

BRANCH NAME:	SOUTH CAROLINA JUDICIAL BRANCH		
BRANCH CODE:	B04	SECTION:	057

Fiscal Year 2018-19 Accountability Report

SUBMISSION FORM

BRANCH MISSION	<p>The mission of the South Carolina Judicial Branch is to provide a fair and efficient forum for the just resolution of civil disputes and criminal matters.</p>
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BRANCH VISION	<p>The Judicial Branch works constantly to provide a court system that not only is fair but is perceived as fair, in which all persons are treated equally and all matters are resolved in an unbiased and just manner, according to the law as established by the United States Constitution, the Constitution of South Carolina, state statutes, and the common law.</p>
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Please select yes or no if the branch has any major or minor (internal or external) recommendations that would allow the branch to operate more effectively and efficiently.

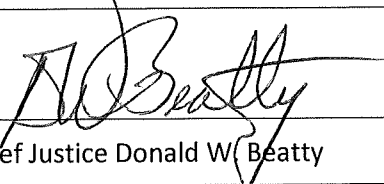
RESTRUCTURING RECOMMENDATIONS:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Please identify your branch's preferred contacts for this year's accountability report.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email</u>
PRIMARY CONTACT:	Tonnya Kohn	(803) 734-1800	tkohn@sccourts.org
SECONDARY CONTACT:	Carolyn Taylor	(803) 734-1970	ctaylor@sccourts.org

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I have reviewed and approved the enclosed FY 2018-19 Accountability Report, which is complete and accurate to the extent of my knowledge.

BRANCH DIRECTOR (SIGN AND DATE):	 8/28/19
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	Chief Justice Donald W. Beatty

BOARD/CMSN CHAIR (SIGN AND DATE):	
(TYPE/PRINT NAME):	

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BRANCH'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

By the adoption of Article V of the South Carolina Constitution, the people of South Carolina have established the South Carolina Judicial Branch (SCJB) as one of the three co-equal branches of the State Government. The Chief Justice serves as the administrative head of the SCJB. Through administrative orders, court rules, and other directives, the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court of South Carolina provide guidance for the operation of the statewide, unified judicial system, and various boards and commissions that have been established by the Supreme Court. The organizational structure of the SCJB can be categorized into two areas: (1) adjudication and (2) administration. Directly or indirectly, the lives of all South Carolina citizens are affected by the decisions of the trial courts and the appellate courts. These courts make decisions that could involve local zoning, taxation, interpretation of state statutes, or other matters that may significantly affect the public.

SCJB continues to maintain its standards for effective and efficient administration even though the Branch has limited resources and budgetary constraints each year. The SCJB continues to implement new innovations that further improve services to the public while increasing efficiencies of internal operations. By optimizing resources and utilizing technology, the SCJB can reach its goals and achieve its mission of providing fair, independent and accessible forums for the just and timely resolution of legal disputes for the citizens of South Carolina.