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 the Judicial Conference. Provides administrative support to courts including budget, personnel, space & facilities), staff to the Judicial Conference and its committees, legislative coordination.

FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER Board: Chief Justice (chair); seven 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 the Judicial Conference.

U.S. SENTENCING COMMISSION
Eight members, seven appointed by
the President (including at least three
federal judges after considering a list
submitted by the Judicial
Conference) and one 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 one 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 policy 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 plans 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 with a 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.