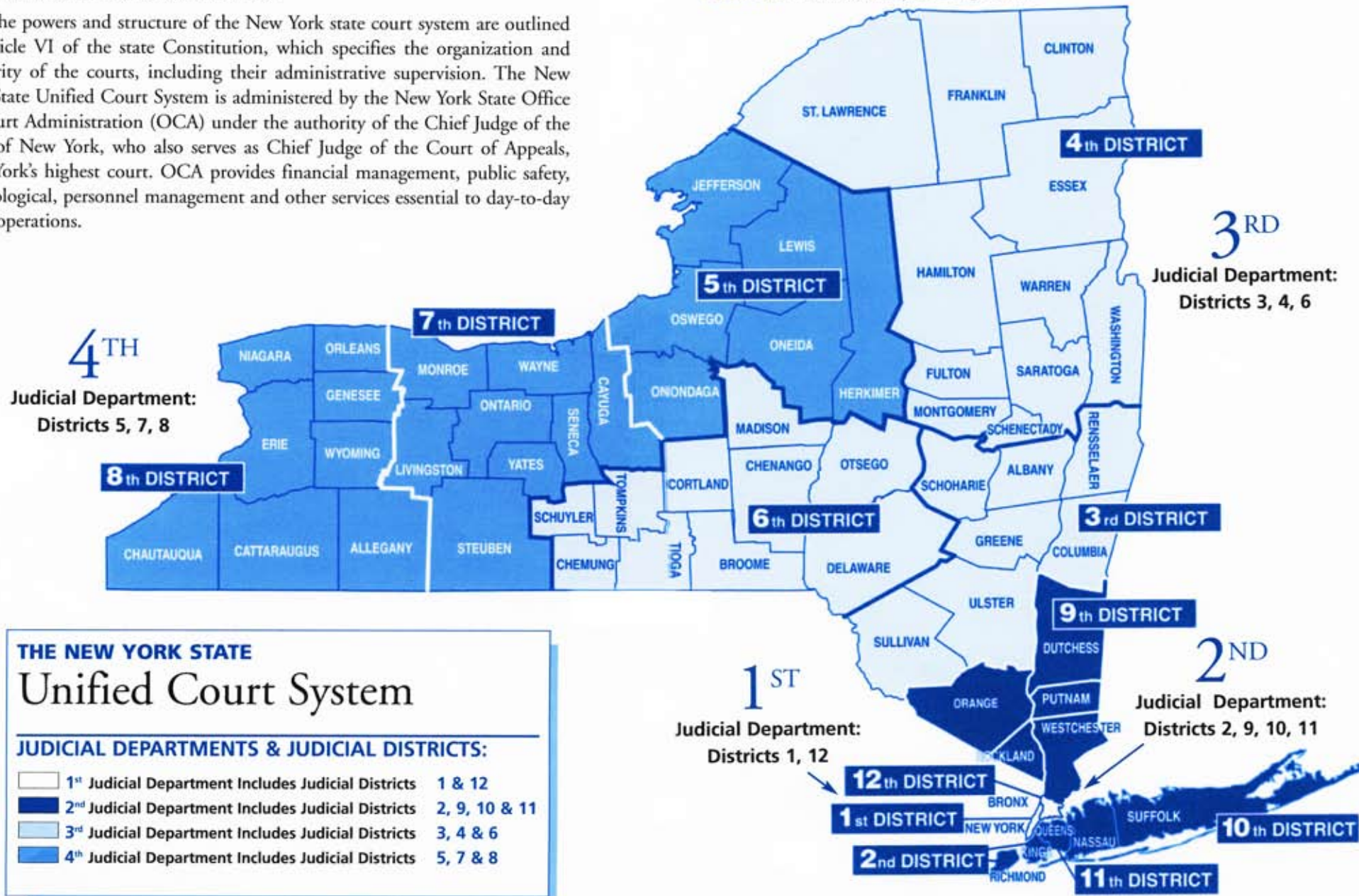


# The New York State Unified Court System

**T**he mission of the New York State Unified Court System is to promote the rule of law and serve the public by achieving just and timely resolution of all matters before the courts.

The powers and structure of the New York state court system are outlined in Article VI of the state Constitution, which specifies the organization and authority of the courts, including their administrative supervision. The New York State Unified Court System is administered by the New York State Office of Court Administration (OCA) under the authority of the Chief Judge of the State of New York, who also serves as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, New York's highest court. OCA provides financial management, public safety, technological, personnel management and other services essential to day-to-day court operations.

For administrative purposes, the New York State Unified Court System is divided geographically into **four judicial departments** and **twelve judicial districts**, as illustrated by the map below.



**THE NEW YORK STATE Unified Court System**

**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENTS & JUDICIAL DISTRICTS:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Judicial Department Includes Judicial Districts 1 & 12
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Department Includes Judicial Districts 2, 9, 10 & 11
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial Department Includes Judicial Districts 3, 4 & 6
- 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Department Includes Judicial Districts 5, 7 & 8