

Court Year, Court Terms

Directive #6-82
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The Report of the Supreme Court Committee on the Judicial Work Schedule contained recommendations for change in the traditional court year and court terms.

The judicial court year traditionally has commenced on September 1 and terminated on August 31. It was the opinion of the Committee that certain advantages could be obtained from a change in the court year schedule by which the court year would commence on July 1 and terminate on June 30, coinciding with the fiscal year.

These advantages are:

1. The judicial court year would correspond with the judicial and state fiscal year. This would eliminate difficulties of recomputing court statistics to a fiscal year basis for cost analysis and state reporting purposes.
2. Preparation of the Annual Report of the Judiciary would be sufficiently advanced to provide valuable material for use at the Judicial College.
3. Any deficit in calendar clearance resulting from the substantial reduction in productivity which traditionally occurs in July and August would be a known quantity at the beginning, not the end, of the court year. This would allow ten months for compensatory adjustments to achieve calendar clearance.

For these reasons, pursuant to the recommendation of the Supreme Court Committee on Judicial Work Schedules, the Supreme Court has determined to revise the definition of the court year to commence on July 1 and end on June 30. Therefore, the last day of court year 1983 will be June 30, 1983 and court year 1984 will be the period July 1, 1983 to June 30, 1984.

The court year is divided into three terms of four months' duration, a division which presently has significance with respect only to the period of service of Grand Juries in the counties. In accordance with the Committee recommendation, the division of the court year into three terms will be maintained and the terms shall commence on July 1, November 1, and March 1.

EDITOR-S NOTE

This directive does not apply to judicial assignments. Those assignments have continued to be made for a year beginning on September 1 and terminating on August 31.

The directive was issued pursuant to *R. 1:30-2* which states that the dates for the commencement and termination of the court terms and sessions shall be fixed by the Chief Justice. No change has been made to the original text.