

11th Congress State of the Judiciary Message

I. Introduction

Congress intends that these messages promote a “better understanding between the legislative and judicial branches . . . and promote more efficient administration of justice.”¹ Congress also requires that these messages evaluate federal judiciary accessibility, and spell out the future direction and needs of courts.

To measure accessibility, I have focused my analysis on the different ways in which the public are able to interact with the courts: Developing several pathways for filings and opening several avenues for public information retrieval. In my other messages, I have expressed calls for attention to other matters. A recurring one is the low number of attorneys in our judicial economy. Another one was the need for Congress’s assistance in solving a quorum issue of the Supreme Court. But however much stretched out these issues are, they can all be circled back to the judiciary’s accessibility.

In solving such issues, courts should be the first to face them. In respect of the low number of attorneys, the judiciary has thrown everything it could at solving problem. It started with the District Court’s paralegal program, marked with our current version of the bar, and continues with frequent updates to Congress about the issue. As I have said, “[t]he issue with the number of attorneys will continue to remain.”²

¹ Judiciary Act of 2025, div. A, tit. I, §108(b) (2025).

² <https://supremecourtrblx.github.io/publicinfo/judiciarymessages/10thcongress-judiciarymessage.pdf>

The low number of attorneys damages accessibility to the courts. If an ordinary person gets embroiled in a lawsuit or caught up in the law, they call an attorney. But in the unfortunate (and very likely) situation of having no attorney, that person must embark on the precise and complex endeavor that is the law.³ An ordinary person who enjoys participating in our Roblox community will not find it amusing or time well spent being a legal academic. Those without an attorney in our courts and who do not geek about legalese will ultimately lead themselves to two conclusions: (1) They cannot be bothered and end up leaving the community, or (2) Lose their case, have penalties imposed, and then leave the community. Unless these are the main objectives for judges (which, last time I checked it wasn't), then this leaves everyone a loser.

Adding insult to injury, the court's rules and procedures do not help. Like other American-based Roblox communities, our rules of procedures are taken straight from our real-life counterpart. The real-life rules are meant to match our Roblox environment expressly confined by just a few words, leaving judges to interpret how real-life rules should be applied to Roblox.⁴ It naturally follows, then, that because interpretations may differ between different judges, the applications of rules will be inconsistent. This inconsistency must be minimized.⁵

³ See <https://supremecourtrblx.github.io/publicinfo/judiciarymessages/10thcongress-judiciarymessage.pdf> (“[Litigating] is a precise and complex endeavor. The law is laced with complexities and nuances.”).

⁴ See <https://trello.com/c/DNmrE8NF/8-federal-rules-of-civil-and-criminal-procedure-evidence> (“[T]he Federal Rules shall be construed or applicable only to the extent appropriate for Roblox.”); the District Court's rule construction rule recognizes the Supreme Court's power of rulemaking.

⁵ To minimize this inconsistency, the Supreme Court may undertake work in the near future to promulgate new federal rules of procedure and evidence pursuant to the Judiciary Act of 2025, div. A, tit. I, § 107(a)(i). As an initial matter, the aim of this new promulgation will be to structure the rules uniquely in light of Roblox limitations.

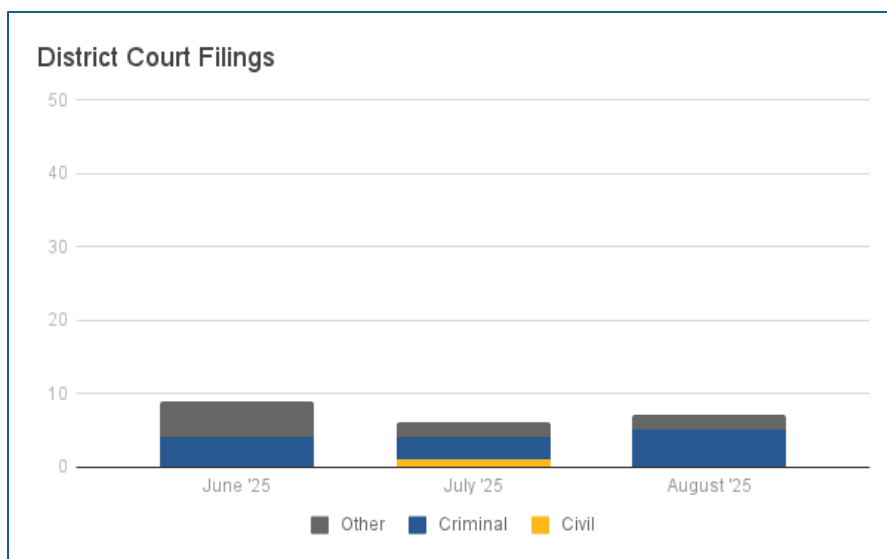
Judges faced with persons without attorney representation should be sympathetic to their situation. Parties are without attorney representation not because they willfully decline representation—or that they aren't able to afford—but because there are not enough attorneys to go around. Judges should realize that some parties have no attorneys because of an unrealistic phenomenon. As such, they should be sympathetic. But they ought not compromise the stringency of the law. Judges should therefore strike a careful balance between facilitating humble accessibility to parties and the full nerdy enjoyment of classic Roblox legal roleplay.

II. Supreme Court's Caseload

This figure analyzes all initiated appeals starting July 1, 2025, until August 31, 2025. The total number of appeals filed in the Supreme Court in July was 0 which is a 100% decrease from June. The total number of appeals filed in the Supreme Court in August was 0. There was no change from the previous month.

III. District Court's Caseload

This figure analyzes all initiated cases starting July 1, 2025, until August 31, 2025. A total of 6 cases have been filed or initiated in the District Court during July which is a 33.33% decrease from June. Of those cases, 3 were criminal actions, 1 was a civil action, and 2 were contempt cases or disciplinary proceedings. A total of 7 cases have been filed or initiated in the District Court during August which is an 16.67% increase from July. Of those cases, 5 were criminal actions, and 1 was a contempt case or disciplinary proceeding.



IV. Conclusion

My best wishes.

NathanInslee

Chief Justice of the United States