



Probate Court

BUDGET PRESENTATION

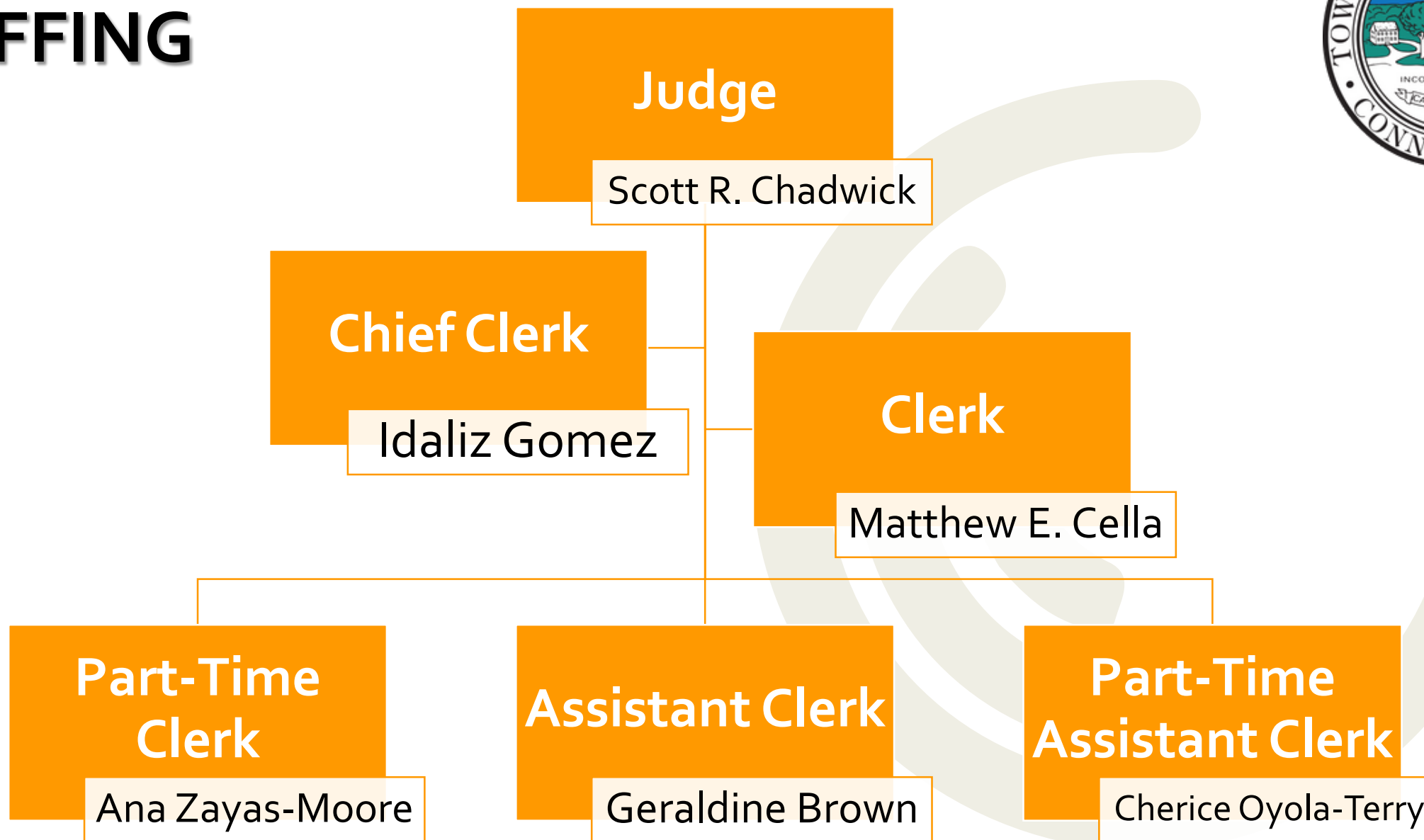
FY 2020-2021

➤ JUDGE SCOTT R. CHADWICK

- Hon. Scott R. Chadwick was sworn in as the tenth Judge of Probate for the District of East Hartford on November 19, 2014
- Judge Chadwick graduated from East Hartford High School and received his B.A., cum laude, from Western New England College and his J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law
- He is admitted to practice law in the State of CT and the U.S. District Court for the District of CT



STAFFING





► DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION & SERVICES

- The Judge of Probate presides over hearings on petitions before the Court and issues written judicial rulings pursuant to the General Statutes of the State of CT
- The Chief Clerk oversees the day to day operations of the Court, manages and trains staff, manages the Court's records and finances, assists the public, processes probate petitions, and manages and monitors Court files
- Clerks/Assistant Clerks assist the public, process probate petitions, process payments, and manage and monitor Court files



► DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION & SERVICES

The Probate Court's statutory duties and responsibilities are delineated in Section 45a of the Connecticut General Statutes. The Court's principal responsibilities include:

- Providing general assistance to the public in connection with the Court's forms and procedures
- Providing case-specific assistance to attorneys and parties regarding procedural matters
- Reviewing and processing petitions and filings, scheduling hearings, and providing statutory notice of hearing to appropriate parties
- Holding hearings on petitions and filings before the Court and issuing written rulings/decisions by the Judge
- Monitoring and managing the Court's files and records
- Working with other State agencies, i.e. the Department of Social Services, the Department of Developmental Services, the Department of Children and Families, and the Department of Administrative Services, in connection with matters pending before the Court



► DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION & SERVICES

The Probate Court processes a variety of petitions related to the following types of matters:

- Probate of wills/administration of decedent's estates
- Testamentary and intervivos trusts
- Fiduciary accountings, including audits of fiduciaries
- Voluntary and involuntary appointment of conservators of person and estate
- Appointment of guardians for individuals with intellectual disability
- Commitment of individuals with psychiatric disabilities
- Removal and appointment of guardians of minors
- Appointment of guardians of the estate of minors
- Issuance of special immigrant juvenile status for minors and young adults
- Termination of parental rights and adoptions of minors and adults
- Certification of foreign adoptions
- Paternity claims
- Confirmation of gender changes for residents born out of state
- Legal name changes of minors and adults



➤ ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The East Hartford Probate Court's primary objective continues to be providing optimal customer service to the users of the Court
- In July 2019, the Hartford Regional Children's Probate Court was decentralized resulting in an increase in the number of people utilizing the Court's services. As a result, the Court's benchmark staffing level was increased and an additional part-time clerk is now employed by the Court
- On January 1, 2020, E-Filing for the Probate Courts went into effect, which requires attorneys and allows individuals to file petitions and submit and receive documents electronically. This is expected to cut down on the amount of printed paper the Court has to mail out as well as expedite the processing of petitions
- The Court's weighted workload continues to increase and increased by approximately 16% from the previous fiscal year
(Fiscal Year 2018 WWL = 3,428, Fiscal Year 2019 WWL = 4,061)

➤ BUDGET CHANGES

ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	REASON	\$ CHANGE
G2500	63236	Equipment Maintenance	Previous years' budgets did not account for the maintenance of office equipment	\$500
G2500	62316	Copier	New copier contract with Connecticut Business Systems has resulted in decreased copying costs	(\$500)



THANK YOU!
