



Probate Court BUDGET PRESENTATION

FY 2023-2024

➤ JUDGE RICHARD P. GENTILE

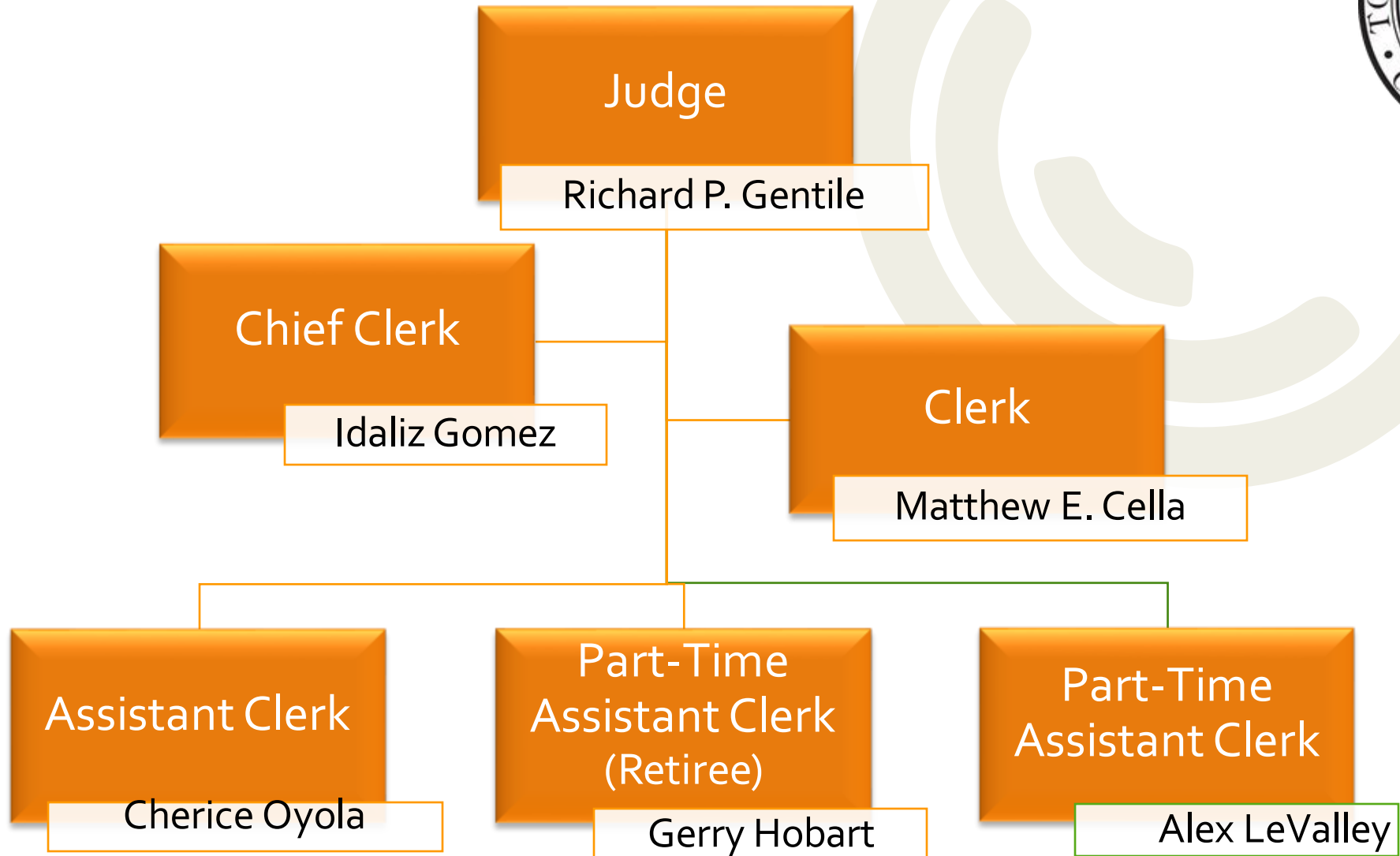
- Richard P. Gentile was sworn in as the 11th Judge of the East Hartford Probate Court on 12/28/2022 and began his first term as Judge of Probate on 01/04/2023
- Judge Gentile is a graduate of Columbia College and the Fordham University School of Law and is admitted to practice in CT, NY, the U.S. District Court for CT, the U.S. District Court for Southern NY, and the U.S. Supreme Court



➤ DEPARTMENT DESCRIPTION

- The Probate Court is a statutory Court of limited jurisdiction. All authority vested in the Court is set forth in Section 45a of the CT General Statutes
- The Probate Court handles legal matters pertaining to affairs of decedents' estates, trusts, conservatorships, guardianships, and other matters requiring legal decisions falling within the scope of the Court's jurisdiction





➤ STAFFING

- Judge of Probate: presides over all matters pending before the Court. The Judge holds formal and informal hearings on a variety of probate petitions, and issues legal decisions in accordance with the CT General Statutes and the Probate Court Rules of Procedure
- The Probate Judge is elected to office and serves four-year terms



➤ STAFFING

- Chief Clerk: directs staff & operations of the Court; establishes office policies & procedures; reviews & responds to inquiries from the public concerning Court forms & procedures; reviews & processes probate petitions; oversees case management & compliance with State laws; manages Court funds; oversees records management; provides staff training & assistance



➤ STAFFING

- Clerks/Assistant Clerks: review & process probate petitions, review & respond to inquiries from the public concerning Court forms & procedures; process billing and accounts receivables, monitor progression of files; perform statutory reviews; process fiduciary accountings





► DEPARTMENT SERVICES

The Judge of Probate oversees a variety of essential matters, including:

Probate of wills and administration of decedents' estates/Construing the meaning of wills and trusts	Appointing conservators of person and estate of incapable individuals
Overseeing testamentary and living trusts	Appointing guardians for intellectually disabled adults
Determining title to real and personal property	Appointing guardians of the estate of minors
Removing unfit parents as guardians of minors	Termination of parental rights
Parentage claims & Approval of surrogacy agreements	Adoptions of minors & adults
Certification of foreign adoptions & Registration of foreign births	Issuance of special immigrant juvenile status for minors under 21
Legal name changes of minors and adults	Confirmation of gender changes for residents born out of state
Mental health & substance abuse commitments	Appeal from quarantine orders

➤ ACHIEVEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



- The Court's primary objective is to provide optimal customer service to the users of the Court while adhering to all safety protocols & providing a safe environment for both the public & the employees of the Court
- During FY 2022, the Court underwent a number of transitions which resulted in a decrease in the Court's weighted workload of .09%. However, as a result of the transitions the Court was able to undertake long overdue housekeeping tasks, namely, the scanning and destruction of decades worth of closed files from the 50's – 70's, as well as the transfer of the Court's historical records to the State Library



➤ BUDGET CHANGES

ORG	OBJECT	DESCRIPTION	REASON	\$ CHANGE
G2500	62214	Books/Ref/Publications	No Change	0
G2500	62311	Office Supplies	No Change	0
G2500	62316	Copier	No Change	0
G2500	63221	Printing & Reproduction	No Change	0
G2500	63236	Office Equipment Maintenance	No Change	0
G2500	64605	Office Equipment	No Change	0



THANK YOU!

