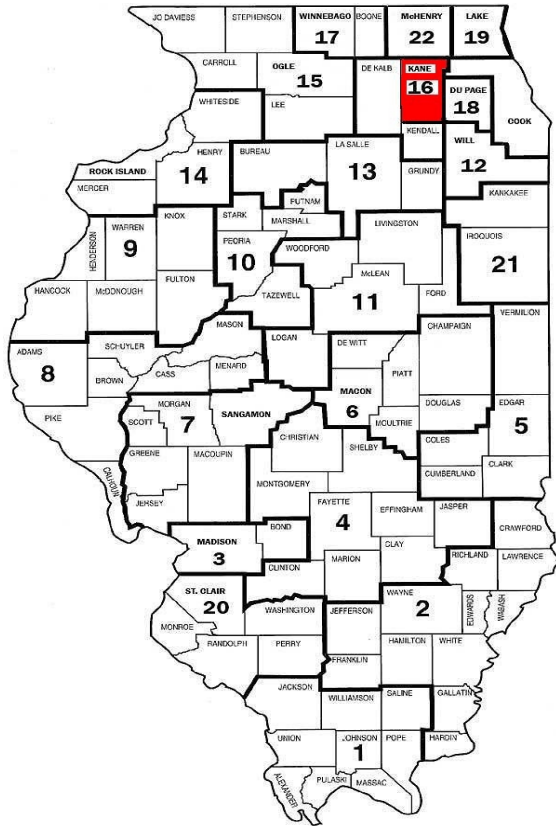


Sixteenth Judicial Circuit

(Kane County)

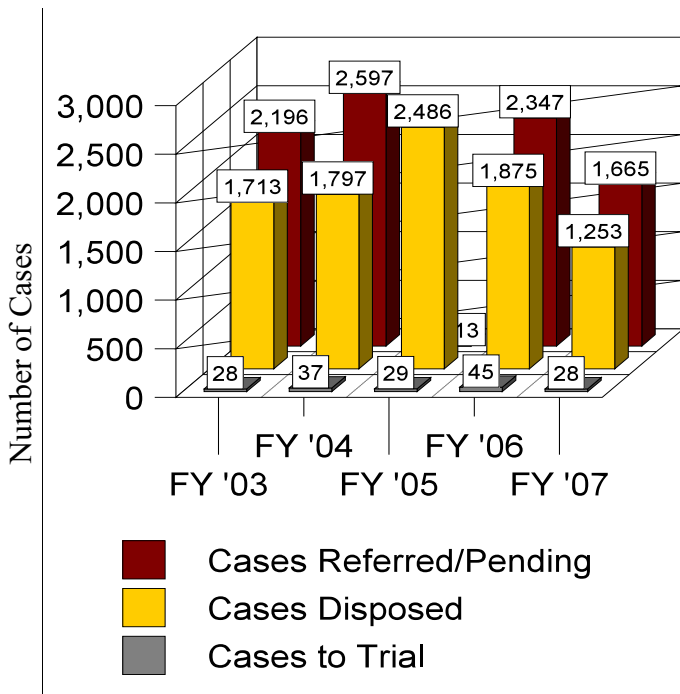
Arbitration Program Information

The Sixteenth Judicial Circuit consists of DeKalb, Kane and Kendall Counties. During Fiscal Year 1994, the Supreme Court approved the request of Kane County to begin operating a court-annexed mandatory arbitration program. Initial arbitration hearings were held in June 1995. The arbitration center is located in the courthouse in Kane County. A supervising judge is assigned to oversee arbitration matters and is assisted by an arbitration program assistant.



Kane County

Five - Year Disposition Trend



The chart to the left presents information regarding the total number of cases litigated in arbitration which were either resolved during the arbitration process or, ultimately went to trial. Program data indicates that either a settlement or dismissal was reached in 75% (1,253 of 1,665 cases were disposed) of the cases filed in the Kane County arbitration program for State Fiscal Year 2007. This disposition rate is less than the five year average of 78% and the statewide average of 81%.

Kane County

**State Fiscal Year 2007
Kane County
At A Glance Arbitration
Caseload Information**

Number of Cases Pending / Referred to Arbitration	1,665
Number of Cases Settled / Dismissed	1,253
Number of Arbitration Hearings	180
Number of Awards Accepted ...	27
Number of Awards Rejected ...	112
Number of Cases Filed in which Proceeded to Trial	28

While cases referred to Kane County's arbitration program increased annually from 2003 through 2005, the same cannot be said for the past two years. The decrease in cases referred to arbitration may be directly attributable to Supreme Court Rule 281 which raised the small claims jurisdiction to \$10,000 thereby reducing the number of cases eligible for mandatory arbitration. From 2003 through 2007, an annual average of 1,875 cases have been referred to arbitration.

The data for Kane County's 2007 arbitration operations is reflected in the chart to the left. In Kane County, less than 2% of the cases (28 of the 1,665) filed in arbitration proceeded to trial.