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December 9, 2014

The Honorable Walter A. Stosch
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
Innsbrook Centre
4551 Cox Road, Suite 110
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060-6740

The Honorable Charles J. Colgan
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance Committee
10660 Aviation Lane
Manassas, Virginia 20110-2701

The Honorable S. Chris Jones
Chairman, House Appropriations Committee
P.O. Box 5059
Suffolk, Virginia 23435-0059

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Co-Chairman, Senate Courts of Justice Committee
P.O. Box 6205
Williamsburg, Virginia 23188

The Honorable Mark D. Obenshain
Co-Chairman, Senate Courts of Justice Committee
P.O. Box 555
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803

The Honorable David B. Albo
Chairman, House Courts of Justice Committee
6367 Rolling Mill Place, Suite 102
Springfield, VA 22152

Dear Chairmen:

Virginia Code § 16.1-69.10 provides that the Committee on District Courts shall make a study and report to the General Assembly on the number of district court judges needed and the districts for which they are authorized. In December

2013, the Executive Committee of the Committee on District Courts adopted the National Center for State Courts' report and recommendations contained in the Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report.

Based on the recommendations made in the Report, the number of judicial positions in the districts authorized in Va. Code § 16.1-69.6:1 were amended and became effective July 1, 2014. Additional study regarding the need for new district court judgeships this year was not conducted as the assessments and recommendations made in the Report remain pertinent. Please find attached a list of the current and announced general district and juvenile and domestic relations district court vacancies as of December 9, 2014.

In accordance with Item 37, Paragraph D of the Appropriations Act, Chapter 3, 2014 Special Session I, Virginia Acts of Assembly, the fiscal impact for the creation of each new district court judgeship will be \$260,036. Please find attached a statement showing the costs for the creation of a new district court judgeship.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,



Karl R. Hade

KRH:jrp

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Richard E. Hickman, Jr., Senate Finance Committee
Mr. Michael Jay, House Appropriations Committee
Ms. Mary Kate Felch, Division of Legislative Services
Division of Legislative Automated Systems

Current and Announced Judicial Vacancies

| Circuit/District | Circuit | | General District | | J&DR District | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | Authorized* Judges | Vacancies | Authorized* Judges | Vacancies | Authorized* Judges | Vacancies |
| 1 | 5 | 1 | 4 | - | 4 | 1 |
| 2 | 9 | - | 7 | - | 7 | - |
| 2A | | | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| 3 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 3 | - |
| 4 | 8 | - | 6 | 2 | 5 | - |
| 5 | 3 | - | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| 6 | 3 | 1 | 4 | - | 2 | - |
| 7 | 6 | 2 | 4 | - | 4 | - |
| 8 | 3 | - | 3 | - | 3 | - |
| 9 | 4 | - | 3 | - | 4 | 1 |
| 10 | 4 | - | 3 | - | 4 | 1 |
| 11 | 3 | 1 | 3 | - | 3 | 1 |
| 12 | 6 | - | 5 | - | 6 | - |
| 13 | 8 | 2 | 6 | - | 4 | - |
| 14 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | - |
| 15 | 11 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 10 | 4 |
| 16 | 6 | 1 | 4 | - | 6 | 1 |
| 17 | 3 | - | 3 | - | 2 | - |
| 18 | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| 19 | 15 | 3 | 11 | 1 | 7 | - |
| 20 | 5 | 1 | 4 | - | 3 | - |
| 21 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 2 | - |
| 22 | 5 | 1 | 2 | - | 4 | 1 |
| 23 | 5 | - | 4 | - | 5 | 2 |
| 24 | 5 | 2 | 3 | - | 6 | 2 |
| 25 | 5 | 1 | 3 | - | 5 | 1 |
| 26 | 8 | 2 | 5 | - | 7 | 1 |
| 27 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | - |
| 28 | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | 3 | 1 |
| 29 | 5 | - | 2 | - | 3 | 2 |
| 30 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| 31 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 5 | - |
| State | 171 | 25 | 124 | 9 | 134 | 19 |

*"Authorized Judges" refers to the maximum number of judges stated in Virginia Code § 17.1-507 (circuit) and § 16.1-69.6:1 (district) as of 2014.

Source: People Soft, 2014

Prepared by: Department of Judicial Planning, 12/09/2014

New Judgeships - 2015 Session

| | | | Circuit | District | |
|---|---------|--------|-------------------|----------|-------------------|
| Salary (July 1, 2014) | | | \$ 162,878 | | \$ 146,599 |
| Retirement | 51.66% | | 84,143 | | 75,733 |
| Group Life | 1.19% | | 1,938 | | 1,745 |
| Retiree Health Insurance | 1.05% | | 1,710 | | 1,539 |
| FICA Base | 117,000 | @7.65% | 8,951 | | 8,951 |
| FICA (above cap) | 45,878 | @1.45% | 665 | | 429 |
| Health | | | 16,680 | | 16,680 |
| Deferred Comp. Match | | | 480 | | 480 |
| Clerk Hire | | | 1,500 | | - |
| Substitute/Retired Judges | | | | | |
| Avg per Circuit/District Judge* | | | 5,320 | | 7,320 |
| FICA - Retired Judge | | | 407 | | 560 |
| | | | | | |
| Total | | | \$ 284,672 | | \$ 260,036 |
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| Note: | | | | | |
| Circuit Substitute/Retired Judge costs based on 26.6 days @ \$200 per day (2012 Annual Report) | | | | | |
| District Substitute/Retired Judge costs based on 36.6 days @ \$200 per day (2012 Annual Report) | | | | | |