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FIFTH CIRCUIT STATISTICS

William R. Peterson
June 15, 2018

Composition of the Fifth Circuit

Stewart

Costa

Jolly Jones Smith **Davis** Dennis Jones Smith Owen Dennis Elrod Clement Southwick **Today Prado** Haynes Owen Graves Elrod Higginson Southwick Costa Willett Haynes Graves Но Higginson **Duncan**

Stewart

Engelhardt

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June 2016

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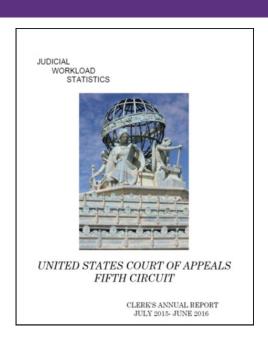
Common Questions About the Fifth Circuit

- Will the court hold oral argument in my case?
- What are the odds that my case will be reversed?
- How frequently do the judges on my panel disagree with one another?
- Does the passage of time since argument indicate anything about the likely result?
- In civil cases, why does the Fifth Circuit reverse district courts?

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Clerk's Annual Report

- Published annually
- Reports case results based on the results of the screening process
- Does not include detailed timing information



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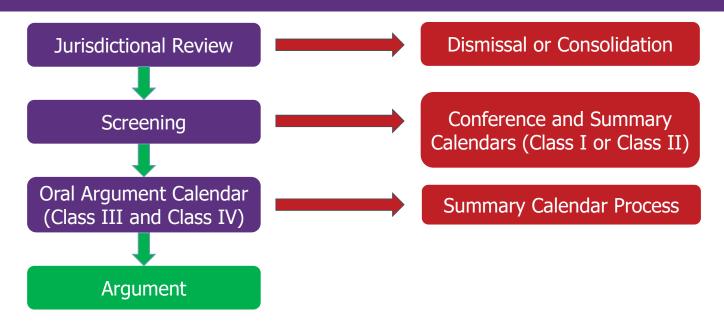
The Solution: Read Lots of Cases

- Cases argued from July 2015 to June 2016
 - http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/clerk/calendar/1507/01.htm
 - http://www.ca5.uscourts.gov/clerk/calendar/1606/45.htm
- Fields include:
 - Type
 - Panel
 - Argument Date
 - Result
 - Author (dissent or concurrence?)
 - Opinion Date
 - Plaintiff-Appellant?
 - Posture and Ground for Reversal (in civil cases)

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The Road to Oral Argument



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Title search: Fifth Circuit Statistics

Also available as part of the eCourse 2018 eConference on State and Federal Appeals

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