



**J. EDDIE LAUDERBACK
CIRCUIT JUDGE, PART I
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

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LEGAL ASSISTANT
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CARTER, JOHNSON, UNICOI & WASHINGTON COUNTIES

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TO: Chancellor Telford Forgety and Members of the Judicial Redistricting Task Force

FROM: Judges and Chancellor of the First Judicial District

DATE: May 22, 2019

SUBJECT: First Judicial District

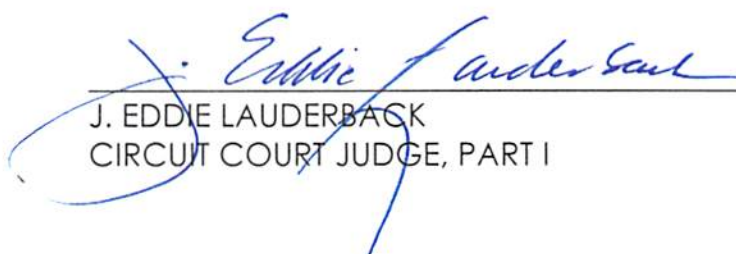
It has come to the attention of the undersigned judges that Mr. Bill Francisco, an Assistant Public Defender in the First Judicial District, appeared in front of you at the recent public hearing held in Harriman on May 20th. Although none of us were present, it is our understanding Mr. Francisco was there to propose dividing the First Judicial District to make Washington County a separate judicial district, separate and apart from the remaining three counties: Carter, Johnson and Unicoi.


We are unanimously, adamantly opposed to dividing the First Judicial District. You should have previously received a letter signed by each of us setting forth our caseloads, our population in each county and our allocation of judges which is exactly in line with what the Administrative Office of the Courts recommends. Our five judges in this district all work together extremely well. There is simply no reason to advocate creating a new judicial district consisting solely of Washington County other than personal motivation to fill a newly-created Public Defender position.

Creating a new, separate judicial district would necessarily result in the additional creations of a new District Attorney, as well as positions of assistant District Attorneys and office staff, a new Public Defender, assistant Public Defenders and office staff, as well as possibly a new Chancellor position for the newly-created judicial district. This would be an absolute waste of judicial and court resources when the present allocated judicial resources are more than sufficient for the First Judicial District.

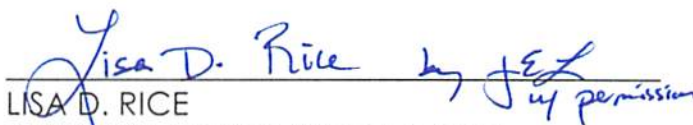
We urge the Advisory Task Force to reject Mr. Francisco's request for a new judicial district. Should the Task Force have any questions, there will be several of the undersigned judges at the June 12 hearing in Murfreesboro.

1ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDICIARY:


J. EDDIE LAUDERBACK
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART I


JEAN A. STANLEY *by JEZ*
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART II *by permission*


JOHN C. RAMBO
CHANCELLOR


LISA D. RICE *by JEZ*
CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE, PART I *by permission*


STACY L. STREET *by JEZ*
CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE, PART II *by permission*