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December 20, 2021

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

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

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

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

RE: Report pursuant to Item 39, Paragraph D of the 2021 Appropriation Act

Dear Chairs Edwards, Herring, Howell, and Torian:

Item 39, Paragraph D of the 2021 Appropriation Act, Chapter 552, 2021 Reconvened Special Session I, requests that prior to January 1 of each year the Judicial Council and the Committee on District Courts submit a fiscal impact assessment of their recommendations for the creation of any new judgeships, including the cost of judicial retirement, to the Chairs of the House Committee on Court of Justice, Senate Judiciary Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee.

Report pursuant to Item 39, Paragraph D of the 2021 Appropriation Act
December 20, 2021
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Please find enclosed assessments of the annual cost of each authorized district court judgeship and each authorized circuit court judgeship. The Judicial Council recommends the authorization of one new judgeship in the Thirty-First Judicial Circuit. I have enclosed a report of current and announced judicial vacancies for circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts.

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

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,



Karl R. Hade

KRH: jrp

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Adam Rosatelli, Senate Finance Committee
Mr. David Reynolds, House Appropriations Committee
Division of Legislative Automated Systems

Current and Announced Judicial Vacancies

Circuit/District	Circuit		General District		J&DR District	
	Authorized*	Vacancies	Authorized*	Vacancies	Authorized*	Vacancies
	Judges		Judges		Judges	
1	5	-	4	-	4	-
2	8	1	7	-	6	1
2A			2	-	1	-
3	4	-	2	-	3	-
4	8	-	6	1	5	-
5	4	-	3	-	2	-
6	3	-	5	-	3	-
7	5	1	4	-	4	-
8	3	-	3	-	3	-
9	4	-	3	-	4	-
10	4	-	3	-	3	-
11	3	-	3	-	3	-
12	6	1	5	1	6	-
13	7	1	6	1	5	-
14	5	-	5	1	5	1
15	11	-	8	1	9	-
16	6	-	4	-	6	-
17	4	-	3	-	2	1
18	3	-	2	-	2	-
19	15	1	12	1	8	-
20	5	-	4	-	3	-
21	3	1	2	-	2	-
22	4	-	2	2	4	1
23	5	-	4	-	5	-
24	6	-	3	-	6	-
25	6	-	4	-	5	-
26	8	1	5	-	7	-
27	6	-	5	-	5	-
28	4	-	3	1	3	-
29	5	-	2	-	3	-
30	4	1	2	-	3	-
31	6	-	5	-	5	1
State	170	8	131	9	135	5

*"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, 2021.

Source: People Soft, 2021

Prepared by: Department of Judicial Planning, 12/17/2021

**Virginia District Courts
Cost for a new Judgeship
Fiscal Year 2022**

	Cost
SALARY	\$166,156
RETIREMENT 29.84%	49,581
GROUP LIFE 1.34%	2,226
RETIREE HEALTH I 1.12%	1,861
FICA BASE 142,800 @7.65%	10,924
FICA (above cap) 23,356 @1.45%	339
HEALTH	22,308
DEF COMP MATCH	480
PERSONAL COMPUTER	3,300
SUB/RET JUDGES:	
DISTRICT AVG. EXP. PER JUDGE	7,475
FICA SUB JUDGE	572
AVG. TRAVEL COSTS	727
 TOTAL	\$265,949

DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE BASED ON 29.9 DAYS @ \$250 (FY2021)

**Virginia Circuit Courts
Cost for a new Judgeship
Fiscal Year 2022**

	Cost
SALARY	\$184,617
RETIREMENT 29.84%	55,090
GROUP LIFE 1.34%	2,474
RETIREE HEALTH I 1.12%	2,068
FICA BASE 142,800 @7.65%	10,924
FICA (above cap) 41,817 @1.45%	606
HEALTH	22,308
DEF COMP MATCH	480
CLERK HIRE	1,500
PERSONAL COMPUTER	3,300
SUB/RET JUDGES:	
CIRCUIT AVG.EXP. PER JUDGE	5,523
FICA FOR SUB JUDGE	422
AVG. TRAVEL COSTS	419
 TOTAL	\$289,731

CIRCUIT SUBSTITUTE BASED ON 22.09 DAYS @ \$250 (FY2021)