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December 8, 2020

The Honorable John S. Edwards
Chair, Judiciary Committee
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 1179
Roanoke, Virginia 24006-1179

The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Chair, Finance and Appropriations
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 2608
Reston, Virginia 20195-0608

The Honorable Charniele L. Herring
Chair, Courts of Justice Committee
Virginia House of Delegates
P.O. Box 11779
Alexandria, VA 22312

The Honorable Luke E. Torian
Chair, Appropriations Committee
Virginia House of Delegates
4222 Fortuna Plaza, Suite 659
Dumfries, VA 22025

Dear Chairs Edwards, Howell, Herring, and Torian:

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. As you are aware, in December 2017, the Executive Committee of the Committee on District Courts adopted the National Center for State Court'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 was amended and became effective July 1, 2018. In addition, in 2018, the Committee on District Courts recommended the authorization of one new general district court judgeship in the 19th Judicial District of Virginia, which the General Assembly authorized effective July 1, 2020.

Notwithstanding the newly authorized judgeship in the 19th Judicial District, the assessments and recommended number of judgeships made in the Report remain pertinent. The Committee on District Courts does not recommend the creation of new judgeships this year but encourages the filling of the current and announced vacancies set forth in the enclosed document.

Report to the General Assembly
Committee on District Courts
December 8, 2020
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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards, I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K R Hade', written in a cursive style.

Karl R. Hade

KRH:jrp

Enclosure

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 | 1 | 4 | - |
| 2 | 8 | - | 7 | 1 | 6 | - |
| 2A | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | - |
| 3 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 3 | - |
| 4 | 8 | - | 6 | - | 5 | - |
| 5 | 4 | - | 3 | 1 | 2 | - |
| 6 | 3 | - | 5 | - | 3 | - |
| 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | - | 4 | 1 |
| 8 | 3 | - | 3 | - | 3 | - |
| 9 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | - |
| 10 | 4 | - | 3 | - | 3 | - |
| 11 | 3 | - | 3 | - | 3 | - |
| 12 | 6 | 1 | 5 | - | 6 | - |
| 13 | 7 | 1 | 6 | - | 5 | - |
| 14 | 5 | 1 | 5 | - | 5 | - |
| 15 | 11 | - | 8 | 2 | 9 | - |
| 16 | 6 | - | 4 | - | 6 | - |
| 17 | 4 | - | 3 | - | 2 | - |
| 18 | 3 | 1 | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| 19 | 15 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| 20 | 5 | - | 4 | 1 | 3 | - |
| 21 | 3 | - | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| 22 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 4 | 1 |
| 23 | 5 | - | 4 | - | 5 | 1 |
| 24 | 6 | - | 3 | - | 6 | - |
| 25 | 6 | - | 4 | - | 5 | 1 |
| 26 | 8 | - | 5 | - | 7 | - |
| 27 | 6 | - | 5 | - | 5 | - |
| 28 | 4 | - | 3 | - | 3 | - |
| 29 | 5 | - | 2 | - | 3 | - |
| 30 | 4 | - | 2 | - | 3 | - |
| 31 | 6 | 1 | 5 | - | 5 | - |
| State | 170 | 9 | 131 | 9 | 135 | 6 |

*"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, 2020.

Source: People Soft, 2020

Prepared by: Department of Judicial Planning, 12/7/2020