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December 9, 2019

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

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

The Honorable Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.
Co-Chair, Finance Committee
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 2
Mount Solon, Virginia 22843-0002

The Honorable Robert B. Bell
Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Virginia House of Delegates
2309 Finch Court
Charlottesville, VA 22911

The Honorable S. Chris Jones
Chair, Appropriations Committee
Virginia House of Delegates
P.O. Box 5059
Suffolk, VA 23435

Dear Chairmen Norment, Hanger, Jones, Obenshain, and Bell:

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 shall be authorized. In 2018, the Committee on District Courts recommended the authorization of one new general district judgeship in the 19th Judicial District of Virginia, which remains unauthorized. The financial impact for the creation of a new district court judgeship will be \$ 261,303. An analysis of district judgeship costs is enclosed.

As you are aware, in December 2017, the Executive Committee of the Committee on District Courts adopted the NCSC's report and recommendations contained in the *2017 Virginia Judicial Workload Assessment Report*. Based on the recommendations 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, 2018. The assessments and recommendations made in the Report remain pertinent.

Report to the General Assembly
Committee on District Courts
December 9, 2019
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Please find enclosed a list of the current and announced general district and juvenile and domestic relations district court vacancies as of December 3, 2019.

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

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Karl R. Hade (by EMM)

Karl R. Hade

KRH:jrp

Enclosures

Report Date: Dec 1, 2019

JUDGESHIP COSTS
SALARY EFFECTIVE 6/10/19

		<u>District</u>
SALARY		\$158,252
RETIREMENT	34.39%	54,423
GROUP LIFE	1.31%	2,073
RETIREE HEALTH INS.	1.17%	1,852
FICA BASE	132,900 @7.65%	10,167
FICA (above cap)	25,352 @1.45%	368
HEALTH		21,624
DEF COMP MATCH		480
PERSONAL COMPUTER		2,500
SUB/RET JUDGES:		
DISTRICT AVG. EXP. PER JUDGE		8,885
FICA SUB JUDGE		680
TOTAL		\$261,303

DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE BASED ON 35.54 DAYS @ \$250.00 (CY2018)

Current and Announced Judicial Vacancies

Circuit/District	Circuit		General District		J&DR District	
	Authorized* Judges	Vacancies	Authorized* Judges	Vacancies	Authorized* Judges	Vacancies
1	5	-	4	-	4	-
2	8	1	7	-	6	-
2A			2	1	1	1
3	4	-	2	-	3	-
4	8	-	6	-	5	-
5	4	-	3	-	2	-
6	3	-	5	-	3	-
7	5	-	4	-	4	-
8	3	-	3	-	3	-
9	4	-	3	-	4	-
10	4	-	3	-	3	-
11	3	-	3	-	3	-
12	6	1	5	-	6	-
13	7	-	6	-	5	-
14	5	-	5	-	5	1
15	11	1	8	1	9	1
16	6	1	4	-	6	-
17	4	-	3	-	2	-
18	3	-	2	1	2	1
19	15	-	11	-	8	-
20	5	-	4	2	3	-
21	3	-	2	-	2	-
22	4	-	2	-	4	1
23	5	1	4	-	5	-
24	6	1	3	-	6	-
25	6	1	4	-	5	-
26	8	1	5	1	7	-
27	6	-	5	-	5	-
28	4	-	3	-	3	-
29	5	-	2	-	3	-
30	4	-	2	-	3	-
31	6	-	5	-	5	2
State	170	8	130	6	135	7

*"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 July 1, 2019.

Source: People Soft, 2019

Prepared by: Department of Judicial Planning, 12/3/19