

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee One of the Most Productive Federal District Courts in America



March 8, 2019

S. Thomas Anderson, Chief District Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee (“District Court”), is pleased to announce that the District Court has been recognized as being among “America’s Most Productive Federal District Courts.”

There are 94 federal court districts in America and based on several factors used to rank the productivity of these courts, the District Court, which maintains operations in its Eastern Division based in Jackson and its Western Division based in Memphis, was ranked 12th nationwide regarding its overall performance.

The metrics used for this evaluation included: *Hours on the Bench* (ranking 5th); *Trial Hours* (ranking 23rd); *Civil Trials* (ranking 29th); and *Criminal Trials* (ranking 10th). In addition to those factors, this District Court ranked 9th nationwide in the time elapsed between the filing of a new civil case and the trial date for that case.

One other statistic that is particularly noteworthy and reflects the high level of productivity of our District Court is *completed trials per judge per year*. The nationwide average for all 94 district courts for the number of completed trials per judge per year is 16. This District Court averages 32 completed trials per judge per year, which is twice the national average. This performance level is even more meaningful when one considers that for almost two years the District Court was operating with two vacancies out of its five authorized district-level judgeships.

This level of judicial productivity reflects not only the fact that we have hardworking judicial officers and chambers staff but also the fact that our various district court units – the Pretrial Services Office, the Probation Office, the Clerk’s Office, the Official Court Reporters, the Pro Se Law Clerks, the U.S. Marshal Service and its Court Security Officers and Deputy Marshals, and the Federal Protective Service – have successfully operated as a cohesive, well-coordinated, and mission driven group for these past several years. The Court’s ability to manage and dispose of cases brought before it with such a high level of efficiency represents a collaborative team effort by the entire Court family. We should each be proud of these accomplishments and the positive recognition it brings to the Western District of Tennessee.