Analysis Of Activity For Year Ended August 31, 1995

The Supreme Court of Texas is the highest state court for civil appeals and promulgates rules of administration and civil procedure for the courts of Texas. It is comprised of the Chief Justice and eight justices.

The Court disposed of or otherwise acted upon a total of 3,025 matters during fiscal year 1995, a decrease of 8.3 percent from the 3,299 matters passed on in fiscal year 1994.

REGULAR CAUSES

Regular Causes are regular appeals or original actions pending before the court. Normally, they reach this status when a Writ of Error is granted in the cause. Petitions for Original Mandamus and Habeas Corpus, which are not disposed of upon initial review, and in which the petition is granted, may also become regular causes.

The 133 regular causes added to the Court's docket during the year ended August 31, 1995, were 30 percent less than the 190 regular causes added in fiscal year 1994.

The 160 regular causes disposed of were 14.4 percent less than the 187 disposed of in fiscal year 1994 and 2.6 percent more than the 10-year average of 156. Of the regular causes disposed of during 1995, 110 came to the Court on applications for writs of error from the 14 Courts of Appeals. Of those 110 dispositions, the lower courts were reversed in whole or in part in 80 causes, or 72.7 percent. This compares to 75.4 percent reversals in fiscal year 1994.

The 41 regular causes (including motions for rehearing) left pending at the end of fiscal year 1995 represented 20.4 percent of the total number of regular causes added during the year or carried over from the previous year. This is 23 causes less than the 10-year average of 64 pending causes. At the end of fiscal year 1994, 67 regular causes had been pending in the Court.

APPLICATIONS FOR WRITS OF ERROR

An Application for Writ of Error is a request filed by one of the parties, requesting the Supreme Court to review the judgment of a Court of Appeals. If four or more of the nine justices concur the writ is granted and the cause is scheduled for argument before the court.

The 1,021 applications for writs of error filed during fiscal year 1995 represented a 3.1 percent decrease from the 1,054 applications filed in fiscal year 1994, and was 1.0 percent higher than the 10-year

average of 1,011.

The 997 applications for writs of error disposed of during the year were 8.8 percent less than the 1,093 disposed of during fiscal year 1994, and 3.5 percent less than the 10-year average of 1,033. Of the 997 applications disposed of, 132 (or 13.2 percent) were granted.

The 353 applications for writs of error left pending at the end of fiscal year 1995 represented 26.3 percent of the total number of such applications filed during the year or carried over from the previous year. This is 7 more pending applications than the 10-year average of 346 pending applications. At the end of fiscal year 1994, 317 applications for writs of error had been pending in the Court.

OTHER WRITS AND MOTIONS

The 1,936 other writs and motions filed during fiscal year 1995 were 14.3 percent more than the 1,694 filed during fiscal year 1994. (This does not include miscellaneous motions such as motions for extension of time, etc., which are often not docketed as separate causes.) This is 36.4 percent more than the 10-year average of 1,419 other writs and motions filed.

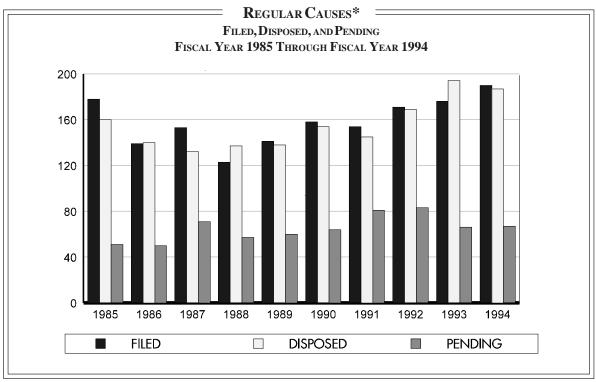
The 1,917 other writs and motions disposed of during fiscal year 1995 were 5.0 percent more than the 2,017 disposed during fiscal year 1994. This is 554 more dispositions than the 10-year average of 1,441 dispositions.

The 227 other writs and motions left pending by the Court at the end of fiscal year 1995 represented 11.7 percent of the total number of other writs and motions filed during the year. At the end of fiscal year 1994, 173 other writs and motions had been pending in the Court.

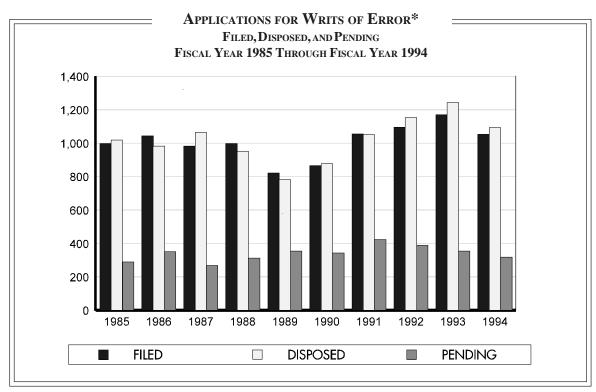
OPINIONS WRITTEN

During fiscal year 1995, the justices of the Supreme Court wrote 246 opinions (or an average of 27.3 opinions each), 7.4 percent more than the 229 opinions written in fiscal year 1994 and 14.4 percent more than the 10-year average of 215. Of the opinions written in 1995, 146 (or 59.3 percent) were deciding opinions which disposed of causes.

During fiscal year 1995, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments of 82 causes and considered an additional 31 causes submitted on briefs.



^{*} Regular Causes are regular appeals or original actions pending before the court. Normally, they reach this status when a Writ of Error is granted in the cause. Petitionsfor Original Mandamus and Habeas Corpus, which are not disposed of upon initial review, and in which the petition is granted, may also become regular causes.



An Application for Writ of Error is a request filed by one of the parties, requesting the Supreme Court to review the judgment of a Court of Appeals. If four or more of the nine justices concur the writ is granted and the cause is scheduled for argument before the court.

ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1995

SUMMARY OF DOCKET ACTIVITY A. Causes Of Action Passed On During The Year Ended August 31, 1995: Applications for writs of error determined997 Motions for leave to file petitions for writs of mandamus Petitions for writs of habeas corpus determined.......31 Writs of prohibitions and injunction determined.......10 Direct appeals 0 Petition to publish under Rule 90c, T.R.A.P......13 B. Motions Passed On During The Year Ended August 31, 1995: Motions for rehearing of applications for writs of error determined276 Motions for rehearing of motions for leave to file petitions for writs of mandamus determined.......41 GRAND TOTAL OF MATTERS PASSED ON BY THE COURT 3,025 D. MATTERS PENDING AUGUST 31, 1995: Regular causes (not including motions for rehearing).......41 Writs of prohibition and injunction2 Petition to publish under Rule 90c, T.R.A.P.....5 Motions for rehearing of motions for leave to file petitions Total Matters Pending August 31, 1995 618

ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1995

REGULAR CAUSES*

Causes pending on September 1, 1994 (Pending under submission, including motions for rehearing)	
¹ Regular Causes Pending September 1, 1995	68
By granted applications for writs of error	
Regular Causes Added	133
Total Regular Causes On Docket	201
. Dispositions:	
Judgment of Court of Appeals is affirmed and rendered	1

^{*&}quot;Regular Causes" are reported in a separate category because they are the cases which pass through most, if not all, of the steps of the regular appellate decision-making process. Regular causes are cases in which oral argument of counsel in open court is received (unless waived) and in which the Court's decision is usually reported in a written opinion. Most are reviewed in conference by the Supreme Court, before oral argument and decision, upon application for writ of error, with four or more of the justices voting that the decision of the Court of Appeals was erroneous and that the writ therefore should be granted. A similiar procedure is followed regarding petitions for original mandamus and habeas corpus, which become "Regular Causes" only after review and vote in conference of an application for writ of error or application to file a petition for original mandamus or habeas corpus.

1 **Corrected from last report.**

	REGULAR CAUSES			1
B. Dispositions (cont.):	(CONT.)			
Settlement agreement - grant		1		
Mandamus	(Writs conditionally granted)(Writs denied)			
	(Writs dismissed)	5		
	(Abated)			
Direct appeals	(Trial court affirmed/modified)	1		
Habeas Corpus	(Relators discharged)	4		
Total Dispositions			160	
C. Causes Pending on August 31, 1	1995:			
Pending, set for submission	udes causes on motions for rehearing)	13	1	
Total Causes Pending Ai	ugust 31, 1995:			41
On briefs		31		
TOTAL CAUSES SUBMITTED.				<u>113</u>
CA	ses Other Than Regular Causes			
A. Applications For Writs Of Erre	or:			
Filed During Year Ended Aug Reinstated	94)21 9	1,350	

		CASES OTHER THAN REGULAR CAUSES		
Δ	Δр	PLICATIONS FOR WRITS OF ERROR (CONT.)		
Α.	Ai	ELICATIONS FOR WAITS OF ERROR (CONT.)		
	2.	Dispositions:		
		Granted		
		Withdrawn		
		Dismissed		
		Dismissed for want of jurisdiction45		
		Dismissed (moot)		
		Refused		
		Overruled		
		Total Applications For Writs Of Error Dispositions	997	
		Pending August 31, 1995		353
		Tonding Adgust 61, 1886	:	
B	ъл.	NDAMUS - CIVIL:		
Б.	IVI A	NDAMUS - CIVIL:		
	1.	On Docket:		
		Pending September 1, 1994		
		Filed During Year Ended August 31, 1995		
		Total Mandamus - Civil On Docket	377	
	2.	Dispositions:		
	۷.	Granted		
		Overruled		
		Dismissed as moot		
		Denied		
		Withdrawn 5		
		Dismissed 6		
		Tarry Mariana Com Diagrams	004	
		Total Mandamus - Civil Dispositions	324	
		Pending August 31, 1995		53
C.	На	BEAS CORPUS:		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Filed During Year Ended August 31, 1995		
		Reinstated		
		Total Habeas Corpus On Docket	0.0	
		TOTAL MABEAS CORPUS ON DOCKET	36	
	2.	·		
		Granted		
		Denied		
		Dismissed/moot		
		Overruled		
		Granted (Rule 122)3		
		Total Habeas Corpus Dispositions	31	
		Pending August 31, 1995	·	_
		reliality August 31, 1333		5

		CASES OTHER THAN REGULAR CAUSES		
D.	W	RITS OF PROHIBITION AND INJUNCTION: (CONT.)		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total Writs Of Prohibition And Injunction On Docket	12	
	2.	Dispositions: Overruled 9 Granted	1	
		Total Writs Of Prohibition And Injunction Dispositions	10	
		Pending August 31, 1995		2
E.	PE	TITIONS FOR REVIEW:		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		TOTAL PETITIONS FOR REVIEW ON DOCKET	4	
	2.	Dispositions: Denied4		
		Total Petitions For Review Dispositions	4	
		Pending August 31, 1995		0
F.	Dir	RECT APPEALS:		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994	-	
		TOTAL DIRECT APPEALS ON DOCKET	0	
	2.	Dispositions: Dismissed for want of jurisdiction		
		TOTAL DIRECT APPEALS DISPOSITIONS	0	
		Pending August 31, 1995		0
G.	U.S	S. CERTIFIED QUESTIONS:		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		TOTAL U.S. CERTIFIED QUESTIONS ON DOCKET	1	
	2.	Dispositions: Accepted		
		Total U.S. Certified Questions Dispositions	1	
		Pending August 31, 1995		0

		CASES OTHER THAN REGULAR CAUSES (CONT.)		
н.	PE	ritions For Certiorari:		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total Petitions For Certiorari On Docket	0	
	2.	Dispositions: Overruled 0 Denied 0		
		Total Petitions For Certiorari Dispositions	0	
		Pending August 31, 1995		0
1.	PE	TITIONS TO PUBLISH UNDER RULE 90c, T.R.A.P.:		
	1.	On Docket:2Pending September 1, 19942Filed During Year Ended August 31, 199516		
		TOTAL PETITIONS TO PUBLISH ON DOCKET	18	
	2.	Dispositions: Denied 8 Granted	3	
		Overruled2		
		TOTAL PETITIONS TO PUBLISH DISPOSITIONS	13	
		Pending August 31, 1995		5
J.	PE	TITIONS FOR TEMPORARY INJUNCTIONS		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total Petitions For Temporary Injunctions On Docket	0	
	2.	Dispositions: Dismissed 0 Overruled 0		
		Total Petitions For Temporary Injunctions Dispositions	0	
		Pending August 31, 1995		0
K.	Dis	CIPLINARY APPEALS		
	1.	On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total Disciplinary Appeals On Docket	14	
	2.	Dispositons:		
		Affirmed Dismissed	4	
		Granted Dismissed for want of jurisdiction	1	
		Total Disciplinary Appeals Dispositions	9	
		Pending August 31, 1995		5

			CASES OTHER THAN REGULAR CAUSES		
			(CONT.)		
L.	Mis	SCELI	LANEOUS PROCEDURES		
	1.	On	Docket:		
			nding September 1, 19940		
		File	d During Year Ended August 31, 1995 <u>5</u>		
			Total Miscellaneous Procedures On Docket	5	
	2.		positions:	4	
			anted	1	
			Total Miscellaneous Procedures Dispositions	2	
			Pending August 31, 1995		3
М.	Mo	TION	s:		
	1	Mos	tions for Rehearing of Causes		
	١.	a.	On Docket:		
			Pending September 1, 1994		
			Filed During Year Ended August 31, 199588		
			Total Motions For Rehearing Of Causes On Docket	124	
		b.	Dispositions:		
			Granted1		
			Overruled		
			Withdrawn		
			Other2		
			Total Motions For Rehearing Of Causes Dispositions	90	
			Pending August 31, 1995	_	34
	2.	Mot	tions for Rehearing of Applications for Writs of Error		
		a.	On Docket:		
			Pending September 1, 1994		
			Total Motions For Rehearing Of Applications For Writs Of Error On Docket	321	
		b.	Dispositions		
		υ.	Granted		
			Overruled		
			Dismissed		
			Withdrawn		
			Other		
			TOTAL MOTIONS FOR REHEARING OF APPLICATIONS FOR WRITS	070	
			Of Error Dispositions	276	
			Pending August 31, 1995		45
					

M. Mc	TIONS	CASES OTHER THAN REGULAR CAUSES (CONT.):		
3.	for \a.	ions for Rehearing of Motions for Leave to File Petitions Writs of Mandamus On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total Motions For Rehearing Of Motions For Leave To File Petions For Writs Of Mandamus On Docket	44	
		Dispositions: 35 Overruled 3 5 Granted 3 Withdrawn 1 Abated 1 Dismissed as moot 1		
		Total Motions For Rehearing Of Motions For Leave To File Petions For Writs Of Mandamus Dispositions	41	
		Pending August 31, 1995		
4.	a.	ions for Rehearing on Habeas Corpus On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		TOTAL MOTIONS FOR REHEARING ON HABEAS CORPUS ON DOCKET	6	
		Dispositions: Overruled		
		Total Motions For Rehearing On Habeas Corpus Dispositions Pending August 31, 1995	6	
5.	a.	ions for Rehearing on Petition for Review On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total Motions For Rehearing On Petition For Review On Docket	1	
	b.	Dispositions: Overruled		
		Total Motions For Rehearing On Petition For Review Dispositions	1	
		Pending August 31, 1995		
6.	a.	ions for Rehearing of Writs of Prohibition and Injunction On Docket:		
		Pending September 1, 1994		
		Total on Docket	2	

	CASES OTHER THAN REGULAR CAUSES (CONT.)		
М. М	otions (cont.):		
6.	Motions for Rehearing of Writs of Prohibition and Injunction (cont.) b. Dispositions: Overruled	2	
	Total Dispositions	2	
	Pending September 1, 1995		0
7.	Motions for Rehearing on Direct Appeal a. On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994 Filed During Year Ended August 31, 1995	0 6	
	TOTAL MOTIONS FOR REHEARING ON DIRECT APPEAL ON DOCKET	6	
	b. Dispositions: Overruled	<u> 6</u>	
	TOTAL MOTIONS FOR REHEARING ON DIRECT APPEAL DISPOSITIONS	6	
	Pending August 31, 1995		0
8.	Motions for Rehearing on Petitions to Publish Under Rule 90c, T.R.A.P. a. On Docket: Pending September 1, 1994	0 0	
	Total Motions For Rehearing On Petitions to Publish On Docket	0	
	b. Dispositions: Overruled	0	
	Total Motions For Rehearing On Petitions to Publish Dispositions	0	
	Pending August 31, 1995		0
9.	Miscellaneous Motions		
	Passed on by the Court During Year Ended August 31, 1995 (including Rule 130(d), motions to dismiss, etc.)	1,101	
	Pending August 31, 1995		72
	OPINIONS DELIVERED BY THE COURT DURING YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1995		
De	eciding opinions	154	
Di Co	oncurringssentingoncurring and dissenting	44 13	
	Total Opinions Delivered		246

ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1995

OPINIONS DELIVERED BY THE SUPREME COURT

	Decidin	IG OPINIONS				Applica-	On		
<u>Justices</u>	Majority Opinions	Per Curiams	Concurring Opinions	Dissenting Opinions	Concurring and Dissenting	tion Denied with Per		Other Opinions	Totals Per Justice
THOMAS R. PHILLIPS CHIEF JUSTICE	10	3	2	1	2	1	0	1	20
Raul A. Gonzalez Justice	13	9	7	7	2	0	0	1	39
Jack Hightower Justice	9	11	1	4	1	3	0	0	29
Nathan L. Hecht Justice	7	12	4	2	1	1	0	0	27
JOHN CORNYN JUSTICE	10	4	3	4	1	2	0	0	24
Bob Gammage Justice	5	7	0	12	2	0	0	2	28
Craig Enoch Justice	13	7	6	4	2	0	0	1	33
Rose Spector Justice	6	7	1	7	1	1	0	3	26
¹ Priscilla R. Owen Justice	7	4	1	3	1	2	0	0	18
² LLOYD DOGGETT JUSTICE	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Totals	80	66	25	44	13	10	0	8	246

¹Priscilla R. Owen was elected Justice effective January 1, 1995, replacing Lloyd Doggett who did not run for reelection. ²Lloyd Doggett did not run for reelection.

ACTION DURING THE YEAR BY THE SUPREME COURT IN CASES FROM COURTS OF APPEALS ON WRITS OF ERROR GRANTED									
COURT AND LOCATION	Court of Appeals Affirmed	Ct. App. Aff'd part, and Rev'd part	Ct. App. Reversed, Trial Ct. Affirmed	Reversed, Remand to Court of Appeals	Reversed, Remand to Trial Court	Reversed and Rendered	Other	TOTAL FOR COURT	
FIRST Houston	5	0	1	1	1	1	0	9	
SECOND Fort Worth	2	0	1	1	1	3	0	8	
THIRD Austin	1	3	0	1	3	6	1	15	
FOURTH San Antonio	2	0	1	2	2	2	3	12	
FIFTH Dallas	2	2	0	4	0	2	2	12	
SIXTH Texarkana	1	3	0	1	1	2	1	9	
SEVENTH Amarillo	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	
EIGHTH EI Paso	1	1	0	0	1	3	1	7	
NINTH Beaumont	0	0	1	1	0	9	0	11	
TENTH Waco	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	4	
ELEVENTH Eastland	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
TWELFTH Tyler		0	0	0	0	0	1	0 1	
THIRTEENTH Corpus Christi	1	2	1	1	0	4	2	1 1	
FOURTEENTH Houston	1	1	0	1	1	3	1	8	
TOTAL	19	12	5	1 4	11	38	11	110	

ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1995

APPLICATIONS FOR WRITS OF ERROR FILED IN THE SUPREME COURT (BY COUNTY)

	Number of	ı	NUMBER OF	N	UMBER	N	UMBER OF
COUNTY	APPLICATIONS	COUNTY AP	PLICATIONS	COUNTY APPL	OF LICATIONS	COUNTY APPI	OF LICATION:
Harris	199	Nacogdoches	. 4	Nolan	2	Hardin	1
Dallas	159	Taylor	4	Reagan	2	Hill	1
Travis	84	Uvalde	4	Red River	2	Howard	1
Bexar	57	Walker	4	Shelby	2	Hutchinson	1
Tarrant	47	Wood	4	Tom Green	2	Jackson	1
El Paso	31	Aransas	3	Tyler	2	Jeff Davis	1
Jefferson		Comal	3	Upshur	2	Jones	1
Nueces	22	Coryell	3	Van Zandt	2	Kleberg	1
Smith	19	Hartley	3	Winkler	2	Lavaca	1
Cameron	17	Hopkins	3	Andrews	1	Liberty	1
Hidalgo	17	Kerr	3	Bandera	1	Limestone	1
_				Bandera Bell			1
Brazoria	16	Llano	3		1	Lipscomb	
Montgome		Milam	3	Burleson	1	Madison	1
Collin	12	Ochiltree	3	Burnet	1	Matagorda	1
Lubbock	12	Orange	3	Callahan	1	Maverick	1
Potter	11	Panola	3	Cherokee	1	Medina	1
Galvestor		Randall	3	Collingsworth	1	Polk	1
Gregg	8	Rusk	3	Comanche	1	Rains	1
Webb	8	Victoria	3	Cooke	1	Rockwall	1
Ector	o 7	Wheeler	3	Culberson	1		-
LUIUI	1	vviidelei	J	Culberson	1	San Augustine	, I
Fort Bend		Wichita	3	De Witt	1	Shackelford	1
Grayson	7	Bailey	2	Deaf Smith	1	Swisher	1
Anderson	n 5	Bee	2	Duval	1	Terry	1
Angelina	5	Brazos	2	Eastland	1	Titus	1
Austin	5	Brooks	2	Ellis	1	Val Verde	1
Dowi-	E	Drawe	2	Froth	4	\\\\ \\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	4
Bowie	5	Brown	2	Erath	1	Ward	1
Denton	5	Freestone	2	Fannin	1	Wharton	1
Lamar	5	Gaines	2	Franklin	1	Willacy	1
Parker	5	Gonzales	2	Hale	1	Young	1
Williamso	n 5	Henderson	2	Hardeman	1		
Chambers	s 4	Hunt	2				
Gray	4	Jasper	2				
Harrison	4	Kaufman	2				
McLennar		Menard	2				
Midland	4	Navarro	2				