

# Magisterial District Reestablishment 2012

## Judicial District Summary Sheet

County Name: **Mercer**

Judicial District #: **35**

### ***Caseload and Magisterial District Elimination Analysis***

The difference between the average annual caseload of Judicial District # 35 and its class of county: **5 %**

1. Wide disparities in population distribution accompanied by varied urban and rural settings.
2. Elimination of one district will make workload of remaining districts unmanageable and reduce quality of services to citizens.
3. Planning to transfer some specific case type filings from one MDJ to another to ease workload

#### *Summary of Proposed Actions*

35-2-01	Reestablish
35-2-02	Reestablish
35-3-01	Reestablish
35-3-02	Reestablish
35-3-03	Reestablish

### ***Night/Central/Alternate Court Operations***

This judicial district utilizes the following diversionary courts to assist in balancing workload:

Central Court: **No**      Night Court: **No**

### ***Public Comment***

Proposal Posted for Public Comment: **Yes**      Comments Received: **No**

***General Comments***      *The plan also compares Mercer County to a statewide average caseload of 4,727 - where Mercer is 5% below the state average and 5% above the 5th class average. With respect to workload, Mercer is 29% above the state and 20% above the 5th class average. Confirm that "plan to move case types" is by administrative order - request additional information. 35-3-01 variances should be reviewed - outside of the parameters set by AOPC.*

# Magisterial District Reestablishment 2012

County Name: Mercer

Judicial District #: 35

## Existing and Proposed Magisterial Districts

**Magisterial District #: 35-2-01**

**Proposed Action: Reestablish**

Average Annual Caseload:	4,683	Average Annual Workload:	52,080
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/judicial district):	5.00	% Difference in Workload (magisterial district/judicial district):	17.00
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/class of county):	10.00	<i>Workload outside of a +/- 15% range requires realignment or support to maintain current configuration.</i>	

Plan to move certain filing types to another MDJ office that is lower in filings.

### Magisterial District Judge & Office Information:

Dennis M. Songer

1217 Hall Avenue

Sharon, PA 16146

Birthdate: 08-08-55

Mandatory Retirement: 2025

Term Expires: 1-3-16

### Existing Geography:

SHARON VTD 01 ED 01; SHARON VTD 02 ED 01;  
SHARON VTD 02 ED 02; SHARON VTD 02 ED 03;  
SHARON VTD 02 ED 04; SHARON VTD 02 ED 05;  
SHARON VTD 03 ED 01; SHARON VTD 03 ED 02;  
SHARON VTD 04 ED 01; SHARON VTD 04 ED 02;  
SHARON VTD 04 ED 03; SHARON VTD 04 ED 04;  
SHARON VTD 04 ED 05; SHARON VTD 04 ED 06;  
SHARPSVILLE VTD 01; SHARPSVILLE VTD 02;  
SHARPSVILLE VTD 03; SHARPSVILLE VTD 04

### Proposed Geography:

SHARON VTD 01 ED 01; SHARON VTD 02 ED 01;  
SHARON VTD 02 ED 02; SHARON VTD 02 ED 03;  
SHARON VTD 02 ED 04; SHARON VTD 02 ED 05;  
SHARON VTD 03 ED 01; SHARON VTD 03 ED 02;  
SHARON VTD 04 ED 01; SHARON VTD 04 ED 02;  
SHARON VTD 04 ED 03; SHARON VTD 04 ED 04;  
SHARON VTD 04 ED 05; SHARON VTD 04 ED 06;  
SHARPSVILLE VTD 01; SHARPSVILLE VTD 02;  
SHARPSVILLE VTD 03; SHARPSVILLE VTD 04

Office within district: Yes

Residence within district: Yes

Police Departments: City of Sharon PD; Borough of Sharpsville PD

Major Highways: PA SR 62

## Existing and Proposed Magisterial Districts

**Magisterial District #: 35-2-02**

**Proposed Action: Reestablish**

Average Annual Caseload:	5,251	Average Annual Workload:	57,479
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/judicial district):	17.00	% Difference in Workload (magisterial district/judicial district):	29.00
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/class of county):	23.00	<i>Workload outside of a +/- 15% range requires realignment or support to maintain current configuration.</i>	

Plan to move some filings to an office that is lower in filings to balance workload. This office is located in the highest crime area within the district and has the largest CR workload and population. Realignment would cause problems for law enforcement and residents.

### Magisterial District Judge & Office Information:

Ronald E. Antos	Birthdate:	6-19-51
425 Idaho Street	Mandatory Retirement:	2021
Farrell, PA 16121	Term Expires:	12-31-17

### Existing Geography:

FARRELL VTD 01 ED 01; FARRELL VTD 01 ED 02; FARRELL VTD 01 ED 03; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 01; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 02; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 03; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 04; HERMITAGE VTD NE ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD NE ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 03; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 04; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 03; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 04; HERMITAGE VTD SW ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD SW ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD SW ED 03; SHENANGO TWP VTD EAST; SHENANGO TWP VTD WEST; WEST MIDDLESEX Voting District; WHEATLAND Voting District

### Proposed Geography:

FARRELL VTD 01 ED 01; FARRELL VTD 01 ED 02; FARRELL VTD 01 ED 03; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 01; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 02; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 03; FARRELL VTD 02 ED 04; HERMITAGE VTD NE ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD NE ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 03; HERMITAGE VTD NW ED 04; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 03; HERMITAGE VTD SE ED 04; HERMITAGE VTD SW ED 01; HERMITAGE VTD SW ED 02; HERMITAGE VTD SW ED 03; SHENANGO TWP VTD EAST; SHENANGO TWP VTD WEST; WEST MIDDLESEX Voting District; WHEATLAND Voting District

**Office within district:** Yes

**Residence within district:** Yes

**Police Departments:** City of Hermitage PD, SW Mercer County Regional PD, Shenango Twp PD

**Major Highways:** SR 62, I-80, I-376, SR 18

## Existing and Proposed Magisterial Districts

**Magisterial District #: 35-3-01**

**Proposed Action: Reestablish**

Average Annual Caseload:	3,840	Average Annual Workload:	33,756
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/judicial district):	17.00	% Difference in Workload (magisterial district/judicial district):	<b>-24.30</b>
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/class of county):	11.00	<i>Workload outside of a +/- 15% range requires realignment or support to maintain current configuration.</i>	

This office may be able to absorb filings from another office. Very low crime area, rural with Amish population prevalent. Major highways run through this district, covers many square miles. Realignment will create issues for law enforcement and access to justice.

### Magisterial District Judge & Office Information:

Lorinda L. Hinch	Birthdate:	5-16-56
123 West Market Street Rear	Mandatory Retirement:	2026
Mercer, PA 16137	Term Expires:	1-5-14

### Existing Geography:

COOLSPRING TWP Voting District; DELAWARE TWP Voting District; EAST LACKAWANNOCK TWP Voting District; FAIRVIEW TWP Voting District; FINDLEY TWP Voting District; FREDONIA Voting District; JEFFERSON TWP VTD EAST; JEFFERSON TWP VTD WEST; LACKAWANNOCK TWP Voting District; MERCER VTD NORTH; MERCER VTD SOUTH; OTTER CREEK TWP Voting District; PERRY TWP Voting District; SALEM TWP Voting District; SANDY CREEK TWP Voting District; SHEAKLEYVILLE Voting District; SPRINGFIELD TWP VTD EAST; SPRINGFIELD TWP VTD WEST; WILMINGTON TWP Voting District

### Proposed Geography:

COOLSPRING TWP Voting District; DELAWARE TWP Voting District; EAST LACKAWANNOCK TWP Voting District; FAIRVIEW TWP Voting District; FINDLEY TWP Voting District; FREDONIA Voting District; JEFFERSON TWP VTD EAST; JEFFERSON TWP VTD WEST; LACKAWANNOCK TWP Voting District; MERCER VTD NORTH; MERCER VTD SOUTH; OTTER CREEK TWP Voting District; PERRY TWP Voting District; SALEM TWP Voting District; SANDY CREEK TWP Voting District; SHEAKLEYVILLE Voting District; SPRINGFIELD TWP VTD EAST; SPRINGFIELD TWP VTD WEST; WILMINGTON TWP Voting District

**Office within district:** Yes

**Residence within district:** Yes

**Police Departments:** PSP; Mercer Borough PD; Jefferson-Clark Regional PD

**Major Highways:** SR 62, 19; I-80

## Existing and Proposed Magisterial Districts

**Magisterial District #: 35-3-02**

**Proposed Action: Reestablish**

Average Annual Caseload:	4,628	Average Annual Workload:	33,031
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/judicial district):	3.00	% Difference in Workload (magisterial district/judicial district):	<b>-26.00</b>
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/class of county):	8.00	<i>Workload outside of a +/- 15% range requires realignment or support to maintain current configuration.</i>	

This office may be able to absorb certain filings from another MDJ office that is above average in filings; however that would be difficult as this office is located a considerable distance from MDJ districts that have higher caseloads. This office is located within a very low crime area; most of this MDJ district is very rural, with one population center. However, two major interstates go through this district, and traffic filings are very high. Changing the boundaries of this district would cause serious problems for law enforcement agencies from surrounding districts. In addition, reaching the location of this office would be a considerable inconvenience to area residents.

### Magisterial District Judge & Office Information:

Daniel Neil McEwen	Birthdate:	07-10-70
574 Barkeyville Road	Mandatory Retirement:	2040
Grove City, PA 16127	Term Expires:	1-3-16

### Existing Geography:

DEER CREEK TWP Voting District; FRENCH CREEK TWP Voting District; GROVE CITY VTD 01; GROVE CITY VTD 02; GROVE CITY VTD 03; GROVE CITY VTD 04; GROVE CITY VTD 05; JACKSON TWP Voting District; JACKSON CENTER Voting District; LAKE TWP Voting District; LIBERTY TWP Voting District; MILLCREEK TWP Voting District; NEW LEBANON Voting District; NEW VERNON TWP Voting District; PINE TWP VTD 01; PINE TWP VTD 02; SANDY LAKE TWP Voting District; SANDY LAKE Voting District; STONEBORO Voting District; WOLF CREEK TWP Voting District; WORTH TWP Voting District

### Proposed Geography:

DEER CREEK TWP Voting District; FRENCH CREEK TWP Voting District; GROVE CITY VTD 01; GROVE CITY VTD 02; GROVE CITY VTD 03; GROVE CITY VTD 04; GROVE CITY VTD 05; JACKSON TWP Voting District; JACKSON CENTER Voting District; LAKE TWP Voting District; LIBERTY TWP Voting District; MILLCREEK TWP Voting District; NEW LEBANON Voting District; NEW VERNON TWP Voting District; PINE TWP VTD 01; PINE TWP VTD 02; SANDY LAKE TWP Voting District; SANDY LAKE Voting District; STONEBORO Voting District; WOLF CREEK TWP Voting District; WORTH TWP Voting District

**Office within district:** Yes

**Residence within district:** Yes

**Police Departments:** Pa. State Police; Grove City PD; Sandy Lake PD; Stoneboro PD

**Major Highways:** PA State Route 62; Interstate 80; Interstate 79; PA State Route 173

## Existing and Proposed Magisterial Districts

**Magisterial District #: 35-3-03**

**Proposed Action: Reestablish**

Average Annual Caseload:	3,990	Average Annual Workload:	46,878
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/judicial district):	11.00	% Difference in Workload (magisterial district/judicial district):	5.00
% Difference in Caseload (magisterial district/class of county):	9.00		

*Workload outside of a +/- 15% range requires realignment or support to maintain current configuration.*

### Magisterial District Judge & Office Information:

Brian R. Arthur

14 North Race Street, Suite 1

Greenville, PA 16125

Birthdate: 08-01-65

Mandatory Retirement: 2035

Term Expires: 1-3-16

### Existing Geography:

CLARK Voting District; GREENE TWP Voting District; GREENVILLE VTD 01; GREENVILLE VTD 02; GREENVILLE VTD 03; GREENVILLE VTD 04; HEMPFIELD TWP VTD 01; HEMPFIELD TWP VTD 02; HEMPFIELD TWP VTD 03; JAMESTOWN Voting District; PYMATUNING TWP VTD 01; PYMATUNING TWP VTD 02; SOUTH PYMATUNING TWP VTD 01; SOUTH PYMATUNING TWP VTD 02; SOUTH PYMATUNING TWP VTD 03; SUGAR GROVE TWP Voting District; WEST SALEM TWP VTD EAST; WEST SALEM TWP VTD WEST

### Proposed Geography:

CLARK Voting District; GREENE TWP Voting District; GREENVILLE VTD 01; GREENVILLE VTD 02; GREENVILLE VTD 03; GREENVILLE VTD 04; HEMPFIELD TWP VTD 01; HEMPFIELD TWP VTD 02; HEMPFIELD TWP VTD 03; JAMESTOWN Voting District; PYMATUNING TWP VTD 01; PYMATUNING TWP VTD 02; SOUTH PYMATUNING TWP VTD 01; SOUTH PYMATUNING TWP VTD 02; SOUTH PYMATUNING TWP VTD 03; SUGAR GROVE TWP Voting District; WEST SALEM TWP VTD EAST; WEST SALEM TWP VTD WEST

**Office within district:** Yes

**Residence within district:** Yes

**Police Departments:** Greenville-West Salem PD; Hempfield Twp PD; Jamestown PD; Jefferson-Clark Regional PD; Pymatuning Twp PD; South Pymatuning PD

**Major Highways:** PA State Route 18; Pa State Route 358; PA State Route 58

# Magisterial District Reestablishment 2012

## Magisterial District Caseload/Workload Analysis

### Judicial District and Class of County Comparison Statistics

*Mercer / 35*

Judicial District Average Caseload			
2011 Class	2011 Filings	2012 Class	2012 Filings
5	4,478	5	4,478

2011 Class of County Caseload Averages								
2011 Class	CR	PC	TR	NT	CV	LT	MD	Total
5	409	144	2,559	688	289	101	85	4,275

2012 Class of County Caseload Averages								
2012 Class	CR	PC	TR	NT	CV	LT	MD	Total
5	416	144	2,412	656	279	102	82	4,092

#### Notes on Analysis:

**CASELOAD:** The statistics provided are used to compare the average annual caseload of each magisterial district to the class of county average as one measure to assess whether any changes should be proposed. Reported values are provided by the judicial district; the comparison values are provided by the MDJS.

**WORKLOAD:** Where the average annual workload of a magisterial district is greater/less than 15% of the judicial district's workload average, the judicial district should realign - OR - explain why this difference does not impact workload equity within the judicial district. A value that is green indicates it is within range; red requires justification if realignment or elimination are not proposed.

Judicial District Caseload Averages		
Mercer	2011	2012
Class	5	5
CR	482	482
NT	730	730
PC	319	319
TR	2,363	2,363
CV	298	298
LT	131	131
MD	154	154
AVG	4,478	4,478

Judicial District Workload Averages		
Mercer	2011	2012
Class	5	5
CR	17,713	17,713
NT	7,844	7,844
PC	3,431	3,431
TR	5,388	5,388
CV	3,359	3,359
LT	1,898	1,898
MD	5,011	5,011
-15 % Workload	37,948	37,948
Average Workload	44,644	44,644
+ 15% Workload	51,341	51,341

## Magisterial District Caseload/Workload Analysis

**35-2-01**

**Reestablish**

### **CASELOAD**

Average Total Annual Caseload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
4,683		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

5	4.58%	4.58%
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Magisterial District Average: Class of County Average:

10	9.55%	14.45%
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### **WORKLOAD**

Average Total Annual Workload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
52,080		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

<b>17</b>	16.66%	16.66%
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**35-2-02**

**Reestablish**

### **CASELOAD**

Average Total Annual Caseload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
5,251		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

17	17.26%	17.26%
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Magisterial District Average: Class of County Average:

23	22.84%	28.33%
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### **WORKLOAD**

Average Total Annual Workload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
57,479		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

<b>29</b>	28.75%	28.75%
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## Magisterial District Caseload/Workload Analysis

### 35-3-01 Reestablish

#### CASELOAD

Average Total Annual Caseload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
3,840		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

17	-14.25%	-14.25%
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Magisterial District Average: Class of County Average:

11	-10.17%	-6.15%
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#### WORKLOAD

Average Total Annual Workload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
33,756		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

-24.3	-24.39%	-24.39%
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### 35-3-02 Reestablish

#### CASELOAD

Average Total Annual Caseload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
4,628		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

3	3.35%	3.35%
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Magisterial District Average: Class of County Average:

8	8.27%	13.10%
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#### WORKLOAD

Average Total Annual Workload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
33,031		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

-26	-26.01%	-26.01%
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### 35-3-03 Reestablish

#### CASELOAD

Average Total Annual Caseload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
3,990		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

11	-10.90%	-10.90%
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Magisterial District Average: Class of County Average:

9	-6.66%	-2.49%
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#### WORKLOAD

Average Total Annual Workload:

Reported	AOPC	
	2011	2012
46,878		

Magisterial District Average: Judicial District Average:

5	5.00%	5.00%
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*COURT ADMINISTRATOR*  
COURTHOUSE  
MERCER, PENNSYLVANIA 16137-1294

**PETER A. MORIN**  
District Court Administrator

TELEPHONE  
(724) 662-3800  
FAX  
(724) 662-3838

March 5, 2012

Amy J. Kehner  
Judicial Programs Administrator  
Administrative Office of Pa. Courts  
601 Commonwealth Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Re: MDJ District Summary for Mercer County

Dear Amy,

Here is the paperwork for Mercer County for the realignment of MDJ offices. Along with the forms is a two-page summary outline of the workloads for those offices.

Once you receive these forms, let me know if you want me to send these electronically as well. If you need anything else, please let me know.

Thank you for your help in this whole project.

Sincerely,

Peter A. Morin  
District Court Administrator

## Mercer County Magisterial District Court Realignment Plan

Mercer County is the Thirty-fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania. It is a Fifth class county and contains five Magisterial District Courts that cover a total land area of 722 square miles. The 2010 federal census lists the county population at 116,638.

The average statewide caseload for a Magisterial District Court is 4,727. The average fifth class county caseload is 4,275. The Mercer County average is 4,478. That places Mercer 5.3% below the state average, but 4.7 % above the fifth class county average.

As for weighted workload, Mercer MDJ courts place 29% above the statewide average and 19.7% above the fifth class county average.

When reviewing at the MDJ offices in Mercer County, there is a disparity of workload between the five districts. Three of the five districts (35-2-01; 35-2-02; 35-3-03) have workloads well above both state and fifth class county averages. Two districts (35-3-01; 35-3-02) are slightly below the statewide and fifth class county workload averages. Please note the numbers listed:

### Statewide MDJ Average Workload: 34,589

Average workload:	Court 35-2-01: 52,080	50 % above state average
	Court 35-2-02: 57,479	66 % above state average
	Court 35-3-01: 33,756	2.5 % below state average
	Court 35-3-02: 33,031	4.5 % below state average
	Court 35-3-03: 46,878	35 % above state average

### 5<sup>th</sup> Class County Average workload: 37,284

Average workload variance:	Court 35-2-01: 39.7 % above 5 <sup>th</sup> class average
	Court 35-2-02: 54 % above 5 <sup>th</sup> class average
	Court 35-3-01: 9.5 % below 5 <sup>th</sup> class average
	Court 35-3-02: 11.4 % below 5 <sup>th</sup> class average
	Court 35-3-03: 25.7 % above 5 <sup>th</sup> class average

These variations are attributed to the urban versus rural population distributions across the five districts in Mercer County. The three districts with the majority of urban residents of the county (35-2-01; 35-2-02; 35-3-03) are those districts that have the highest filings and workload. Districts 35-3-01 and 35-3-02 are predominantly rural, with populations spread out over large geographic areas. When looking at district size, the smallest District Court (35-2-01) covers an area of 5.2 square miles whereas the largest District Court (35-3-01) covers an area of 274 square miles. These variations are also amplified by the fact that three major national interstate highways (I-80; I-79; I-376) pass through Mercer County.

The rural areas of the county are served by small police departments that have limited staff and budgets. The location of an MDJ office for many of these departments is often quite a distance from their jurisdiction. Any decision to eliminate either of the two district courts with lower case numbers would cause considerable inconvenience and cost to both the citizens and law enforcement agencies of those districts by forcing them to travel greater distances. The other MDJ courts in the county are also so far above the average for workloads, they could not assume the additional filings that elimination of one of the smaller districts would cause and continue to properly function.

A plan has been prepared to change office filing locations for specific types of cases that would originate in one Magisterial District Court, but would be filed in a neighboring MDJ court. These changes will increase the workloads at the two Mercer MDJ offices that are currently below state averages, bringing them closer to both state and fifth-class county averages. These changes will also slightly ease the burdens at those MDJ offices that are well above average workload levels. Making these changes will help equalize the workloads between the existing five districts courts without re-drawing the lines of jurisdiction. To change the current lay-out of any district would seriously impact police jurisdictions; cause unnecessary delays in scheduling and create any number of travel problems for the citizens of the respective districts.

Effective in April, 2012, traffic citations issued by the Pa. State Police in the district of MDJ Court 35-2-02 will be divided, filed, and processed in Court 35-3-01 and Court 35-3-02. In addition, all case types filed by the Pa. State Police in the district of Court 35-3-03 will be filed and processed in Court 35-3-02. By making these changes, all MDJ courts in Mercer County will process workloads that are equal to, or higher than the statewide MDJ office workload. In addition, all MDJ offices in Mercer County will process workloads that are at least 92% of the average fifth-class county MDJ office workload.

It should be noted that even with these changes, three of the five Mercer MDJ offices will still process workloads that are well in excess of state and fifth-class county averages. The planned changes will provide some relief to those offices with the highest workloads.

Population density variations coupled with urban and rural settings mixed together in the same county create a need for reasonable public access to an MDJ court that is not so far in distance as to place a heavy burden on the citizenry.

Based on these circumstances, it is not recommended that there be any changes to either the number of MDJ courts in Mercer County or the current boundaries of jurisdiction. Variations in workload will be addressed administratively as detailed above and will be monitored and modified as necessary to help equalize the distribution of work.

It should be noted that public notices seeking comment on the boundaries of the districts were placed in three county newspapers and there were no responses received.

# AOPC

## JUDICIAL DISTRICT SUMMARY WORKSHEET

**PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THE JUDICIAL DISTRICT SUMMARY WORKSHEET.**

*To enter data, press TAB to move between fields.*

<b>I.</b>	<b>JUDICIAL DISTRICT NUMBER:</b>	35
	<b>A.</b> at is the class of county?	Wh 5
	<b>B.</b> at is the percentage difference in the average annual caseload between this judicial district and the applicable class of county?	Wh 5%
<b>II.</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTIONS:</b>	
	<b>A.</b> List existing magisterial districts: 35-2-01; 35-2-02; 35-3-01; 35-3-02; 35-3-03	
	<b>B.</b> Does this judicial district have an annual average caseload that is ten percent above the average caseload for the applicable class of county?	NO
	1. If the answer to <b>II. B.</b> above is <i>NO</i> , are eliminations proposed?	NO
	<p>a) List magisterial districts proposed for elimination.</p> <p>b) If no eliminations are proposed based on <b>II. B.</b> above, what are the factors for this decision?</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">With wide disparities in population distribution accompanied by varied urban and rural settings in the five MDJ courts, and the overall workload of those courts in Mercer County, any elimination of a district court would place all other courts being assigned a workload that would be unmanageable for a Magisterial District Judge and would result in a level of service to the citizens of the county that would be less than quality at best, and unacceptable at worst.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The number of filings and workload assessment at the Mercer MDJ offices average well above both the state and fifth-class county averages. Only nine other counties in Pennsylvania have a higher average workload than Mercer County.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Implementation of a plan to transfer some specific case type filings from one MDJ office to another is underway. This plan will ease the workload burden on those offices with the highest numbers and will raise the workload</p>	

# AOPC

## JUDICIAL DISTRICT SUMMARY WORKSHEET

at the two offices currently below average. When the plan is completed, all MDJ offices in Mercer County will be at or above the state wide average workload, and very near or above fifth-class county average workloads. This plan can be completed without the necessity of re-aligning any of the five district courts. That will benefit both local law enforcement and the citizens of those districts.

2. If the answer to II. B. above is YES, are eliminations proposed? NO

a) List magisterial districts proposed for elimination.

C. Are any magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment? YES

1. List magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment.  
35-2-01; 35-2-02; 35-3-01; 35-3-02; 35-3-03

D. Are any magisterial districts proposed for realignment? NO

1. List magisterial districts proposed for realignment.

### III. NIGHT AND CENTRAL COURT OPERATIONS

A. Is there a night court operating within the judicial district? NO

B. Is there a central court operating within the judicial district? NO

C. Note comments regarding how night, central or other similar court programs impact operations within the judicial district.

### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. A request for public comment was posted: YES


B. Comments were received: NO

C. Comments are attached: NO

### V. ADDITIONAL REMARKS CONCERNING PROPOSAL:

# AOPC

## JUDICIAL DISTRICT SUMMARY WORKSHEET

<b>VI. DATE SUBMITTED TO AOPC:</b>	03/05/2012
<b>VII. PRESIDENT JUDGE NAME:</b>	Thomas R. Dobson
 Signature	



MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET FOR EACH MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.

To enter data, press TAB to move between fields.

<b>I.</b>	<b>MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT NUMBER (#####):</b>	35-2-01
<b>II. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - CASELOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Caseload:	4,683
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and your judicial district's average total caseload:	5%
<b>C.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and applicable class of county's average total caseload:	10%
<b>III. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - WORKLOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Workload:	52,080
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total workload and the judicial district's average total workload:	17%
<b>C.</b>	Does this magisterial district have an average total workload that is fifteen percent <i>greater than or less than</i> any other magisterial district within your judicial district:	YES
<b>D.</b>	If YES, how does this difference impact workload equity within your judicial district? This office may be able to have certain filings moved to another MDJ office that is below average in filings.	
<b>IV. PROPOSED CHANGE:</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Please indicate any proposed change in this magisterial district. Check all that apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish <input type="checkbox"/> Realign <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate
<b>B.</b>	What is the proposed effective date (m/d/yyyy):	3/20/2012
<b>V. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT INFORMATION:</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Magisterial District Judge Name: Dennis M. Songer	



# AOPC

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

<b>B.</b> Term Expiration (m/d/yyyy):	1/1/2017
<b>C.</b> Mandatory Retirement Date (m/d/yyyy):	
<b>D.</b> Office Location (Street, City and Zip code):	1217 Hall Avenue Sharon 16146
<b>E.</b> Is the office within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
<b>F.</b> Is the residence of the magisterial district judge within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
<b>G.</b> List any police departments located within this magisterial district:	City of Sharon; ZBorough of Sharpsville
<b>H.</b> List any major highways within this magisterial district:	Route 62
<b>VI. LIST EXISTING MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
	City Of Sharon; Borough Of Sharpsville ✓
<b>VII. LIST PROPOSED MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
	Same ✓
<b>VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</b>	
PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET PRIOR TO ENTERING DATA FOR THE NEXT MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.	



MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET FOR EACH MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.

To enter data, press TAB to move between fields.

<b>I.</b>	<b>MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT NUMBER (#####):</b>	35-2-02
<b>II. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - CASELOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Caseload:	5,251
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and your judicial district's average total caseload:	17%
<b>C.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and applicable class of county's average total caseload:	23%
<b>III. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - WORKLOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Workload:	57,479
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total workload and the judicial district's average total workload:	29%
<b>C.</b>	Does this magisterial district have an average total workload that is fifteen percent <i>greater than or less than</i> any other magisterial district within your judicial district:	YES
<b>D.</b>	<p>If YES, how does this difference impact workload equity within your judicial district?</p> <p>This office may be able to have certain filings moved to another MDJ office that is below average in filings. This office is located within the highest crime area of the judicial district and has a criminal workload that is much higher than other MDJ offices. It also has the highest population of any MDJ district in the judicial district. However, changing the boundaries of this district court would cause serious problems for law enforcement agencies and the residents of the district.</p>	
<b>IV. PROPOSED CHANGE:</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Please indicate any proposed change in this magisterial district. Check all that apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish <input type="checkbox"/> Realign <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate
<b>B.</b>	What is the proposed effective date (m/d/yyyy):	3/20/2012

# AOPC

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

<b>V. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT INFORMATION:</b>
A. Magisterial District Judge Name: Ronald E. Antos
B. Term Expiration (m/d/yyyy): 1/1/2018
C. Mandatory Retirement Date (m/d/yyyy):
D. Office Location (Street, City and Zip code): 425 Idaho Street Farrell 16121
E. Is the office within the boundaries of the magisterial district: YES
F. Is the residence of the magisterial district judge within the boundaries of the magisterial district: YES
G. List any police departments located within this magisterial district: Hermitage Police Dept.; Southwest Mercer County Regional Police Dept.; Shenango Township Police Department.
H. List any major highways within this magisterial district: State Route 62; Interstate 80; State Route 18
<b>VI. LIST EXISTING MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b> City Of Hermitage; City Of Farrell; Shenango Township; Borough Of West Middlesex; Borough Of Wheatland. ✓
<b>VII. LIST PROPOSED MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b> Same ✓
<b>VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</b> While specific case filings may be moved from this MDJ district to another, any change in district boundaries will cause serious interruptions in law enforcement capabilities and considerable inconvenience to the citizenry.
<b>PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET PRIOR TO ENTERING DATA FOR THE NEXT MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.</b>



MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET FOR EACH MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.

To enter data, press TAB to move between fields.

<b>I.</b>	<b>MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT NUMBER (#####):</b>	35-3-01
<b>II. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - CASELOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Caseload:	3,840
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and your judicial district's average total caseload:	17%
<b>C.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and applicable class of county's average total caseload:	11%
<b>III. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - WORKLOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Workload:	33,756
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total workload and the judicial district's average total workload:	32%
<b>C.</b>	Does this magisterial district have an average total workload that is fifteen percent <i>greater than or less than</i> any other magisterial district within your judicial district:	YES
<b>D.</b>	<p>If YES, how does this difference impact workload equity within your judicial district?</p> <p>This office may be able to absorb certain filings from another MDJ office that is above average in filings. This office is located within an very low crime area; most of this MDJ district is very rural, with a considerable Amish population. However, a major interstate and most of the main state routes go through this district, and this district covers 274 square miles of land; easily the largest district, and it has the third highest population of any MDJ district in the judicial district. However, changing the boundaries of this district court would cause serious problems for law enforcement agencies from surrounding districts and the location of this office would be a great inconvenience to residents of surrounding districts.</p>	
<b>IV. PROPOSED CHANGE:</b>		

# AOPC

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

A. Please indicate any proposed change in this magisterial district. Check all that apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish <input type="checkbox"/> Realign <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate
B. What is the proposed effective date (m/d/yyyy):	3/20/2012
<b>V. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT INFORMATION:</b>	
A. Magisterial District Judge Name:	Lorinda M. Hinch
B. Term Expiration (m/d/yyyy):	1/1/2014
C. Mandatory Retirement Date (m/d/yyyy):	
D. Office Location (Street, City and Zip code):	123 West Market Street Mercer 16137
E. Is the office within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
F. Is the residence of the magisterial district judge within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
G. List any police departments located within this magisterial district:	Pa. State Police; Mercer Borough Police Dept.; Jefferson-Clark regional Poilce Dept.
H. List any major highways within this magisterial district:	State Route 62; Interstate 80; Interstate 79; Pa. State Route 19
<b>VI. LIST EXISTING MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
Coolspring Township; Delaware Township; East Lackawannock Township; Fairview Township; Findley Township; Fredonia Borough; Jefferson Township; Lackawannock Township; Mercer Borough; Otter Creek Township; Perry Township; Salem Township; Sandy Creek Township; Sheakleyville Borough; Springfield Township; Wilmington Township. ✓	
<b>VII. LIST PROPOSED MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
Same ✓	
<b>VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</b>	
While specific case filings may be moved into this MDJ district from another, any change in district boundaries will cause seroius interruptions in law enforcement capabilities and considerable inconvenience to the citizenry.	
<b>PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET PRIOR TO ENTERING DATA FOR THE NEXT MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.</b>	

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## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET FOR EACH MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.

To enter data, press TAB to move between fields.

<b>I.</b>	<b>MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT NUMBER (#####):</b>	35-3-02
<b>II. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - CASELOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Caseload:	4,628
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and your judicial district's average total caseload:	3%
<b>C.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and applicable class of county's average total caseload:	8%
<b>III. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - WORKLOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Workload:	33,031
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total workload and the judicial district's average total workload:	26%
<b>C.</b>	Does this magisterial district have an average total workload that is fifteen percent <i>greater than or less than</i> any other magisterial district within your judicial district:	YES
<b>D.</b>	<p>If YES, how does this difference impact workload equity within your judicial district?</p> <p>This office may be able to absorb certain filings from another MDJ office that is above average in filings; however that would be difficult as this office is located a considerable distance from MDJ districts that have higher caseloads. This office is located within an very low crime area; most of this MDJ district is rural, with one major population center. While crime is low, two major interstates go through this district and traffic filings are very high. Te district covers 233 square miles of territory. It has the second highest population of any MDJ district in the judicial district. However, changing the boundaries of this district court would cause serious problems for law enforcement agencies from surrounding districts and the location of this office would make it a struggle for the citizens to have reasonable accesss to MDJ services.</p>	

# AOPC

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

<b>IV. PROPOSED CHANGE:</b>	
<b>A.</b> Please indicate any proposed change in this magisterial district. Check all that apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish <input type="checkbox"/> Realign <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate
<b>B.</b> What is the proposed effective date (m/d/yyyy):	3/20/2012
<b>V. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT INFORMATION:</b>	
<b>A.</b> Magisterial District Judge Name:	D. Neil McEwen
<b>B.</b> Term Expiration (m/d/yyyy):	1/1/2017
<b>C.</b> Mandatory Retirement Date (m/d/yyyy):	
<b>D.</b> Office Location (Street, City and Zip code):	574 Barkeyville Road Grove City 16127
<b>E.</b> Is the office within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
<b>F.</b> Is the residence of the magisterial district judge within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
<b>G.</b> List any police departments located within this magisterial district:	Grove City Police Dept.; Sandy Lake Police Dept.; Stoneboro Police Department; Pa. State Police.
<b>H.</b> List any major highways within this magisterial district:	State Route 62; Interstate 80; Interstate 79; Pa. State Route 173
<b>VI. LIST EXISTING MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
Deer Creek Township; French Creek Township; Grove City Borough; <u>Jackson Township</u> ; Jackson Center Borough; Lake Township; Liberty Township; Mill Creek Township; New Lebanon Borough; New Vernon Township; Pine Township; Sandy Lake Borough; Sandy Lake Township; Stoneboro Bourough; Wolf Creek Township; Worth Township.	
<b>VII. LIST PROPOSED MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
Same	
<b>VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</b>	
While specific case filings may be moved into this MDJ district from another, any change in district boundaries will cause seroius interruptions in law enforcement capabilities and considerable inconvenience to the citizenry.	

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## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET PRIOR TO ENTERING DATA FOR THE NEXT MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.



# AOPC

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

**PLEASE SUBMIT ONE COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET FOR EACH MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.**

*To enter data, press TAB to move between fields.*

<b>I.</b>	<b>MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT NUMBER (#####):</b>	35-3-03
<b>II. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - CASELOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Caseload:	3,990
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and your judicial district's average total caseload:	11%
<b>C.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total caseload and applicable class of county's average total caseload:	9%
<b>III. BREAKDOWN OF MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT - WORKLOAD</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Average Total Workload:	46,878
<b>B.</b>	Difference (%) between this magisterial district's average total workload and the judicial district's average total workload:	5%
<b>C.</b>	Does this magisterial district have an average total workload that is fifteen percent <i>greater than or less than</i> any other magisterial district within your judicial district:	YES
<b>D.</b>	<p>If YES, how does this difference impact workload equity within your judicial district?</p> <p>This office may be able to send certain filings to another MDJ office that is below average in filings; however that would be difficult as this office is located a considerable distance from MDJ districts that have lower caseloads. This office is located within the population center in the north of the judicial district; most of this MDJ district is rural, with one major population center. The district covers 144 square miles of territory. Changing the boundaries of this district court would cause serious problems for law enforcement agencies from surrounding districts and the location of this office would make it a struggle for the citizens to have reasonable access to MDJ services.</p>	
<b>IV. PROPOSED CHANGE:</b>		
<b>A.</b>	Please indicate any proposed change in this	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reestablish

# AOPC

## MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT WORKSHEET

magisterial district. Check all that apply.	<input type="checkbox"/> Realign <input type="checkbox"/> Eliminate
B. What is the proposed effective date (m/d/yyyy):	3/20/2012
<b>V. MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT INFORMATION:</b>	
A. Magisterial District Judge Name: Brian R Arthur	
B. Term Expiration (m/d/yyyy):	1/1/2017
C. Mandatory Retirement Date (m/d/yyyy):	
D. Office Location (Street, City and Zip code):	14 North Race Street Greenville 16125
E. Is the office within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
F. Is the residence of the magisterial district judge within the boundaries of the magisterial district:	YES
G. List any police departments located within this magisterial district:	Greenville-West Salem Police Dept.; Hempfield Township Police Dept.; Jamestown Police Dept.; Jefferson-Clark Regional Police Dept.; Pymatuning Township Police Dept.; South Pymatuning Township Police Dept.
H. List any major highways within this magisterial district:	Pa. State Route 18; Pa. State Route 358; Pa. State Route 58.
<b>VI. LIST EXISTING MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
Clark Borough ; Greene Township; Greenville Borough; Hempfield Township; Jamestown Borough; Pymatuning Township; South Pymatuning Township; Sugar Grove Township; West Salem Township.	
<b>VII. LIST PROPOSED MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	
Same	
<b>VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:</b>	
While specific case filings may be moved to another MDJ district from this, any change in district boundaries will cause seroius interruptions in law enforcement capabilities and considerable inconvenience to the citizenry.	
PLEASE SAVE A COPY OF THIS WORKSHEET PRIOR TO ENTERING DATA FOR THE NEXT MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT.	