Federal Judicial Administration

CONGRESS

Appropriates funds, enacts legislation defining court organization and jurisdiction, and reviews procedural rule amendments.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES

SUPREME COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE U.S. COURTS

The Chief Justice appoints the director and deputy director after consultation with Judicial Conference. Provides administrative support to courts (including budget, personnel, space & facilities), staff to Judicial Conference and its committees, legislative coordination.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER

Board: Chief Justice (chair); 7 judges
elected by the Judicial Conference;
Administrative Office director
Board appoints the Center's director
and deputy director. Provides the
courts with orientation, continuing
education, and research support to
courts and Judicial Conference.

U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION
8 members, 7 appointed by President
(including at least three federal
judges after considering a list
submitted by Judicial Conference)
and 1 non-voting ex officio member
Functions: Promulgates sentencing
guidelines and otherwise establishes
federal sentencing policies as
directed by the 1984 Sentencing
Reform Act.

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES

Members: Chief Justice (chair); chief judge and 1 district judge from each of the 12 regional circuits; chief judge of Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; chief judge of the Court of International Trade.

Functions: Sets national administrative poly for the federal judiciary; approves appropriations requests for submission to Congress; recommends changes in rules of procedure to the Supreme Court for submission to Congress; numerous other statutory functions.

COMMITTEES OF THE JUDICIAL CONFERENCE Appointed by Chief Justice; include judges, practicing lawyers, legal scholars, and ex officio government officials.

CHIEF JUDGES OF THE CIRCUITS

JUDICIAL COUNCILS OF THE CIRCUITS *Members:* Chief judge (chair); circuit and district judges in equal numbers; council size determined by majority vote of all active circuit and district judges. The circuit executive is the secretary of the council.

Functions: (1) Make necessary orders for administration of justice within the circuit (all judges and employees of the circuit are statutorily directed to give effect to council orders); (2) Consider complaints of judicial misconduct or disability under 28 U.S.C. § 372(c) if referred by the chief circuit judge; (3) Review district court plants in various administrative areas, as required by statute or Judicial Conference.

JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE CIRCUITS *Members:* Chief judge (chair); all circuit, district, and bankruptcy judges; each circuit must also provide for participation by members of the bar. *Purpose:* Considering and advising on improvements in the administration of justice in the circuit.

U.S. DISTRICT COURTS
District courts, each wit ha chief
district judge and clerk of court,
also develop and implement
administrative policy in numerous
areas within the framework
depicted above. Each district also
has a bankruptcy court.