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December 1, 2022

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

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

The Honorable R. Creigh Deeds
Co-Chair, Judiciary Committee
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 5462
Charlottesville, Virginia 22905-5462

The Honorable George L. Barker
Co-Chair, Finance and Appropriations
Senate of Virginia
P.O. Box 10527
Alexandria, Virginia 22310

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

The Honorable Barry D. Knight
Chair, Appropriations Committee
Virginia House of Delegates
1852 Mill Landing Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23457

RE: Report pursuant to Item 42, Paragraph D of the 2022 Appropriation Act

Dear Chairs Edwards, Deeds, Bell, Howell, Barker, and Knight:

Item 42, Paragraph D of the 2022 Appropriation Act, Chapter 2, 2022 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.

Please find enclosed assessments of the annual cost of each authorized district court judgeship and each authorized circuit court judgeship. The Committee on District Courts recommends the authorization of one new general district court judgeship in the Twenty-Second Judicial District. I have enclosed a report of current and announced judicial vacancies for circuit, general district, and juvenile and domestic relations district courts.

Report pursuant to Item 42, Paragraph D of the 2022 Appropriation Act
December 1, 2022
Page Two

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

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of Karl R. Hade in black ink.

Karl R. Hade

KRH: jrs

Enclosures

cc: Catherine Robertson, Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee
Andrea Peeks, House Appropriations Committee
Division of Legislative Automated Systems

**Virginia Circuit Courts
Cost for a new Judgeship
Fiscal Year 2023**

	Cost
SALARY	\$193,848
RETIREMENT 30.67%	59,453
GROUP LIFE 1.34%	2,598
RETIREE HEALTH I 1.12%	2,171
FICA BASE 147,000 @7.65%	11,246
FICA (above cap) 46,848 @1.45%	679
HEALTH	22,308
DEF COMP MATCH	480
CLERK HIRE	1,500
PERSONAL COMPUTER	3,300
RET JUDGES:	
CIRCUIT AVG.EXP. PER JUDGE	5,680
FICA FOR SUB JUDGE	435
AVG. TRAVEL COSTS	510
 TOTAL	\$304,208

CIRCUIT SUBSTITUTE BASED ON 22.72 DAYS @ \$250 (FY2022)

**Virginia District Courts
Cost for a new Judgeship
Fiscal Year 2023**

	Cost
SALARY	\$174,464
RETIREMENT 30.67%	53,508
GROUP LIFE 1.34%	2,338
RETIREE HEALTH I 1.12%	1,954
FICA BASE 147,000 @7.65%	11,246
FICA (above cap) 27,464 @1.45%	398
HEALTH	22,308
DEF COMP MATCH	480
PERSONAL COMPUTER	3,300
SUB/RET JUDGES:	
DISTRICT AVG. EXP. PER JUDGE	8,675
FICA SUB JUDGE	664
AVG. TRAVEL COSTS	811
 TOTAL	\$280,145

DISTRICT SUBSTITUTE BASED ON 34.7 DAYS @ \$250 (FY2022)

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	-
2	8	1	7	-	6	-
2A			2	-	1	-
3	4	-	2	-	3	-
4	8	1	6	-	5	-
5	4	-	3	-	2	-
6	3	1	5	-	3	-
7	5	-	4	-	4	-
8	3	-	3	-	3	-
9	4	-	3	-	4	1
10	4	-	3	-	3	-
11	3	-	3	-	3	-
12	6	-	5	1	6	-
13	7	-	6	-	5	-
14	5	-	5	1	5	-
15	11	-	8	1	9	-
16	6	-	4	-	6	-
17	4	1	3	-	2	-
18	3	-	2	-	2	-
19	15	-	12	1	8	1
20	5	-	4	-	3	-
21	3	-	2	-	2	-
22	4	-	2	1	4	-
23	5	-	4	-	5	-
24	6	1	3	-	6	-
25	6	-	4	-	5	-
26	8	-	5	-	7	-
27	6	-	5	-	5	-
28	4	-	3	-	3	-
29	5	-	2	-	3	-
30	4	-	2	-	3	-
31	7	-	5	-	5	-
State	171	6	131	5	135	2

*"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, 2022.

Source: People Soft, 2022

Prepared by: Department of Judicial Services, 11/30/2022