

TRANSLATED FROM SWEDISH

***To the Finnish Parliamentary Commissioner for the Judiciary and Civil Administration
To the Ombudsman***

We wish to put the following views forward regarding Finlandsvensk samling r.f.'s (Finland-Swedish Association) original complaint regarding the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal in Vasa.

The organization has carried out a thorough investigation of the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal in Vasa regarding its number of cases in Swedish for the year **2004**.

Out of a total of 76 cases in Swedish are 2 matters of application and 2 are matters of distraint.

The number of criminal cases is **48** and the total hearing time for these are 539 months and 4 days that is an average per case of 11 months and 7 days (11.246).

All criminal cases at the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal 2004 (around 1100) have a hearing time with an average of 6.4 months. In other words was the hearing time for the cases in Swedish **75.7%** longer then for the total number of cases at the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal in Vasa (11.246 months divided by 6.4 months).

The civil cases make up a number of **24** in total. The total hearing time is in average 366 months and 5 days. Per month is the average per case 15.257 months or 15 months or 15 months and 8 days.

All civil cases at the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal were 2004 (around 400). They have a hearing time with an average of 9.4 months or 9 months and 12 days. In other words was the hearing time for the cases in Swedish **62.3%** longer then for the total number civil cases (15.257 months divided by 9.4 months).

A statistical analyse of the situation shows that the probability for that the differences between the cases in Swedish and all the cases in year 2004 only would be due to randomness is 1 in 1,000. This applies to the civil cases. For the criminal cases is the possibility for a random difference even less since there are more cases and the difference in percentages between cases in Swedish/ all cases is larger.

The above mentioned applies to the year 2004.

That the situation at the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal in Vasa was not only due to a lack of Swedish-speaking lawyers can also be illustrated with the following: In the year 2004 did the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal in Vasa conclude **76** cases in Swedish. For some reason was no less then 430 cases in Finnish concluded where the executive and/or a few or some of the appeal court officials were Swedish speakers. This means that for every case in Swedish the Court of Civil and Criminal Appeal in Vasa had the possibility to solve as many as 5.66 cases in Finnish with the help of Swedish speaking lawyers.

Närpes the 13th of February 2005

Finlandsvensk samling r.f.

Hans Göran Rosenlund
Executive Manager