

TO: Honorable Telford E. Forgety, Jr., Chair  
Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

FROM: The Judges and Chancellors of the First, Second and Third Judicial Districts

DATE: March 26, 2019

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Composition of Judicial Districts

On behalf of the Judges and Chancellors of the First, Second and Third Judicial Districts, we would like to submit the following information to the Advisory Task Force for consideration:

- 1) The First Judicial District consists of four counties: Carter, Johnson, Unicoi and Washington. The combined population of these four counties is approximately 225,000 people. This district currently has four Circuit Judges, two that handle exclusively criminal cases, and two that handle exclusively civil matters and one Chancellor.
- 2) The Second Judicial District consists of Sullivan County whose population is approximately 160,000 people. It has three Circuit Judges and one Chancellor. Two of the four handle exclusively civil matters, one handles exclusively criminal cases, and one handles both civil and criminal matters.
- 3) The Third Judicial District consists of four counties: Greene, Hancock, Hamblen and Hawkins. The combined population for these four counties is approximately 198,000 people. It has four Circuit Judges, one of whom handles exclusively criminal cases, one of whom handles both civil and criminal and two who handle exclusively civil matters, as well as one Chancellor.
- 4) The current Tennessee Judicial Weighted Caseload Study, as compiled by the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury, shows that all three of these judicial districts are very much in line with the projected number of judges/chancellors needed for cases filed and population of these counties:


- a) The First Judicial District shows a deficit of negative 0.16 for the difference between the actual number of full-time judges and the need for full-time judges in 2017;
- b) The Second Judicial District shows a slight excess of only .26 between the actual number of full-time judges and the need for full-time judges in 2017;
- c) The Third Judicial District shows a slight excess of .43 full-time judges in 2017, but showed a deficit of negative 0.06 in 2016.


We believe a review of these weighted caseload statistics documents that we currently have a very accurate and appropriate number of judges for each of our judicial districts.

Finally, we would like to make certain that the Advisory Task Force is aware of the excellent working relationship among all of the judges for these three districts, both between the judges in the individual districts themselves, as well as when the need for interchange of judges arises among the various districts.

If the Advisory Task Force is need of any further information or input of any of the undersigned judges, please feel free to contact any of our respective offices. We certainly appreciate the hard work that the Task Force will be undertaking concerning the composition and potential redistricting of judicial districts within the State of Tennessee.

With kindest regards,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. EDDIE LAUDERBACK  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART I  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

  
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JEAN A. STANLEY  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART II  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*John C. Rambo*

JOHN C. RAMBO, CHANCELLOR  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*Lisa N. Rice*

LISA N. RICE  
CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE, PART I  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*Stacy L. Street*

STACY L. STREET  
CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE, PART II  
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*John S. McClellan, III*

JOHN S. McLELLAN, III  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART I  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*William K. Rogers by JCR*

WILLIAM K. ROGERS  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART II  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*at permission*

*E. G. Moody by JCR with permission*

E. G. MOODY, CHANCELLOR  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*James F. Goodwin, Jr. by JEZ*  
JAMES F. GOODWIN, JR. *w/ permission*  
CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*Alex Pearson*  
ALEX PEARSON  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART I  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*Tom Wright*  
THOMAS WRIGHT  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART II  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*Beth Boniface*  
BETH BONIFACE  
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE, PART III  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*Douglas T. Jenkins*  
DOUGLAS T. JENKINS, CHANCELLOR  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

*John F. Dugger, Jr. by JEZ*  
JOHN F. DUGGER, JR. *w/ permission*  
CRIMINAL COURT JUDGE  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT