2, Court 3 and Court 5

The tables below illustrate the total number of cases that were recorded at the Georgetown High Court (Court 1A, Court 2, Court 3 and Court 5) by the Technical Operators of the VCRU for the year 2022 using the Liberty Court System. Comparing the numbers from 2022 to those of 2021, there was an increase in the number of cases recorded in each court, with the exception of Court 5. For Court 2, there were 250 recordings in 2022 compared to 190 recordings in the year before (2021). The overall number of recordings in Court 3 also increased. In the aforementioned court, there were 249 recordings in 2022 compared to 240 recordings made in the year before. There were fewer cases heard in Court 5 in 2022 (72 recordings), compared to 2021 when there was a total of 110 recordings made.

For Court of Appeal, the VCRU technicians did not record any matters since a system was put in place where all the matters were done via zoom and recorded by the Court Registrar. The VCRU can then retrieve these recordings via the cloud and provide transcripts when necessary.

Court 1A Audio production for January to December 2022

Date of Recording	Number of recordings
January to December	86

Table 49 Audio Production

Court 2 Audio production for January to December 2022

Date of Recording	Number of recordings
January to December	250

Court 3 Audio production for January to December 2022

Date of Recording	Number of recordings
January to December	249

Court 5 Audio production for January to December 2022

Date of Recording	Number of recordings
January to December	72

NB: Total audio recordings for the 4 courtrooms during the period January to December 2022 is

657 showing an increase from the total of 540 recordings made in 2021.

Transcript production

Total number of hours (audio recordings) transcribed by the Reporters for January to December 2022

Jan- Dec 2022 393:08
Table 50 Total audio recording hours

NB: When compared to 2021, the number of hours (audio recordings) transcribed by the Reporters increased as well. The total number of audio recordings transliterated by the Reporters in 2022 was 393 hours and 8 minutes, up from 338 hours 14 minutes in 2021.

Chief Editor's Transcript Production

The table below shows the total number of edited transcripts produced by the Chief Editor from January to December 2022. The total number of edited transcripts produced for the year under review has decreased when compared to 2021. In 2021, there were 244 edited transcripts, and in 2022, there were 125 edited transcripts.

Date of recording	Number of Edited transcripts
January	10
February	11
March	10
April	9
Мау	15
June	9
July	13
August	8
September	12
October	7
November	10
December	11
Total	125

Edited Transcripts for the period January to December 2022

Table 51 Edited transcripts - Jan to Dec 2022

Recording Units

The courtrooms across the various districts in which the VCRU technicians installed liberty and DENON recording units are shown in the list below. Clerk training and cable management were also completed.

Georgetown District

Court of Appeal (DENON Recording system)

Georgetown High Court

- 1. Court 1 (DENON Recording system)
- 2. Court 2 (Liberty Recording System)
- 3. Court 3 (Liberty Recording System)
- 4. Court 4 (Liberty Recording System)
- 5. Court 5 (Liberty Recording System)
- 6. Court 6 (DENON Recording system)
- 7. Court 7 (Liberty Recording System)
- 8. Court 8 (Liberty Recording System)
- 9. Court 9 (Liberty Recording System)
- 10. Family Court (Court 1) (Liberty Recording System)
- 11. Georgetown Magistrate Court 1 (Liberty Recording System)
- 12. Georgetown Magistrate Court 2 (Liberty Recording System)

13. Georgetown Magistrate Court 3 (Liberty Recording System)

14. Georgetown Magistrate Court 5 (Liberty Recording System)

15. Georgetown Magistrate Court 6 (Liberty Recording System)

16. Georgetown Magistrate Court 7 (Liberty Recording System)

17. Georgetown Magistrate Court 11 (Liberty Recording System)

18. Georgetown Magistrate Children Court (Liberty Recording System)

East Bank District

1. Diamond Magistrate Court 1 (Liberty Recording System)

2. Diamond Magistrate Court 2 (Liberty Recording System)

Berbice District

- 1. Berbice Civil Courtroom (Liberty Recording System)
- 2. Berbice Criminal Courtroom (Liberty Recording System)
- 3. New Amsterdam Magistrate Court (Court 1) (Liberty Recording System)
- 4. New Amsterdam Magistrate Court 2 (Liberty Recording System)
- 5. Weldad Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 6. Blairmont Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 7. Reliance Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 8. Springlands Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 9. No.51 Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

10. Whim Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording system)

11. Fort Wellington Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording system)

12. Mibicuri Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

13. Linden Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

14. Kwakwani Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

West Coast Demerara District

1. Lenora Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System) West coast

West Bank District

1. Vreed En Hoop Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

2. Wales Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

Essequibo District

- 1. Essequibo Sexual Offences Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 2. Essequibo Civil/Criminal Courtroom (Liberty Recording System)
- 3. Suddie Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 4. Bartica Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 5. Charity Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)
- 6. Lethem Magistrate Court (Liberty Recording System)

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

On the 6th September, 2021 the Supreme Court submitted its budget proposal for the year 2022 to the Ministry of Finance for the sum of **three billion seven hundred and eighty-one million and ninety thousand dollars (G\$3,781,090,000)** for both recurrent (operational) and capital (developmental) expenditures for consideration.

Our Capital Budget was later revised and sent to the Ministry of Finance after the budget review meeting. The revised budget was **four billion and twenty-four million four hundred and seven thousand dollars (G\$4,024,407,000)** for both recurrent (operational) and capital (developmental) expenditures for consideration.

The National Assembly approved the following sums as follows:

-Recurrent expenditure (Salaries and other charges)-(G\$2,255,206,000)-Capital expenditure (buildings, land & watertransport & furniture & equipment) -<u>G (\$1,250,000,000)</u>

Total lump sum-

(G\$3,505,206,000)

This approved amount represents 0.63% of the national budget estimates of five hundred and fiftytwo billion and nine hundred and thirty-three million seven hundred and eighteen thousand dollars (G\$552,933,718,000) approved by the National Assembly for Public Sector for current and capital expenditures.

For the Fiscal year ending 31st December 2022, additional funds were received from the Ministry of Finance through Inter/Intra Departmental Allocation Warrants to meet the following expenditure:

 IDW# 2501 – eighty-eight million five hundred and five thousand nine hundred and one dollars (\$88,505,901) from Agency 3, Programme 1 - chart of account 6141- Other Employment Costs, to meet expenditure for 8% salary increase for Public Servants.

Summary of Funds Received for 2022

Approved Budget

Current Subvention ApprovedG\$ 2,255,206,000Capital Subvention ApprovedG\$ 1,250,000,000Total Approved BudgetG\$3,505,206,000Inter/Intra Departmental Allocation WarrantsG\$ 88,505,901Total Approved Budget 2022G\$ 3,593,711,901

Actual Statutory and Employment Expenditure (Salaries/Wages/Allowances/IDW) by

Activity /	Department incurred for the year 2022.

No.	Activities	Actual Payroll Expenditure
1	General Administration	351,425,114
2	Accounts Services	35,774,347
3	Personnel Services	12,219,377
4	I.T & Data Entry Services	21,027,397
5	Law Library Services	5,933,633
6	Court Reporters	30,461,848
7	Marshal Branch	36,893,478
8	Probate (Estate) Services	6,626,927
9	Judicial Services	109,335,308
10	Court of Appeal	121,004,680
11	Land Court	39,843,003
12	Berbice Sub-Registry	56,339,994
13	Essequibo Sub-Registry	35,857,051
14	Mediation Services	10,650,379

15	Family Court Services	32,522,832
16	Georgetown Magisterial District	227,875,497
17	Berbice Magisterial District	42,396,546
18	Corentyne Magisterial District	23,749,784
19	East Demerara Magisterial District	76,331,078
20	Essequibo Magisterial District	65,452,583
21	West Demerara Magisterial District	52,576,688
22	West Berbice Magisterial District	28,686,104
23	Upper Demerara River Magisterial Dist.	11,170,657
24	Rupununi Magisterial District	9,764,661
	Total	1,443,918,966

Table 52 Employment Expenditure

Actual Other Charges Expenditure by Activity / Department incurred for the year 2022.

No.	Activities	Actual Other Expenditure
1	General Administration	235,228,228
2	Accounts Services	25,588,598
3	Personnel Services	4,064,533
4	I.T & Data Entry Services	10,345,052
5	Law Library Services	6,609,686
6	Court Reporters	3,805,621
7	Marshal Branch	20,182,473
8	Probate (Estate) Services	5,440,595
9	Judicial Services	38,605,866
10	Court of Appeal	44,161,739
11	Land Court	9,587,102
12	Berbice Sub-Registry	59,911,581
13	Essequibo Sub-Registry	38,042,396
14	Mediation Services	6,759,192
15	Family Court Services	16,730,319

16	Georgetown Magisterial District	116,811,114
17	Berbice Magisterial District	33,687,591
18	Corentyne Magisterial District	33,167,628
19	East Demerara Magisterial District	22,511,832
20	Essequibo Magisterial District	57,170,761
21	West Demerara Magisterial District	32,764,538
22	West Berbice Magisterial District	20,882,862
23	Upper Demerara River Magisterial District	32,316,212
24	Rupununi Magisterial District	22,743,517
	Total	897,119,036

Table 53 Actual other Expenditure 2022

Summary of Actual Recurrent Expenditure (Operational) incurred for the years 2018-2022

No	Line	Actual Expenditu	ctual Expenditure					
	Item/Chart	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018		
	of Account							
1	Statutory	359,690,611	371,942,640	353,950,890	362,339,926	362,242,223		
	Cost							
2	Employme	1,084,228,355	987,474,237	887,121,858	866,986,004	783,435,638		
	nt Cost							
3	Other	897,119,036	889,421,686	739,583,939	688,141,549	614,014,777		
	Charges							
	Total	2,341,038,002	2,248,838,563	1,980,656,687	1,917,467,479	1,759,692,638		

Table 54 Actual recurrent expenditure

Comparison of Actual Recurrent Expenditure (Operational) by Line Items incurred for the years 2018 - 2022.

No.	Line Item/Chart of Account	Actual Expenditure				
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
	Total Statutory Cost	359,690,611	371,942,640	353,950,890	362,339,926	362,242,223
1.1	Statutory Wages & Salaries	286,196,638	295,393,454	280,511,000	290,228,831	294,094,007
1.2	Statutory Benefits & Allowances	73,493,973	76,549,186	73,439,890	72,111,095	68,148,216
	Total Employment Cost	1,084,228,355	987,474,237	887,121,858	866,986,004	783,435,638
2.1	Administrative	372,773,967	339,259,594	291,060,641	309,170,144	299,237,324
2.2	Senior Technical	3,510,864	3,813,914	5,315,572	5,290,573	4,876,094
2.3	Other Technical & Craft Skilled	56,133,291	54,499,901	48,554,388	46,151,654	43,258,968

2.4	Clerical and Office Support	319,904,641	303,726,300	273,180,205	261,123,868	229,993,626
2.5	Semi-Skilled Operatives & Unskilled	59,801,948	55,901,818	42,664,997	36,510,262	29,632,084
2.6	Contracted Employees	105,719,144	83,118,631	67,745,458	68,807,263	59,628,780
2.7	Temporary Employees	30,245,435	19,997,696	35,367,409	22,269,096	22,012,541
2.8	Other Direct labour Cost	9,641,480	9,948,952	8,797,894	5,526,477	5,771,235
2.9	Benefits & Allowances	78,497,069	71,767,532	73,299,081	74,495,058	54,195,490
2.10	National Insurance	48,000,516	45,439,899	41,136,213	37,641,609	34,829,496
	Total Other Charges Cost	897,119,036	889,421,686	739,583,939	688,141,549	614,014,777
3.1	Drugs & Medical Supplies	4,845,600	3,703,800	2,194,469	0	1,203,577
3.2	Field Materials & Supplies	1,561,439	11,891,377	7,379,019	773,719	1,789,036
3.3	Office Materials & Supplies	45,123,626	44,500,886	44,927,016	40,005,456	27,390,201
3.4	Print & Non-Print Materials	13,348,043	36,511,781	51,203,118	24,251,974	33,594,942

3.5	Fuel & Lubricants	10,247,632	8,289,237	5,856,122	8,646,864	8,290,136
3.6	Rental of Buildings	8,420,000	9,470,000	13,590,000	12,926,774	12,300,000
3.7	Maintenance of Buildings	69,082,091	60,197,293	37,564,138	29,970,406	43,450,180
3.8	Janitorial & Cleaning Supplies	39,762,682	34,772,940	40,246,729	8,473,523	9,003,793
3.9	Maintenance of Other Infrastructure	28,648,024	55,587,372	30,182,767	23,766,234	11,375,863
3.10	Local Travel & Subsistence	106,141,491	124,994,214	45,430,207	108,195,817	100,150,186
3.11	Overseas Conferences & Official Visits	27,473,811	15,589,986	6,824,027	13,251,687	26,517,096
3.12	Postage, Telex & Cablegrams	1,175,781	1,499,315	948,444	1,870,285	2,606,770
3.13	Vehicle Spares & Maint.	8,510,392	8,263,977	8,623,912	7,920,794	5,371,069
3.14	Telephone Charges	70,225,692	38,732,660	38,817,083	44,295,987	32,339,320
3.15	Electricity Charges	67,098,566	70,850,446	56,852,104	73,722,419	70,751,752
3.16	Water Charges	15,911,673	15,376,102	17,151,752	16,404,618	13,287,178
3.17	Security Services	61,902,562	54,751,183	60,020,877	45,916,794	42,344,752

3.18	Equipment Maintenance	13,906,675	24,140,555	24,095,377	22,950,536	16,001,797
3.19	Cleaning & Extermination Serv.	28,258,499	22,313,877	25,288,063	13,041,142	10,852,173
3.20	National & Other Events	35,106,639	26,832,445	9,783,398	10,352,659	5,974,022
3.21	Refreshments & Meals	39,642,038	32,471,089	32,168,800	33,077,668	25,730,642
3.22	Others (6284 & 6294)	179,550,662	173,878,914	149,286,062	121,709,668	98,126,963
3.23	Training (including Scholarships)	14,108,120	14,701,437	17,039,669	21,259,387	8,286,963
3.24	Rates & Taxes	7,067,298	100,800	14,110,786	5,357,138	7,276,366
		2,341,038,002	2,248,838,563	1,980,656,687	1,917,467,479	1,759,692,638

Table 55 Comparison of Actual recurrent expenditure 2018-2022

Summary For 2022 – Receipts & Payments (Current) GYD

Receipts

Subvention Current Budget 2022 – releases	\$2,255,206,000		
6141 – Revision of wages & salaries	<u>\$88,505,901</u>	\$2,343,711,901	
<u>Payments</u>			
Statutory Cost		\$359,690,611	
Employment Cost		\$1,084,228,355	
Other Charges		<u>\$897,119,036</u>	(\$2,341,038,002)
Balance returned to consolidated fund on line it	em 6041/IDW2501	2,673,899	

Breakdown of returns

Total Returns to Consolidated fund		\$2,673,899
2501 - IDW 8% Salary Increase for Public Servants	-	<u>\$2,673,563</u>
6041 Constitutional Agencies – current budget	-	\$336

Capital Expenditure

The Supreme Court budgeted the sum of one billion two hundred and twenty-three million and eight hundred and eighty-four thousand dollars (G\$1,223,884,000). This was later revised to one billion four hundred and sixty-seven million two hundred and one thousand dollars (G\$1,467,201,000) as stated above however, the sum of one billion two hundred and fifty million dollars (G\$1,250,000,000) was approved by the National Assembly on the 10th February, 2021.

The Supreme Court expended the sum of eight hundred and fifty-seven million eight hundred and seventeen thousand one hundred and ninety-one dollars (\$857,817,191) on Capital expenditure.

The main reasons for the shortfall in executing our capital budget was due to delays in the procurement process, late decisions and several projects being delayed at the evaluation and award of contract stage, and some were annulled due to no bidder (s) or disqualification of bidders since they would not have met the requirements and therefore had to be retendered. Also, some projects were rejected by Cabinet whilst others were not approved before the year end 2022, all leading to a surplus / savings.

Actual Capital Expenditure by Activity / Department incurred for the year 2022.

No.	Activities	Actual Capital Expenditure			
1	General Administration	137,923,446			
2	Accounts Services	1,920,396			
3	Personnel Services	0			
4	I.T & Data Entry Services	1,103,814			
5	Law Library Services	694,000			
6	Court Reporters	145,000			
7	Marshal Branch	572,850			
8	Probate (Estate) Services	2,084,556			
9	Judicial Services	2,533,568			
10	Court of Appeal	47,321,405			
11	Land Court	348,990			
12	Berbice Sub-Registry	40,106,405			
13	Essequibo Sub-Registry	61,175,882			
14	Mediation Services	594,000			
15	Family Court Services	525,036			
16	Georgetown Magisterial District	172,713,677			

Upper Demerara River Magisterial Dist. Rupununi Magisterial District	16,880,850 19,470,442
Upper Demerara River Magisterial Dist.	16,880,850
West Berbice Magisterial District	14,673,381
West Demerara Magisterial District	59,208,926
Essequibo Magisterial District	96,938,247
East Demerara Magisterial District	135,621,246
Corentyne Magisterial District	34,695,859
Berbice Magisterial District	10,565,215
	Corentyne Magisterial District East Demerara Magisterial District Essequibo Magisterial District West Demerara Magisterial District

Table 56 Actual capital expenditure by activity

<u>Comparison of Actual Capital Expenditure (Developmental) By Project Component</u> incurred for the years 2018 – 2022.

No.	Line Item/Chart of	Actual Expenditure				
	Account (Project Component)	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
1	Building	667,231,594	358,706,541	205,258,358	364,112,713	236,759,065
2	Furniture & Equipment	190,585,597	470,521,898	187,631,126	72,015,377	62,515,123
3	Land & Water Transport	0	49,375,744	37,413,516	22,349,909	11,101,798
	Total	857,817,191	878,604,183	430,303,000	458,477,999	310,375,986

Table 57 Capital expenditure (developmental0 2018-2022

Summary For 2022 – Receipts & Payments (Capital) GYD

Receipts

Subvention Capital Budget 2022 - releases	\$1,250,000,000
Payments	
Buildings	\$667,231,594
Furniture & Equipment	\$190,585,597
Land & Water Transport	<u>\$ 0 (\$857,817,191)</u>
Bal returned to Consl. fund on project code 4000600-	line item 7011 <u>\$ 392,182,809</u>

Buildings

The amount of six hundred and sixty-seven million, two hundred and thirty-one thousand five hundred and ninety-four dollars (G\$667,231,594) was expended on Buildings. The following are major works (projects) that were rolled over (multi-year) 2021-2022 and new projects undertaken in 2022:

Multi-Year projects for 2021-2022

- 1. Construction of Mahdia Magistrate's Court & Living Quarters, Reg. No. 8.
- 2. Construction of Port Kaituma Mag. Court & Living Quarters, Region No. 1
- 3. Construction of Mabaruma Mag. Court & Living Quarters, Region No. 1
- 4. Construction of Vigilance Mag. Court & Living Quarters, Reg. No. 4.

- 5. Extension of the Court of Appeal Building Kingston Georgetown, Reg. No. 4.
- Consultancy Services for Completion of Bartica Magistrate's Court Reg. # 7 Phase II -External Bailiff Bond, Benab, Generator & Modifications to Building to accommodate Domestic Violence and Probation Rooms.
- Consultancy Services for Completion of Mahdia Magistrate's Court Reg. # 8 Phase II -External Bailiff Bond, Benab, Sanitary Facility, Remaining perimeter, Fence, Generator, Driveway/walkway, Parking Shed etc.
- Consultancy Services for Construction of a Magistrate's Court at Cove & John E.C.D Region No. 4
- Consultancy Services for Construction of a Magistrate's Court at Mahaicony, E.C.D Region No. 5
- 10. Inclusion for Clerk of Court Living Quarters at the Linden Magistrate's Court, Region No.10
- Construction of a Social Worker Testing/Observation Room & Gazebo at Diamond Grove Magistrate's Court, Region No. 4 in aid of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- 12. Construction of parking shed staff lunchroom, modification of fence and gate to accommodate parking and Construction of Remaining Fence on Western Side of Compound at the Vreed-en-Hoop Magistrate's Court Region No. 3.
- 13. Rewiring of the Essequibo Sub-Registry, Suddie Region No. 2

New Projects 2022

- Construction Phase Completion of Bartica Magistrate's Court Reg. # 7 Phase II External Bailiff Bond, Benab, Generator & Modifications to Building to accommodate Domestic Violence and Probation Rooms.
- Construction Phase Completion of Mahdia Magistrate's Court Reg. # 8 Phase II External Bailiff Bond, Benab, Sanitary Facility, Remaining perimeter, Fence, Generator, Driveway/walkway, Parking Shed etc.
- Construction Phase Construction of a Magistrate's Court at Cove & John E.C.D Region No. 4
- Construction Phase Construction of a Magistrate's Court at Mahaicony E.C.D Region No.
 5
- Extension of Bailiff Bond and inclusion of two (2) Self-contained Living Quarters at the Lethem Magistrate's Court, Region No. 9 - Consultancy & Construction
- Construction of a Storage / Records Bond & Living Quarters at the Diamond-Grove Magistrate's Court Reg. No. 4 - Consultancy & Construction
- Retrofitting of the Old Magistrate's Court at Wales to a Magistrate's Quarter and Library/Research Centre W.B.D, Region No. 3 - Consultancy & Construction
- Phase II Completion of Clerk of Court Living Quarters at the Linden Magistrate's Court, Region No. 10
- Supply & Installation of Elevators at the Georgetown, Berbice & Essequibo High Courts Region No. 2,4&6.

- Construction of an Elevator Shaft & Rehabilitation Works for Georgetown High Court, Region No. 4- Consultancy & Construction
- 11. Construction of Magistrate's Court & Living Quarters at Timehri, Region No. 4 -Consultancy
- 12. Construction of Magistrate's Court & Living Quarters at Friendship, Region No. 4 -Consultancy
- Construction of Magistrate's Court & Living Quarters at Anna Regina, Essequibo Coast, Region No. 2 - Consultancy
- Construction of an access bridge to the Proposed site for the Anna Regina Magistrate's Court & Living Quarters, Region No. 2 - Consultancy
- 15. Construction of a Storage/Records Bond at Leonora Magistrate's Court Reg. No. 3 -Construction & Supervision

Multi-Year Projects 2021/2022

- Design & Implement an E-Litigation Programme for the Supreme Court of Judicature and Court of Appeal Phase II - Hosting of 3rd party software - zoom video conference subscriptions and cloud infrastructure costs.
- Supply & Installation of 150KVA Diesel Generator with Automatic Transfer Switch at the Essequibo Sub-Registry & Magistrate's Court, Suddie.
- 3. Purchase of 35 Wooden Filing Cabinet 4 drawers

New Projects 2022

- Completion of Vigilance Magistrate's Court & Living Quarters Phase II Purchase of Furnishing & Equipment.
- Completion of the Extension of the Court of Appeal Building, Kingston Phase II Purchase of Furnishing & Equipment.

Summary For 2022 – Receipts & Payments (Current & Capital) GYD

Receipts

Balance returned to consolidated fund		G\$ 394,856,708
Land & Water Transport	\$ <u>0</u>	<u>(G\$3,198,855,193)</u>
Furniture & Equipment	\$190,585,597	
Buildings	\$667,231,594	
Other Charges	\$897,119,036	
Employment Cost	\$1,084,228,355	
Statutory Cost	\$359,690,611	
<u>Payments – Current & Capital</u>		
	<u> </u>	
6141 – Revision of wages & salaries	\$88,505,901	\$3,593,711,901
Subvention Capital Budget 2022 – releases	\$1,250,000,000	
Subvention Current Budget 2022 - releases	\$2,255,206,000	

Breakdown of returns (GYD)

4.	Total Returns to Consolidated fund	-	<u>\$394,856,708</u>
3.	IDW 2501-8% Salary increases for Public Servants 2022	-	<u>\$2,673,563</u>
2.	7011 – Supreme Court of Judicature - Capital Expenditure-		\$392,182,809
1.	6041 - Constitutional Agencies – current budget	-	\$336

Other Receipts

(1) Deposit Fund Line Item in IFMIS – 2457 -Other

Balance brought forward on Deposit Fund Line Item in IFMIS as at 1st January, 2022 is fifty-nine dollars (G\$ 59).

No other funds were deposited into the Deposit Fund Line Item in IFMIS.

(2) Special Funding Account # 0162600417002 (Bank of Guyana)

Balance brought forward on Special Funding Account at Bank of Guyana as at 1st January, 2022 is seven million two hundred and ninety-four thousand dollars (G\$ 7,294,000).

UNICEF, also donated the following sums during the year 2022 into the Account:

- G\$2,083,000 Juvenile Drug Treatment Court (JDTC) Services (including training, Essequibo Court Domestic Violence Services) Jan-Mar 2022.
- 2. G\$4,824,000 Legal Awareness (Material development) and Access to Justice (JDTC) May-Jul 2022
- **3. G\$1,500,000** Access to Justice (Age-Appropriate Material (Re: legal awareness) Sept-Nov 2022

As at 31st December, 2022 the sum of fourteen million two hundred and one thousand dollars (G\$14,201,000) was expended leaving a remaining balance of one million five hundred thousand dollars (G\$1,500,000) rolling over as at 1st January, 2023.

REVENUE

The Supreme Court Registries and Magistrates' Courts are revenue earners. The Registries earn revenues in the form of fees, fines, seizures, state cost, bail escheated etc. which are required to be paid in accordance with the scales of fees contained in the Rules of Court or imposed by a Magistrate or Judges for the performance of duties and execution of processes by officers of the court when filing of matter, disposal of cases, execution of orders etc.

Chart of	Revenue Name	Approved		Actual	Variance
Accounts		Budget 2022	Revised	Revenue	Surplus
			Budget 2022	Collected for	
				2022	
5326	Fees, Fines & Seizures	192,361,000	192,062,000	204,006,036	11,944,036
5327	State Cost	787,000	561,000	754,650	193,650
5419	Other Loans & Advance	0	6,000	6,000	0
5616	Sundries	0	519,000	1,270,481	751,481
5715	Sale of Asset	0	0	0	0
	Total	193,148,000	193,148,000	206,037,167	12,889,167

Actual revenue collected for the year 2022 as against revised estimates.

Table 58 Actual revenue 2022

The Supreme Court revised revenue figures remained the same as budgeted at one hundred and ninety-three million one hundred and forty-eight thousand dollars (G\$193,148,000) in August 2022 for fees, fines, seizures and state cost etc.

Our total revenue collected in December 2022 was two hundred and six million and thirty-seven thousand one hundred and sixty-seven dollars (G\$206,037,167) an increase of twelve million eight hundred and eighty-nine thousand one hundred and sixty-seven dollars (G\$12,889,167). The reason for the increase was due to offices fully functioning after the restrictions / reduced working hours, rotation of staff was lifted, and closure of offices resumed full time as a consequence of

COVID-19 Pandemic since measures were put in place at all locations to curb the spread of the virus. Also, due to the opening of a new court building in 2021 at Bartica whereby court is now fully functioning on a daily basis in 2022. Also, the opening Domestic Violence and Juvenile Drug Treatment Offices and the new Kwakwani Magistrate's Court building in 2022, court is now fully utilized, all led to an increase in revenues.

Table VII below show a comparison of actual revenue collected for the years 2018 - 2022.

Chart of	Revenue	Actual Revenue Collected				
Accounts	Name	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
5326	Fees, Fines & Seizures	204,006,036	191,400,191	154,930,461	226,574,008	253,945,145
5327	State Cost	754,650	719,100	629,705	1,058,525	1,527,300
5419	Other Loans & Advance	6,000	9,594	13,188	17,827	34,353
5616	Sundries	1,270,481	631,422	226,359	755,977	856,462
5715	Sale of Asset	0	0	0	1,185,000	600,000
	Total	206,037,167	192,760,307	155,799,713	229,591,337	256,963,260

Table 59 Actual revenue collected 2018-2022

5. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

1.1 LAUNCH OF E-NOTICE BOARDS



The Supreme Court of Judicature, in collaboration with the Government of Canada through the Judicial Reform and Institutional Strengthening (JURIST) Project, launched its Electronic Notice Boards at the Georgetown Magistrate's Court on February 21, 2022. The

JURIST Project is focused on improving access to justice through improved court administration. The Boards are user friendly and allows court users to view the status of their matters, thus reducing the time spent in ascertaining which court a particular matter is scheduled to be heard in, or which magistrate is presiding over the matter. The development of the programming for the Boards was done by Guyana based Tagman Media Inc. The programme was chaired by Mrs. Sueanna Lovell, Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature, while brief remarks were made by Hon. Justice Roxane George, Chief Justice (ag), Mrs. Gloria Richards-Johnson, Director, JURIST Project, and His Excellency Mr. Mark Berman, High Commissioner of Canada to Guyana. Chief Justice Madam Roxane George delivered welcome remarks and gave an insight into future developmental projects of the Judiciary which will complement the E-Notice Boards. Both High Commissioner Berman and Mrs. Richards-Johnson committed continued support for the Judiciary of Guyana, whilst lauding its thrust to ensure that access to justice is never compromised.

The feature address was delivered by Hon. Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards, Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag). Chancellor Cummings-Edwards who expressed profound gratitude to His Excellency Mr. Mark Berman, High Commissioner of Canada to Guyana for his government's continued support through the JURIST Project in improving access to justice in Guyana. Chancellor Cummings-Edwards also recounted the many tangible ways the JURIST Project has thus far partnered with the Supreme Court in its drive to improve its efficiency through the provision of training to Judicial Officers and the acquisition of equipment over the years.

In attendance (in-person and virtually) were Judicial Officers, the Hon. Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall SC, Attorney General, Mrs. Shalimar Ali Hack, SC, Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr. Nigel Hoppie DSM, Commissioner of Police (ag), Mr. Nicklon Elliot, Director of Prisons (ag), Assistant Superintendent Ms. Shellon Daniels, Court Superintendent (4A), representatives of the Guyana Bar Association and the Guyana Association of Women Lawyers, other invited guests, and staff members of the Supreme Court

1.2 DESIGNATION OF MARCH 10 AS THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN JUDGES.



In 2021, The International Association of Women Judges designated March 10 as the International Day of Women Judges. The idea of this day is to recognize the contributions of women judges, to provide a focal point to educate the public and to

inspire girls and young women who aspire to become judges.

In fulfilling this mandate, the Supreme Court of Judicature shared the contributions of three outstanding retired women Judges of Guyanese heritage; Retired Justice Desiree Barnes, Ret'd Judge of the Caribbean Court of Justice, Retired Justice Claudette Singh and Retired Justice Claudette La Bennette.

The Judiciary saluted the stellar individuals who have paved the way in the past, those who are currently building and excelling on the path and those who are aspiring to follow in the future! We saluted the Hon. Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag) Yonette Cummings Edwards, Hon. Roxane George-Wiltshire, Chief Justice and numerous Judicial Officers for their service to the Judiciary and by extension Guyana! In her message on the occasion of the celebration of the first International Day of Women Judges, the Hon. Justice Roxane George, Chief Justice (acting) reiterated the importance of this monumental juncture in history for women in the Judiciary and applauded those who made this day a reality. The Guyana Association of Women Judges, whilst reiterating the importance of celebrating Women in the Judiciary, highlighted the contributions of so many women who have made the system what it is today.

1.3 OPENING OF THE APRIL 2022 - CRIMINAL SESSION



The opening of the April 2022 Criminal Session of the Demerara Assizes and Bar Association of Guyana Law Week 2022.



1.4 TRAINING WORKSHOP

Training Workshop on the Development of the Adolescent/Juvenile Drug Treatment Court and Strengthening of the Adult Drug Treatment Court during April 20 – 22, 2022 held at Regency Suites, Georgetown



1.5 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

In observation of World Day against Trafficking in Persons, the Guyana Association of Women Judges distributed posters in

English, Spanish and Portuguese around Guyana to all airports, Courts, Health Centers, Hospitals and Police Stations in an effort to raise awareness and encourage persons to come forward to report this heinous crime. In a collaborative effort, the court also participated in the Counter Trafficking in Persons Walk held by the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security.

1.6 CULTURAL, SOCIAL & EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

EMANCIPATION DAY

On July 29, 2022, in celebration of emancipation, staff of the Court held a Cultural Program and wore African attire!



AMERINDIAN HERITAGE MONTH



The Supreme Court of Judicature joins the world in celebrating International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. The commencement of Guyana's Amerindian Heritage month was celebrated under the Theme "Celebrating our Traditional Culture while building One Guyana."



duration of the month of September 2022.

The Supreme Court saluted our Amerindian brothers and sisters and wished all a Happy Amerindian Heritage Month 2022!

To acknowledge and recognize the contributions our Amerindian brothers and

sisters made to Guyana the Supreme Court of Judicature engaged in numerous activities for the

These activities were:

- A formal function at our Lethem Magistrate's Court on September 16, 2022
- Our Annual Amerindian Heritage Month Program on September 23, 2022.

• The Supreme Court of Judicature also participated in activities being hosted by the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs across Guyana.

The court kick started its month of activities for Amerindian Heritage Month with its first activity, a visit to the Whirl Wind Village exhibition.

On Saturday 3rd day of September 2022 members of the Supreme Court of Judicature visited the Whirl Wind Village at the National Exhibition Center located in Sophia to show support and appreciation to our indigenous people.

Whilst there, we interacted with and paid patronage to the locals that displayed their talent through their handmade crafts and delicacies.



The vendors travelled all the way from villages such as Kabakaburi, Leguan, and Mabaruma just to name a few, to participate in the Whirl Wind Village exhibition. It was a wonderful experience. On Saturday, September 10, 2022, the Supreme Court of Judicature joined the celebration at the Amerindian Heritage

Village Day held in Region 2 at the Mainstay/Whyaka Village.

Various handmade crafts, cultural dances, delicacies, games, competitions, and other talents were displayed. Notable was the talented Sarah Fredericks whose Poem "I am not ashamed" captured our attention.

The Commander in Chief and President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, His Excellency Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, Senior Minister within the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance, Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh; the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Mr. Hugh Todd; the Minister of Amerindian Affairs, Hon. Ms. Pauline Sukhai; the Minister



of Tourism, Industry, and Commerce, Hon. Ms. Oneidge Walrond; the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, Hon. Mr. Nigel Dharamlall; President of the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly His Excellency Abdulla Shahid; Members of the Diplomatic Community and other government officials were in

attendance.

On the 19th day of September 2022, an Amerindian Heritage Mural was commissioned at the Lethem Magistrate's Court in the Rupununi Magisterial District, Region No. 9, to commemorate Amerindian Heritage Month 2022.

The Mural was an initiative of the Hon. Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag) Madam Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards and was commissioned by the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Mrs. Sueanna Lovell.

The painting was an original piece that was sketched and painted by four (4) talented grade 11 students from St. Ignatius Secondary School under the guidance and assistance of two (2) Art teachers from the same school. The final product was a compilation of the drawings of the four (4) students. The students who drew the mural were; Alissa Rogers (student), Geveron Moses

(student), Aiude Pedro(student), Lee Michael (student). These students were supervised by Romario Cupido (teacher of St. Ignatius Secondary School), and Devon Rodrigues (teacher of St. Ignatius Secondary School). Each part of the Mural is symbolic of Amerindian Heritage and culture. From their interpretations, each student pays tribute to the indigenous people's way of life through their art.

To show appreciation for the great work done and, in an effort, to demonstrate our social responsibility to the community that gives our court a home in Region 9, the Supreme Court of Judicature donated a quantity of textbooks, art supplies and sports gears for the benefit of the students of that school. The donation was made by the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature, Mrs. Sueanna Lovell on behalf of the Hon. Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag) Madam Yonette Cummings-Edwards. Mrs. Lovell encouraged the students to keep up their good work and wished them well in their upcoming examinations.



On Friday the 23rd day of September 2022 the Supreme Court of Judicature concluded its Amerindian Heritage Month celebration with our annual Amerindian Heritage program.

The program was hosted by our Research Librarian, Ms. Rhonda Barnwell, and team members. With assistance from our Information

Technology Department, all the Courts in the different districts ranging from the Court of Appeal to the High Courts and Magisterial Courts were able to participate through the Zoom platform.

The program began with face and body painting. A corner was set up where staff members had the opportunity to participate and have different symbols painted on their body and/or face.

The dish for the day was the famous pepper pot with cassava bread and all were encouraged to partake. Different kinds of Amerindian clothing were also on display. Some of our members of staff strode down the runway showcasing their dancing skills as they danced to Indigenous music.

In addition to the display, we reflected on the activities we participated in and shared clips and photographs from those events. The program concluded with brief remarks from the Hon. Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag) Madam Yonette Cummings-Edwards. The month of activities was a spectacular one and we look forward to celebrating another year with our Amerindian brothers and sisters!!!

The Court also provides services to the Indigenous Community at our Northwest Magisterial District (Mabaruma, Acquero, and Matthew's Ridge) and Rupununi Magisterial District (Lethem, Annai, Aishalton, and Karasabai)

DIWALI

Diwali is a time to bring people together; it fosters togetherness and cohesion. Team Supreme capitalized on and used this time for team building amongst members of staff as we



celebrated with our Hindu brothers and sisters. On Friday, 21st October 2022, the Supreme Court hosted its annual Rangoli competition in celebration of Diwali. The competition saw participation from both the High Courts and the Magisterial Districts. There were two (2) categories: the High Courts and the Magisterial Districts. The three High Courts and departments within these three (3) High Courts competed against each other while the

Magistrate's Courts with the various Magisterial Districts competed against each other. The competition commenced at 8:00am and participants were required to complete a design measuring 5ft x 5ft. They were also tasked with explaining the symbolism of their depiction. Three (3) esteemed judges from within the Hindu community, namely Ms. Latchmie Rahamat, Mr. Yoganand Persaud, and Mr. Kumar Singh were given the tough assignment of declaring the winners.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS



Team Supreme continues to stand in solidarity with everyone worldwide suffering from breast cancer.

According to The National Breast Cancer Foundation, the theme for Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2022 is "RISE: Rally in Screening, Serving and Supporting Everyone".

As we reflected on the countless lives that were

victims of this dreaded disease, we RISE and uplift the survivors and urge them to continue fighting the good fight. Breast cancer is the most common type of cancer women around the world suffer from and it dates back to 3000-2500 B.C.E. Notwithstanding this, a small percentage of men

also have been found to suffer from breast cancer. Over the years, the health community has developed different approaches to treating this deadly disease, though to date there is no cure. However, all hope is not lost!!! With modern technology, early detection can give patients a good chance of living a cancer-free future. Early detection has been and still is regarded as the best line of defense against the disease, so we encourage all to submit themselves for breast exams and/other available tests.

To show support, Team Supreme hosted a medical outreach on Saturday the 22nd day of October 2022. Members of staff and close family members took advantage of this initiative and got tested. We sincerely thank Dr. Quincy Jones and his team for hosting this outreach! The team included. Dr. Quincy Jones, a Medical Doctor, Dr. Richie Vyphius, a Radiologist at GPHC, Dr. Tenesha Simple, Government Medical Officer, A & E Department, GPHC, Kya Bovell, a final year Medical Imaging student at the University of Guyana, Kendra Abiola Trotman, third-year Medical Student of the University of Guyana, and Grace Corbin, third-year Medical Student of the University of Guyana.

On the 28th day of October 2022, Team Supreme joined the worldwide movement as we assembled on the lawn of the Supreme Court compound in the shape of a heart to release pink and white balloons. Pink and white balloons were released into the air around the world to honour loved ones, victims, and survivors of breast cancer. The pink represents those persons who have survived or are undergoing treatment for breast cancer while the white represents those that have succumbed.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



The International Day of Persons with Disabilities was observed on Saturday the 3rd day of December 2022.

Persons with disabilities have the same rights as every other citizen including the right to access to justice.

Team Supreme is committed to improving access

to justice for ALL Guyanese and this certainly includes persons with disabilities.

To fulfill this mandate, the Supreme Court of Judicature is working towards making the Court more user friendly for persons with disabilities.

All of the newly constructed Courthouses and even some of the older buildings are furnished with wheelchair ramps and/or Elevators to make it easier for persons to access the Court Rooms and the services we offer.

Team Supreme will continue to work and is committed to making its offices and courthouses more accessible to persons with disabilities.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



On August 22, 2022, the Supreme Court of Judicature in collaboration with Eldorado Tours hosted a tour of one of our courtrooms. Our young guests were fortunate to meet with the Honourable Justice of Appeal & Chief Justice (ag) Madam Roxanne George-Wiltshire, CCH, SC, and Mrs. Sueanna Lovell - Registrar - Supreme Court of Guyana.

1.7 NEW COURT SITE

On August 31, 2022, a site was identified for the construction of a new Magistrates' Courts at La Parfaite Harmonie. This new court will advance the vision of the Hon. Madam Justice Yonette Cummings, Chancellor (ag) of the Judiciary to improve access to justice across Guyana. The plot of land was identified by the Government of Guyana and is located adjacent to the La Parfaite Harmonie Police Station. Construction is expected to begin early next year. In attendance at this gathering were Hon. Madam Justice Yonette Cummings, Chancellor (ag) of the Judiciary, Hon. Madam Justice Roxane George, Chief Justice (ag) of the Judiciary, Hon. Mohabir Anil Nandlall, Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Hon. Colin Croal, Minister of Housing and Water, Her Worship Ms. Ann Mc Lennan, Chief Magistrate, Mrs. Sueanna Lovell, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mr. Trevor Baird, Court Manager of the Supreme Court, Mrs. Monique Ifill, Court Administrator of the Supreme Court, Mr. Asaf Alli, Chief Accountant of the Supreme Court, Ms. Alexis Cooper, Procurement Manager of the Supreme Court, Ms. Sharon Correia, Principal Clerk of Court, Mrs. Reneisha Hope, Clerk of Court of West Demerara Magisterial



District, other Staff of the Supreme Court and Staff of the Ministry of Housing and water.

1.8 RE-COMMISSIONING OF THE MIBIKURI MAGISTRATE'S COURT



Recommissioning of the Mibikuri Magistrates' Court

The Honourable Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag), Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards, as part of her commitment to improving access to justice for all Guyanese, facilitated the recommissioning of the Mibikuri Magistrate's Court on Thursday, the 29th day of September 2022.

The Mibikuri Magistrate's Court is located in Mibikuri, Black Bush Polder,

East Berbice-Corentyne. Various civil works as well as the supplying of goods were executed to

the value of twenty-four million dollars (\$24,000,000.00) to rehabilitate, refurbish and re-equip the Mibikuri Magistrate's Court with modern amenities.

The Court was re-commissioned by the Hon. Attorney General of Guyana and Minister of Legal Affairs, Mr. Mohabir Anil Nandlall, S.C. The building which contained the Mibikuri Magistrate's Court was constructed in 2012 and initially declared open by the former President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, His Excellency Donald Ramotar, on the 26th day of November 2012. However, due to bat infestation and flooding of the compound, the court was closed in late 2020 for the safety of court staff, lawyers, and litigants. During this time, court sittings were held at the Whim Magistrate's Court.

For several months, the building underwent rehabilitation and was re-equipped with modern amenities, bringing it up to par with the other Magistrate's courts throughout the ten (10) districts in Guyana. Members of the Black Bush Polder Community can now enjoy an air-conditioned courtroom with state-of-the-art equipment to facilitate easier access to justice. Recording systems were installed, facilitating the timely and efficient completion of matters since the Magistrate will have the recordings of the proceedings and transcripts. There is also a monitor outside of the courtroom on the lower flat of the building for litigants to view court proceedings when the courtroom has reached full capacity.

A special hearing room is located on the lower flat of the building caters for sensitive matters such as rape and other domestic violence hearings. It allows victims and witnesses to give their evidence in a comfortable and safe environment where they would not have to face their perpetrator and feel traumatized whilst doing so. This room was also commissioned by the Hon. Attorney General of Guyana and Minister of Legal Affairs, Mohabir Anil Nandlall, SC, on Thursday, the 29th day of September 2022. The building also has provisions for people in wheelchairs, with wheelchair ramps being installed. The court is also equipped with a small library, a robing room for attorneys, and a briefing room. Donations of items were made by the Honourable Chancellor of the Judiciary (ag), Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards to Blackbush Secondary School and Joanna Primary School.

Team Supreme will continue working towards improving access to justice for everyone across the length and breadth of Guyana!!!\

1.9 ORIENTATION



Association of Women Lawyers.

On Friday the 30th day of September 2022, the Supreme Court facilitated an orientation for nine (9) Guyanese female graduands of the Hugh Wooding Law School who are expected to be called to the bar in October 2022.

The orientation was facilitated through the Guyana

They met with the Hon. Chief Justice (ag) Roxane George, Chief Magistrate Ann Mc Lennan, Madam Registrar Sueanna Lovell, and Madam Deputy Registrar Alicia Lowenfield. The Attorneys-in-waiting were also given a tour of the Supreme Court of Judicature and the various Registries. They met with the senior staff of these Registries, and they were given a synopsis of each Registry. The Attorneys-in-waiting received advice from these four (4) influential women that hold important posts in the Judiciary of Guyana and have walked similar paths.

The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022

The Hon. Chief Justice (ag) Roxane George encouraged the graduands to be resilient and underscored that being an Attorney is a Marathon that does not have an end, it is continuous. She also urged them not to be alone; instead, they should seek out assistance from the Senior Attorneys. Chief Magistrate Ann Mc Lennan advised that with the advent of Virtual Court Hearings, young professionals should keep the three (3) Bs in mind and strictly adhere to them. The three Bs are:

1. Bandwidth – when signing in for the virtual hearings, Attorneys should ensure that they have sufficient bandwidth to avoid signing in without their cameras on and difficulties.

2. Background – having the Courtroom moved online does not mean the sanctity of the Court is not expected to be respected. Attorneys should ensure that their background is appropriate for Court settings at all times.

3. Backup – Attorneys should ensure they have a plan B in place for instances where their primary data services fail.

In addition to the three (3) B's, Chief Magistrate Ann Mc Lennan emphasized the importance of dressing appropriately for both in-person and virtual hearings.

Madam Registrar Sueanna Lovell and Deputy Registrar Alicia Lowenfield welcomed the young graduands and provided guidance on what will be expected of them. They also urged them to become au-fait with the filing procedure in all of the Registries and with CPR 2016.

1.10 OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2022 CRIMINAL ASSIZES



The October-December 2022 Criminal Assizes officially opened on Tuesday the 4th day of October 2022. The customary ceremonial parade by the Guyana Police Force was held at the Southern side of the Supreme Court of Judicature building along the South Road and Croal Street carriageways.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Brassington Reynolds took the salute and inspected the Guard of Honor. Justice Reynolds marched in harmony with Assistant Superintendent, Malcolm Melville and Assistant Police Commissioner Simon Mc Bean who were the parade commanders.

The Guyana Police Force Band and servicemen, dressed in their ceremonial kits, participated in the procession to mark the opening of the October-December 2022 Criminal Assizes.

Also present were the Hon. Madam Chief Justice (ag) Roxane George, Honourable Madam Justice Sandra Kurtzious, Honourable Mr. Justice Nareshwar Harnanan, Honourable Madam Justice Jo-Ann Barlow, Honourable Madam Simone Morris-Ramlall, Honourable Madam Justice Damone Younge, Honourable Mr. Justice Sandil Kissoon, Director of Public Prosecution Mrs. Shalimar Ali-Hack, SC, Madam Registrar Sueanna Lovell, Madam Deputy Registrar Alicia Lowenfield and First Marshall, Aquynce Liverpool. According to Britannica, 'assize', in law means a session, or sitting, of a court of Justice and historically represents trial by jury. The term was historically applied to certain Courts in England and France. This practice, which originated in England, was adopted in Guyana when we became a colony. It was received as part of our common law and later incorporated into our legislation by Statute and Assizes are held in our three counties: Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice. Cap. 3:02, S27 (a) (b) and (c) set out when the Court holds sitting throughout the year.

Demerara – the second Tuesday in January, the first Tuesday in April, the first Tuesday in June, and the first Tuesday in October.

Essequibo – the third Tuesday in February, the third Tuesday in May, and the fourth Tuesday in October.

Berbice – first Tuesday in February, the third Tuesday in June, and the third Tuesday in October. The Criminal Assizes are the Courts that deal with the most serious crimes such as Murder, Manslaughter, Sexual offences.

The October-December 2022 Criminal Assizes consisted of three panels.

Panel one (1) – The Honourable Mr. Justice Brassington Reynolds

Panel two (2) – The Honourable Madam Justice Simone Morris-Ramlall and

Panel three (3) – The Honourable Mr. Justice Sandil Kissoon

1.11 DRUG TREATMENT COURT



We took a walk down memory lane as we celebrated the third anniversary of the first Adult Drug Treatment Court in the Cooperative Republic of

Guyana. On the 21st day of October 2019, the first Drug Treatment Court was officially commissioned at the Georgetown Magistrates' Court in the Georgetown Magisterial District. The Court was established to aid in the rehabilitation and reintegration of persons with substance misuse disorders who commit Non-Violent Offences.

The Court was implemented with a nontraditional approach to the administration of justice. It combines and integrates two aspects of society: Public Health and Criminal Justice, with the aim of administering justice whilst fighting a societal phenomenon affecting men, women, and young adults. The Court gives offenders an alternative to prison life. It provides access to Resources and Professionals to lead persons who misuse substances to the road of recovery.

The program tailored by the Drug Treatment Court essentially consists of four (4) phases that subjects participants to various rules and requirements that were established to help reform and reintegrate them into society after graduation from the program. The program lasts for a minimum of thirteen (13) months and the four (4) phases are spread across this time span. Each phase

The Supreme Court of Guyana – Annual Report 2022

fundamentally builds on the previous phase and all participants must fulfill all of the requirements of all of the phases before they can graduate from the program. To move from one phase to another, participants must satisfy the requirements of their current phase and a completed application for phase movement form must be submitted by the participant to the case manager being the first stage (choice); and the second stage (challenge) for approximately ninety (90) days. The third stage (change) lasts for approximately one hundred and twenty (120) days, while the fourth stage (continuing care) lasts for approximately ninety (90) days.

After completion of all of the stages, graduation from the program is based on a positive recommendation by the approved Treatment Providers.

The Drug Treatment Court takes a team approach with the DTC Team comprising professionals that collaborate to work with each participant to provide feasible solutions in the interest of the participant. The team includes:

- Magistrate
- State Counsel
- Defence Counsel
- Police Officer
- Probation Officer
- Substance Misuse Treatment Provider
- Case Manager
- Mental Health Specialist
- Any other person selected by the DTC team

Currently, we only have one (1) Adult Drug Treatment Court; however, we have several Juvenile Drug Treatment Court encompassing the ten (10) Magisterial Districts.

The Adult Drug Treatment Court can only be accessed by Offenders within the Georgetown Magisterial District. Cognizant of this, the Supreme Court will work toward establishing other Adult Drug Treatment Courts for the benefit of offenders within the other Magisterial Districts.

6 ABBREVIATIONS OF TERMS

The following table below represents a brief explanation or meaning of legal terms used by the

Court.

NO.	LEGAL TERMS	EXPLANATION/ MEANING
1.	GRANTED/DECISION	A ruling, written decision, judgment pronounced upon by the Court when considering and disposing of an Application.
2.	HEARING De NOVA	Cases remitted to the lower Court for rehearing.
3.	STRUCK OUT	Cases removed or taken off the list.
4.	SETTLED	An agreement arrived at by all Parties involved in a matter pronounced upon by the Court and is made an Order of the Court.
5.	REFUSED	A denial by the Court for an Order sought after by Litigants.
6.	WITHDRAWN/DISCONTINUE	The termination, removal of an Application voluntarily filed by Litigants.
7.	LEAVE TO APPEAL	Litigants seeking permission of the Court by way of an Application (Notice of Motion) to have an Appeal filed out of time.
8.	FDA	Fixed date Application
9.	SOC	Statement of Claims
10	J/Sums	Judgement summons
11	Inj.	Injunction
12	Witness sums	Witness summons
13	Adoption sums	Adoption summons
14	WOP	Writ of Possession
15	PI	Preliminary Enquiry
16	PC	Paper Committal
17	TIP	Trafficking in Persons

FAMILY COURT DIVISION- MARSHAL SECTION

ARRANGEMENT OF FORMS

FORM	DESCRIPTION
Form 1 -	Petition for Divorce and Other Matrimonial Causes
Form 2 -	Statement of Arrangements for Children
Form 3 -	Notice of Proceedings (Respondent)
Form 4 -	Acknowledgement of Service (Respondent)
Form 5 -	Acknowledgement of Service (Co-respondent)
Form 6 -	Notice of Application by Respondent for Financial Relief/Division of
Property	
Form 7 -	Financial Relief/Division of Property Application Form with Evidence
Form 8 -	Evidence of Financial Relief/Division of Property (Relief)
Form 9 -	Application relating to Children.
Form 10 -	Reply to Application Relating to Children
Form 11 -	Application
Form 12 -	Notice of Proceedings (Co-respondent)
Form 13 -	Witness Summons
Form 14 -	Notice of Application for decree nisi to be made Absolute.

Additional

1. Notice of Direction Hearings