



COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
TWENTY-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ONE SOUTH MAIN STREET
WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA 15301

JOHN F. DiSALLE
JUDGE

724-228-6908

July 22, 2022

Joseph J. Mittleman, Esquire
Director of Judicial Operations and Programs
Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts
601 Commonwealth Avenue
P.O. Box 61260
Harrisburg, PA 17106-2307

Re: Reestablishment Plan – 27th Judicial District (Washington County)

Dear Mr. Mittleman:

I am pleased to submit the proposed 2022 Reestablishment Plan for Washington County. The following documents comprise the Plan:

1. A memorandum summarizing the Plan.
2. Worksheets detailing the proposal for our judicial district.
3. Two worksheets for each magisterial district.
4. A copy of the proposal that was posted for public comment.
5. All public comments that were received.
6. Proof of the posting and notification to the public.

The Plan calls for the reduction of magisterial districts from eleven to nine over the course of six years. These changes are long overdue, as the boundaries of the magisterial districts have essentially remained unaltered for the past twenty years. In that time, we have seen a dramatic departure in case filings in the magisterial district courts coupled with significant shifts in where the population lies within the county. Attention to caseload changes and workload inequities are finally being addressed by the Plan. Every district is realigned to bring parity and equity to the workload among the different courts, and the only two deviations from the standard of +/- 15% are unavoidable and explained in detail within the documents.



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Whether we compare ours to other third or fourth class counties, there is no question that Washington County has too many magisterial districts, and that the maximum appropriate number of districts is nine. No other fourth class county has more than nine magisterial districts, and other counties, such as Beaver and Monroe, carry significantly more case filings with eight or nine magisterial district courts. Similarly, the average caseload for third class counties is much higher than ours, and, with little exception, has a higher caseload-to-MDJ ratio.

Upon seeing the Plan, some (including certain of my common pleas colleagues) have remarked that Washington County could function with just eight magisterial districts. There is assuredly some merit to this view, however, it is my opinion that nine districts is the appropriate number at this time.

In what is perhaps a departure from other judicial districts, you will find that our Plan contains two proposals. After the initial proposal was advertised, we were informed by one of the magisterial district judges that he was retiring at the end of his term, while another MDJ walked back from statements indicating that he would be retiring. In addition, the Court considered public comments and input from the MDJs, including why a vacant district court was not slated for elimination. Therefore, I directed Court Administration to create a revised plan that reflected the MDJ's retirement and eliminated the vacant district.

There was a significant number of public comments received, many of which focused on or were spurred by the elimination of the vacant district. While many of the comments are not grounded in facts or the data, I recognize that the number of comments outweigh those received in response to the first proposal. As explained with more detail in the accompanying memorandum, I am submitting both proposals in the Plan. It is our preference that the second, revised proposal be approved; however, the first proposal also achieves the goals for Reestablishment in the judicial district.

I also wish to address certain misinformation that has been propagated by the magisterial district judges and their association. One refrain has been that the MDJs were not consulted as part of this process. I, along with Court Administration, met with the MDJs on September 17, 2021; Reestablishment was an item of discussion. At the meeting, I informed the MDJs that we had received the data and guidelines from the AOPC. I requested that if any MDJ planned on retiring in the near future or not running for another term, to please



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provide that information to us. Further, the MDJs were told then that a committee would be formed to review the draft plan once it was completed. Importantly, I told them that the committee would include an MDJ representative, but that the individual would be a senior MDJ, rather than a sitting MDJ, to avoid having a committee member with a vested interest in the outcome. The committee included the Public Defender, the District Attorney, the county's chief financial officer, and a senior MDJ.

The second refrain has been the repeating of the guideline that "there is no goal to eliminate a particular number or percentage of districts [.]". It is my understanding that this guideline refers to the fact that, unlike in 2012, the Supreme Court is not requiring or setting a quota for reductions in the number of district courts statewide. However, there is no prohibition on proposing an elimination(s) if the data and local conditions support a determination that it is appropriate to do so.

It is our belief that the Plan represents a comprehensive and diligent undertaking that is faithful to the charge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, using data (caseload, workload, and other pertinent information) to submit an objective proposal that best suits the needs of the judicial district as a whole.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. DiSalle'.

John F. DiSalle

cc: Patrick R. Grimm, Esq., District Court Administrator
Kathy Tarr, Deputy Court Administrator, Special Courts



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JOHN F. DiSALLE
JUDGE

724-228-6908

TO: Joseph J. Mittleman, Esq.
Director of Judicial District Operations and Programs

FROM: Hon. John F. DiSalle 
President Judge

DATE: July 22, 2022

RE: Reestablishment Plan – 27th Judicial District (Washington County)

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a narrative statement in support of the proposed Reestablishment Plan submitted on behalf of the 27th Judicial District, which is comprised of all of Washington County.

I. Summary

According to the 2020 Federal census figures, Washington County has a population of 209,349, poised on the line between a 3rd and 4th class county. The County is made up of 66 cities and municipalities in total. At the last reestablishment in 2012, only one realignment, of a municipality with just 1,853 residents, occurred within the entire judicial district. Therein lies the fundamental issue confronted in the 2022 reestablishment – the boundaries and workload of the magisterial district courts have not been substantively adjusted for twenty years, over a generation.

Following careful analysis of the data and application of the guidelines, the Court is proposing that the number of magisterial district courts be reduced from eleven (11) to nine (9) over the next several years, and that the boundaries for the nine (9) remaining districts be realigned. We can no longer kick the can down the road and fail to ignore the present inequities in our magisterial district courts. Dispassionate, reasoned analysis leads to this conclusion – there are more magisterial district courts than needed in Washington County.

There are two proposals (both published) that comprise the Court's Reestablishment Plan. A brief background of the proposals is as follows.

The Court published a plan (“Proposal I”) in January and February of this year. Following publication, a magisterial district judge informed the Court that he was retiring at the end of his term, which affected the contents of Proposal I. The AOPC felt that this was a “substantial change” to Proposal I, which required re-publication. In addition, there was a question as to why a vacant magisterial district court was not included for elimination as compared to occupied districts.¹ Therefore, we published a revised plan (“Proposal II”) which still ultimately eliminated two districts, but achieved this through the use of attrition and the vacancy.

It should be noted that Proposal I and Proposal II provide for identical realignments in the eastern part of the County: Where the proposals differ is in the realignments of the western half. Each proposal has its merits; meeting the criteria for reestablishment and representing a vast, generational improvement for our magisterial district courts. Proposal I is better from a geographical standpoint, while Proposal II is superior in creating a balanced and equitable workload among almost the districts.

Everyone, including the MDJs, agrees with the merits of the elimination and consolidation/realignment in the East; Magisterial District 27-3-02 and Magisterial District 27-3-03 become the single district of Magisterial District 27-3-03 in 2028. The question lies in the West. The answer is that either proposal works in right-sizing the district courts. Proposal II is better by the numbers, but has engendered more commentary (albeit without any basis in facts or data). Proposal I generated less community responses, but has less balance among the districts. In sum, the Court prefers that Proposal II be approved by the Supreme Court, but Proposal I would address the needs of the judicial district as well.

Accordingly, the Court is requesting that the Supreme Court approve a Reestablishment Plan encompassing Proposal II; or, in the event that the Supreme Court feels that further consideration should be given to the public comments, requests that, in the alternative, Proposal I be approved. See *Attachment “A.”*

II. Caseload

The average caseload for Washington County in the relevant period is 45,661 cases annually for a per-magisterial-district-judge (“MDJ”) average of 4,151. A comparison chart of select third class counties and all fourth class counties shows that Washington County falls on the lower end of average annual caseload per MDJ while maintaining a high MDJ count.

¹ This was a question from the MDJs in our various meetings and also from the AOPC.

It should be noted that Cambria County is a significant caseload outlier among the 4th class counties (and now has a population of over 10,000 residents below the 4th class county threshold) by population and the fact that it lacks an interstate highway within its boundaries. If Cambria County were removed, the average caseload for the 4th class counties would increase by 9.6% to 4,308 average filings per MDJ.

County	Class	Current Average Annual Caseload per MDJ	MDJ Count
Lehigh	3 rd	6,025	14
Cumberland	3 rd	5,683	10
Dauphin	3 rd	5,669	15
Lackawanna	3 rd	4,026	10
Monroe	4 th	4,846	9
Centre	4 th	4,689	6
Beaver	4 th	4,376	8
Schuylkill	4 th	4,270	7
Fayette	4 th	4,196	7
Washington	4th	4,151	11
Butler	4 th	4,022	7
Franklin ²	4 th	3,911	7
Cambria	4 th	2,909	8

What is also notable is the change in Washington County’s caseload statistics from the last reestablishment in 2012. Overall, the average annual caseload in 2012 was 51,205 and the per-MDJ average was 4,655. Thus, there was a 10.83% decrease in filings over the past decade. An analysis of the actual filings for each magisterial district is below.³

² Franklin County’s 2022 Reestablishment Plan calls for a reduction in Magisterial District Judges from 7 to 6.

³ The caseload and workload data might differ by individual magisterial districts, but not in total, from the AOPC-provided data. A temporary reassignment of criminal cases in Magisterial District 27-1-02, due to a judicial conduct issue, for a period of approximately 12 months in 2017 and 2018 caused case data to appear in other magisterial district courts. Data was reclassified to

Magisterial District	2012	2022	Increase / Decrease	Percentage Change
27-1-01	9,085	7,522	-1,563	-20.78%
27-1-02	4,686	3,444	-1,242	-36.06%
27-1-03	4,985	4,268	-717	-16.80%
27-2-01	4,283	3,402	-836	-24.57%
27-3-01	4,417	3,734	-683	-18.29%
27-3-02	2,627	2,332	-295	-12.65%
27-3-03	3,266	3,315	49	1.48%
27-3-05	6,248	6,815	567	8.32%
27-3-06	4,321	4,785	464	9.70%
27-3-07	3,983	3,198	-785	-24.55%
27-3-10	3,346	2,852	-494	-17.32%
	51,205	45,661	-5,544	-10.83%

Eight of the 11 districts saw double-digit drops in annual filings. Among the increases, one of the districts was, for statistical purposes, essentially a flat-line with only a 49 average case increase between reestablishments.

Typically, Washington County looks to Beaver, Cumberland, and Monroe when making comparisons. Our caseload statistics are similar to those counties, and we maintain the same number of common pleas judges. When reviewing 3rd class counties, what is apparent is that their MDJs carry a significantly higher average caseload than Washington County's MDJs.⁴ Average caseload for 4th class counties is 4,308; the average caseload for 3rd class counties is 4,919. Both caseloads are higher than Washington County's average of 4,151.

place caseload and workload back into the proper magisterial district court whenever case data appeared outside of the originating magisterial district court. The uploaded Excel worksheets can be referenced for the data distribution used for calculations.

⁴ Lackawanna County is distinguishable as a comparator too. While its total population is close to ours, it is differently situated. Its main city, Scranton has a population of almost 77,000, compared to our county seat of 13,500 residents. Lackawanna has four MDJs that split the wards of Scranton, which is not a workable solution for Washington County.

Importantly, though, is how the caseload is distributed within Washington County. A common response from some of the MDJs is to say that our caseload is average for the 4th class (when allowing Cambria County's numbers to skew the average). What that argument fails to address is that only 4 of the 11 district courts are above a 4,000 case threshold, and the bulk of the caseload is concentrated in just 2 districts. Because one of those districts encompasses the City of Washington, there is no way to redistribute its workload. As you will see below, greater parity can be achieved county-wide, but only when redistributing the workload among 9 MDJs. Moreover, 8 of the 11 districts have had double-digit caseload drops from the last reestablishment, despite overall county growth in population and business, and while coinciding with a period in which the Common Pleas Court saw its highest recorded criminal case numbers (a period which has since subsided). Accordingly, an impartial, objective analysis cannot dispute the fact that Washington County only needs 9 MDJs, or justify the costs to the taxpayers of the Commonwealth and County of keeping 11 districts.

III. Workload

As you know, the second step of the proposal is to assess the workload calculation for the magisterial districts within the County. The workload, as provided by the AOPC, is a weighting of judicial bench time by case type. Different types of cases require a different amount of effort from a presiding MDJ (*e.g.*, a criminal preliminary hearing requires more time than a traffic case). No district should deviate by more than $\pm 15\%$ from the workload of any other district. Any proposed departure in a Court's plan must be accompanied by an acceptable justification.

The below chart details the workload calculations for Proposal I.⁵

MDJ Reestablishment Proposal Workload Summary				
Magisterial District	Annual Average Workload – Current	Deviation from Judicial District Average [a]	Annual Average Workload – Proposed	Deviation from Judicial District Average [b]
27-1-01 Stewart	59,853	+75.02%	52,491	+25.59%
27-1-02 Wilson	33,255	-2.75%	41,538	-0.62%
27-1-03 Porter	34,302	+0.31%	41,633	-0.39%
27-2-01 Saieva	33,987	-0.61%	40,935	-2.06%
27-3-01 Vacant	24,453	-28.49%	41,334	-1.11%
27-3-02 Thompson	19,674	-42.47%	Eliminated	N/A
27-3-03 Kanalis	31,137	-8.95%	43,480	+4.03%
27-3-05 Manfredi	53,751	+57.18%	39,882	-4.58%

⁵ [a] represents the deviation from judicial district average based on 11 magisterial district judges using current magisterial district boundaries.

[b] represents the deviation from judicial district average based on 9 magisterial district judges using proposed magisterial district boundaries.

27-3-06 McQuillan	32,615	-4.63%	46,544	+11.35%
27-3-07 Havelka	33,931	-0.78%	Eliminated	N/A
27-3-10 Bruner	19,215	-43.81%	28,336	-32.21%

The below chart details the workload calculations for Proposal II.

MDJ Reestablishment Proposal Workload Summary				
Magisterial District	Annual Average Workload – Current	Deviation from Judicial District Average [a]	Annual Average Workload – Proposed	Deviation from Judicial District Average [b]
27-1-01 Stewart	59,853	+75.02%	52,491	+25.59%
27-1-02 Wilson	33,255	-2.75%	41,538	-0.62%
27-1-03 Porter	34,302	+0.31%	41,633	-0.39%
27-2-01 Saieva	33,987	-0.61%	39,938	-4.45%
27-3-01 Vacant	24,453	-28.49%	Eliminated	N/A
27-3-02 Thompson	19,674	-42.47%	Eliminated	N/A
27-3-03 Kanalis	31,137	-8.95%	43,480	+4.03%
27-3-05 Manfredi	53,751	+57.18%	42,108	+0.74%
27-3-06 McQuillan	32,615	-4.63%	41,364	-1.04%
27-3-07 Havelka	33,931	-0.78%	41,352	-1.06%
27-3-10 Bruner	19,215	-43.81%	32,269	-22.80%

It is understood that the goal of workload equity is to establish a basis to justify the need for the number of magisterial district courts within the judicial district. Unless absolutely necessary, counties should avoid having a minority of districts bear the brunt of case and workload inequities. Disparities in filings, particularly in low workload filings such as traffic cases, can be addressed through allocation of staffing by the President Judge and Court Administration. Taxpayers should not be required to fund disparate districts. With the exception of two magisterial districts, 27-1-01 and 27-3-10, this proposal meets the objectives and parameters of the AOPC guidelines. Otherwise, all other districts are within the $\pm 15\%$ workload deviation, thereby achieving parity.

IV. Operational Considerations

A. Staffing

Staffing is not officially a guideline for reestablishment. While proposing the elimination of two district courts, *there will be no resulting staff reductions*. All staff will be reallocated among the remaining and newly configured nine district courts. In addition, some of the current districts are so small as to justify no more than two staff members. After reestablishment, there will be staffing of 3-5 employees within each office, which is better for continuity of operations and for the handling of payments and banking duties. To be frank, securing staffing from County government is always a struggle, and this allows the Court to seek and deploy resources in a more effective manner.

B. Costs

There are significant savings to the taxpayers, be it county or state, with the Reestablishment Plan. The average annual cost of a single, commissioned magisterial district judge to the state taxpayer is \$188,700. This number represents a combination of salary and fringe benefits.

An analysis performed by Court Administration reveals that the annual costs of operation for a magisterial district court, excluding personnel, equals \$74,793.08 to county taxpayers. These costs include, *inter alia*, rent, telephone and internet service, insurance, supplies, and equipment.

Using these two numbers, the average costs of a magisterial district is \$263,493.08. The Reestablishment Plan proposes to eliminate two district courts and consolidate operations into nine districts. Over a ten-year period, this represents a savings of approximately **\$5.27 million** to the state and county taxpayers based on the average annual costs associated with a magisterial district judge and the office as identified above.

V. Spotlight PA and PennLive

Spotlight PA and PennLive recently wrote a report concerning the magisterial district court system with an analysis of caseloads and workloads in 2018 and 2019, the data for which was provided by the AOPC. To be straightforward, the series was critical of the amount of time that magisterial district judges spent in court and the financial cost of the magisterial district court system. A review of their analysis provided a stark look at our County's district courts.

In 2018 and 2019, the following MDJs had significant amounts of working days without a case event:

MDJ	2018	Statewide Rank ⁶	2019	Statewide Rank
27-3-07 (Havelka)	97	9 th	67	36 th
27-3-02 (Thompson)	63	43 rd	78	25 th
27-3-01 (Pettit) ⁷	43	84 th	16	180 th
27-3-10 (Ward) ⁸	34	112 th	33	116 th
27-3-03 (Kanalıs)	23	155 th	33	117 th
27-1-02 (Wilson)	31	126 th	26	140 th

⁶ In 2018, any MDJ with more than 40 days without a case event would rank in the top 20% statewide of most days without a case event. For 2019, the same metric is 41 days.

⁷ Judge Pettit was elected to the Common Pleas bench in 2022. His first year as an MDJ was in 2018. Some of his data would have been affected by the scheduling of matters by the previous MDJ, and requirements to attend new judges' school.

⁸ MDJ Ward did not run for reelection in 2021 and retired, effective January 1, 2022.

Additionally, Spotlight PA/PennLive highlighted that some MDJs in our County had significant number of days without any cases scheduled in the afternoon.

<u>MDJ</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>Statewide Rank⁹</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Statewide Rank</u>
27-3-10 (Ward)	152	20 th	138	38 th
27-3-03 (Kanalıs)	136	45 th	135	46 th
27-1-02 (Mark) ¹⁰	92	141 st	108	96 th
27-3-07 (Havelka)	66	269 th	89	167 th
27-1-02 (Wilson)	76	216 th	83	187 th

While the Spotlight PA/PennLive data has endured some criticism as imperfect, the information is illuminating in considering the question of workload. In addition, certain local circumstances support the argument that there are reasons to think that the Spotlight PA/PennLive data may actually be underreporting information for our County. In 2017, we established a DUI Central Court on multiple Fridays every month; individual magisterial districts are getting the data and docket “credit” for those proceedings despite the fact that the MDJ did not preside over those cases. Moreover, it is a common practice to schedule civil cases for which a defendant has not declared an intent to defend on days when the MDJ is out of the office. These are – incredibly – known as “fake civil” days among MDJ staff. If a defendant does appear on the scheduled day, the case is continued to a day when the MDJ is in the office.

A chart detailing the Spotlight PA/PennLive analysis for our entire County is below.

<u>MDJ</u>	<u>MDJ #</u>	<u>2018 Days Without Case Event</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>2018 Days Without Afternoon</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>2019 Days Without Case Event</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>2019 Days Without Afternoon</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Robert Redlinger	27-1-01	-12	379	50	339	-5	317	51	327
Mark Wilson	27-1-02	31	126	76	216	26	140	83	187
Larry Hopkins	27-1-03	13	200	72	241	20	164	67	257
David Mark	27-2-01	27	140	92	141	-4	309	108	96
Jesse Pettit	27-3-01	43	84	71	247	16	180	46	352
Curtis Thompson	27-3-02	63	43	47	351	78	25	57	298
Joshua P. Kanalıs	27-3-03	23	155	136	45	33	117	135	46
Gary Havelka	27-3-07	97	9	66	269	67	36	89	167
Ethan Ward	27-3-10	34	112	152	20	33	116	138	38

⁹ In 2018, any MDJ with more than 113 case-less afternoons would rank in the top 20%. For 2019, the same metric is 108 days.

¹⁰ MDJ Mark did not run for reelection in 2019 and retired, effective January 2020. He has taken senior status.

It can be argued that the Spotlight/PennLive data does not represent all of what encompasses the duties of an MDJ, or that scheduling can be manipulated to make an MDJ appear busier using the Spotlight metric. However, there is no question that the Spotlight analysis shows days when MDJs do not generate a single case event (an order, warrant, scheduling notice, etc.), and the number of afternoons that lack any scheduled cases.

VI. Maps, Worksheets, and Procedural Requirements

The required worksheets for submission of the proposal can be found at the end of this report. *See Attachment "B."* Maps detailing the proposed magisterial districts can be viewed. *See Attachment "C."* A timeline of the process for both proposals is attached. *See Attachment "D."* Evidence of advertising and the materials provided on the Courts' website is also being provided. *See Attachment "E."*

Please note that no decisions regarding office locations or relocations have been made. If a realigned/consolidated district already has a single office location, it is presumed that the office will remain in the same place subject to lease provisions or other requirements. With respect to districts that are consolidated/eliminated, the location of the newly created office will be explored upon approval of the realignment.

VII. Public Comments

A. Proposal II

Court Administration received 46 timely public comments in response to Proposal II, 13 that were favorable and 33 that were unfavorable.

i. Favorable Comments from the General Public

Thirteen general public comments were submitted in favor of the Plan. Todd Pappasergi, Esq., the vice-president of the County Bar Association,¹¹ wrote the following:

Please accept the following as a comment in favor of the proposed MDJ alignment. As indicated in the report/study following the census and latest statistics for Washington County, the status quo clearly cannot be maintained. Washington County has the highest number of MDJs for 4th class counties, while at the same time having the 4th lowest caseload for the applicable time period. Indeed, Monroe County, with a caseload of approximately 700 cases higher than Washington County, has a stable of

¹¹ Mr. Pappasergi provided a public comment in his personal capacity.

only nine MDJs. Even if Washington County would have increased population to classify as a 3rd class county, 11 MDJs still would not be warranted with the current caseload.

Judicial budgets, both at the county and state level, have been under increasing scrutiny and tightening over the past twenty years, and this is a trend that will likely continue. I applaud Court Administration and the Board of Judges for developing a plan that takes that budget constraining into account, while simultaneously evenly distributing caseloads and geographic populations.

Finally, as a resident of Cecil Township, I am wholly supportive of the portion of the realignment that has District 27-3-06 comprised of Peters Township, McDonald Borough, and Cecil Township. Given the high vehicle traffic volumes of Route 19, having three magisterial districts handle this corridor seems to be wise distribution of the caseload. Second, while much has been made about the potential travel difficulties of Peters Township officers and officials traveling to Cecil Township for hearings, I make two observations:

1. The location of the District 27-3-06 office does not need to remain in Cecil Township;
2. When looking at efficiency of police travel, the Monongahela City Police Department, which provides police services to Finleyville and Union Townships, must currently travel 25 miles' round trip from its police station to the current Peters Township MDJ location, while also handling matters at District 27-1-02. Bringing all of that department's jurisdiction into District 27-1-02 will save considerable resources for a much smaller department than the Peters Township police department. At the same time, even if District 27-3-06 would remain at the same location, the more robust Peters Township department will travel 16 miles round trip, considerably less than what Monongahela must endure currently.

Other favorable comments cited:

- The considerable monetary savings to taxpayers;
- The decrease in case load for District 27-3-01 between 2012 and 2022;
- The resulting parity of the proposed elimination and realignment.

ii. Peters Township

The Council of Peters Township passed a resolution regarding the proposed elimination of District Court 27-3-01. Importantly, the resolution did not oppose the elimination of the district court; rather, it expressed support for a different alignment of municipalities. Specifically, it asked for the Township to be realigned with an existing district court represented by a sitting MDJ in Houston Borough (District 27-2-01) and North Strabane Township, which is very similar to the realignment contained in Proposal I.¹²

The resolution identified two reasons for opposing Proposal II: (1) that the Township is the most populous and fastest growing municipality in the County; and (2) that elimination of the district court would increase travel costs for the Township residents.

It is true that Peters Township is the largest municipality by population in the County; however, Cecil Township and North Strabane Township are the fastest growing according to the 2020 census data, at 29.6% and 17.1% respectively. Despite the higher population, Peters Township does not have close to the largest caseload (and had a double-digit percentage decline in annual cases since the last reestablishment), and is part of the third smallest district court workload in the County. Moreover, when comparing townships head-to-head, Cecil Township has a 28% higher caseload and 24% higher judicial workload compared to Peters Township. Population is just not a harbinger of caseload, nor especially judicial workload.

The concerns about the location of a district office are simply speculative, and based on an assumption by the Council that the office would relocate outside Peters Township (both townships currently have MDJ office leaseholds). The location of an MDJ office is for the convenience of the district as whole, with the goal being centrality. That said, one must point out that Peters Township is by far the wealthiest municipality in the County, with a median household income of \$131,771 vs. \$65,478 county-wide, a poverty rate of 1.4%, and a median housing value of \$357,100 vs. \$170,800 county-wide. If any municipality can shoulder a few more miles of travel distance, it is Peters Township. We would be remiss not to also acknowledge that in the current district court that contains Peters Township, the neighboring municipalities' police force (Monongahela) travels up to 25 miles round-trip. In neighboring Allegheny County, the contiguous and more populous municipalities of Bethel Park and Upper St. Clair share one MDJ, with residents of Upper St. Clair travelling to the office located

¹² The resolution states that Proposal I “would have had minimal impact to Township residents and staff” and that the Council and its residents “support this initial Reestablishment Plan as developed by the President Judge.” The resolution is somewhat contradictory in the details between Proposal I and the Township’s realignment. However, after discussions with the township manager and police chief, it is fair to say that the Township is not concerned with the elimination of the district court itself, but instead wants to be aligned with a different township.

in Bethel Park. The district created under Proposal II would border both Bethel Park and Upper St. Clair.

iii. “Slower” Administration of Justice

One of our county commissioners raised a concern that reducing the number of MDJs will delay the administration of justice. I believe that it will be quite the opposite. In fact, you will find that – despite grand claims to the contrary in the last reestablishment – that our overall caseload dropped approximately 11% since 2010. Moreover, there is a bewildering imbalance in the workload of the MDJs that runs deeper than just realignment. We have two giant districts, a few near the average, and several undersized courts. Further, there are significant gains to reducing the number of MDJs:

- Two fewer MDJs will result in more efficient coverage for criminal cases and will mean that our already stretched thin assistant district attorneys, public defenders and single criminal conflict counsel will have less courts to attend and cover. (Both the DA and the PD are in favor of the realignment and reduction).
- Two fewer MDJs allows for service providers such as mental health, drug and alcohol, and domestic violence services to be more readily available in the district courts.
- Two fewer MDJs makes the cost of providing security in the district courts more achievable.
- Two fewer MDJs allows for the reallocation of MDJ clerical staff, which in turn allows us to meet appropriate staffing levels (no staff positions will be eliminated as result of reestablishment).
- Two fewer MDJs saves the state at least \$377,000 per year in salaries and benefits.
- Two fewer MDJs saves the County an average of \$150,000 per year in rent and utility costs.

The Court maintains a good relationship with the Board of Commissioners, and appreciates the concern and time spent in providing the comment. However, this is one of the few instances when an overabundance of resources (MDJs) is actually a burden to other parts of the system. Nine MDJs are more than enough to do the work of the minor judiciary, and the Reestablishment Plan ensures that the workload is distributed in an efficient and fair manner.

iv. Unfavorable Comments from the General Public

Below are summaries of the topics addressed by the unfavorable public comments in response to Proposal II, and responses to those comments.

- *Washington County has an average annual caseload of 4,151.* As noted earlier in this memorandum, the average annual caseload statistic is a rudimentary number to rely upon. Yes, the average annual caseload is 4,151. However, this number is achieved by only 4 of the 11 districts with the bulk by just two districts. The largest district court (that encompasses the City of Washington) has a 60% higher caseload than the average and a 75% higher judicial workload than the mean (the difference in workload between the largest and smallest district is 120%). It is virtually impossible from a logistical and practical approach to divide the City of Washington into other districts. It is also impossible to reduce the massive size (by square mileage) of the smallest district. Therefore, the only way to best utilize judicial resources and achieve parity is to reduce the number of district courts to 9. Leaving the status quo in place is the same as saying that 2 of 11 district courts will do 33% of the overall work in the judicial district.
- *Population equals higher caseloads or workloads.* No correlation necessarily exists between population and caseloads or workloads. For instance, the population continued to grow in the County since the last reestablishment, but the county-wide caseload dropped almost 11%. It is a fact that most of the growth was in higher incomes areas within the County; that growth did not bring forth appreciably higher criminal filings, or really any other type of filing. If anything, the little growth that occurred in only a couple of district courts is likely attributable to increased retail (crime) and the expansion of the casino.
- *Office Location.* Multiple comments, particularly from municipalities, expressed concern with the location of a district court's office. First, nothing in reestablishment determines the location of an office. That is a local decision for the County. Irrespective of reestablishment, the location of any existing office could change at any time. Second, there are 66 municipal governments in the County, each one cannot have an office. Decisions about offices are also made based on the configuration of a district (centralized is always the goal), bidding requirements, utilities (*e.g.*, internet access), rent considerations, roadways, etc.
- *Individual MDJs will have to run in districts with different municipalities.* It is a guideline of reestablishment that an MDJ cannot have his or her

residence moved out of the district. Other than that prohibition, the boundaries of a district court may change. This is necessary as otherwise, no district court could ever be realigned. There is no difference between a boundary change for a district court and when boundaries are changed for congressional and state legislative districts. Everyone lives in a district.

- *Citizens will no longer be served by a district court.* There is a sentiment among some of the comments that elimination of a district court means that a resident will no longer be part of a magisterial district court. That, of course, is not accurate. Every citizen/resident of the County lives in and is served by a district court.
- *The proposal is a result of partisan politics or corruption.* Any belief that either proposal was a result of political motivations or some sort of corruptive motive is offensive and patently false. As detailed above, it is our determination that a review of the data and information provided by the AOPC, along with the local conditions of the judicial district, lead to the conclusion that only nine district courts are necessary for the administration of justice. There are two different ways to align the districts, either of which accomplishes that end.
- *District Court 27-3-01 is a busy court.* District Court 27-3-01 does not carry a heavy judicial workload within our county; in reality it is primarily a traffic court. District 27-3-01 is the third-smallest district court by workload and lacks an elected MDJ. During the course of the vacancy, we have needed Senior MDJs to provide coverage just 7 days a month. Proposal II seeks to eliminate two of the three least-busy districts when measured by workload.

VIII. Public Comments – Proposal I

Court Administration received 13 timely public comments in response to the Plan. *See Attachment “F.”*

A. Favorable Comments from the General Public

Two general public comments were submitted in favor of the Plan. Todd Pappasergi, Esq., the vice-president of the County Bar Association,¹³ wrote the following:

¹³ Mr. Pappasergi provided a public comment in his personal capacity.

Please accept the following as a comment in favor of the proposed MDJ realignment. As indicated in the report/study following the census and latest statistics for Washington County, the status quo clearly cannot be maintained. Washington County has the highest number of MDJs for 4th class counties, while at the same time having the 4th lowest caseload for the applicable time period. Indeed, Monroe County, with a caseload of approximately 700 cases higher than Washington County, has a stable of only nine MDJs. Even if Washington County would have increased population to classify as a 3rd class county, 11 MDJs still would not be warranted with the current caseload.

Judicial budgets, both at the county and state level, have been under increasing scrutiny and tightening over the past twenty years, and this is a trend that will likely continue. I applaud Court Administration and the Board of Judges for developing a plan that take that budget constraining into account, while simultaneously evenly distributing caseloads and geographic populations. Moreover, phasing the reconfiguration will ensure that litigants, the minor judiciary, and court staff/employees have a smooth and seamless transition into the new MDJ districts.

Similarly, the Court received the below comment from John E. Egers, Jr., Esq., the Chair of the Bar Association's Public Office & Records Committee:¹⁴

I find the proposed plan appropriate. It is clear that the caseloads have dropped and the reduction of districts is necessary from the data provided. As an attorney that practices both in the civil and criminal sides of the minor courts, the consolidation will assist in limiting conflicts not only in my scheduling, but with the scheduling of other private attorneys and Assistant District Attorneys would will have one less court in each of the their two zones of prosecution. Likewise, policing agencies, specifically the state police [,] will have fewer magistrates to schedule with for hearings.

This plan also alleviates the high caseload in the City of Washington with Magistrate Stewart. It also does a fair job of maintaining the identity of the bailiwicks in place, with Washington brought back together with East Washington, [and] with Canonsburg, Houston, Chartiers and Cecil being brought together on one side of Route 19 and North Strabane and Peters Township combined on the other side of Route 19. The elimination of the two districts will allow for the newly defined districts to relocate their offices in a more centralized location to service the wider area they will oversee. In

¹⁴ We assume that Mr. Egers submitted the public comment in his personal capacity.

the recent past, I have been to magistrate offices in this [C]ounty to file a civil suit and noticed that on certain days no activity was occurring. Compare that with Judge Redlinger, now Judge Stewart's office [,] where something is always happening. This is a cost saving measure that is necessary in light of the caseload here and in comparable counties in the remainder of the state. I am in favor the proposed plan.

The comments submitted by both attorneys show an understanding of the goals of reestablishment. The comments, particularly those of Mr. Egers, note the appreciable efficiency gains for litigants, attorneys, prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, and the public. There is also a realization that the proposed realignments bring geographic balance to the magisterial districts.

B. Unfavorable Comments from the General Public

Below are summaries of the topics addressed by the unfavorable public comments in response to Proposal I, and refrains to those comments.

- *Office Location.* While the Plan does eliminate District 27-3-07, it does not address the location of the office for the realigned district. Subject to contractual lease obligations, the Court does not intend to relocate the office for the realigned district from the current location in Smith Township. No other leasehold is in place for the realigned district, and Smith Township is still centrally located within the new district. Moreover, three municipalities (McDonald Borough, Mt. Pleasant Township, and Robinson Township) are added as part of the proposed realignment. Using the municipal buildings as a base, travel time for Mt. Pleasant Township will increase by a single mile post-realignment; McDonald will increase by 5.5 miles; and Robinson will increase by 3.3 miles. No one in these boroughs can presently travel by foot to the magisterial district office; travel in this part, as in most of the County, is dominated by automobile. That will not change after reestablishment. McDonald also provides police services within multiple jurisdictions (*e.g.*, Robinson, Midway, and Burgettstown) inside the realigned magisterial district. This can now be done in a single jurisdiction instead of two.

The office for District 27-3-03 is located at 685 National Pike West, Brownsville, PA 15417. The office is 5 miles from the California Borough building and 5.1-7.1 miles (depending on the route taken) from California University of Pennsylvania. No one is walking from California, PA to the office, which is along Route 40. The office moved from within the Borough of California well over 10 years ago. As it stands now, one traveling on Route 40 goes into District 27-3-02, through 27-3-03, and back into 27-3-02; this will no longer be the case

after consolidation and realignment. Lastly, the office may not even move following implementation of the reestablishment plan, as it will be the only office under lease within the newly formed district.

- *Citizens will no longer be served by a district court.* There is a sentiment among some of the comments that elimination of a district court means that a resident will no longer be part of a district. That, of course, is not accurate. Every citizen/resident of the County lives in and is served by a district court.
- *Claims of Increased Caseload in the Future.* The claims of an increased caseload within the current confines of District 27-3-03 are specious. The 2012 reestablishment plan for Washington County stated the following about District 27-3-03 in then justifying a reestablished district below the 15% deviation standard: “Marcellus Shale drilling is increasing in this district. There will be a Walmart opening in this district in 2012 which [sic] will increase traffic and retail theft filings. The completion of Toll Road 43 will also bring an increase in traffic filings. California University of Pennsylvania is located in this district and it is expanding [sic] and enrollment is increasing.”¹⁵ Since the last reestablishment, the district has seen an average filing increase of 49 cases – the equivalent of a statistical blip. Neither the opening of a Walmart or the completion of Pa Turnpike 43 caused a significant increase in caseload or workload. Enrollment in the state university system just saw its biggest one-year percentage decline in the past decade and lowest enrollment since 1986; it is in the process of merging six of its universities.¹⁶ Enrollment at California University of Pennsylvania dropped 5.4% just this past year, and it is now being merged into Clarion University and Edinboro University to form Pennsylvania Western University. Clearly, there will be more distance learning as those three universities merge. It is even questionable how accurate the 2012 statement was at the time since the State System of Higher Education has been suffering over 10 straight years of declining enrollment, including California University itself which has dropped from 9,400 students in 2010-2011 to the 6,512 students cited in the above article in *The Philadelphia Inquirer*.¹⁷ Simply put, no indicia

¹⁵ See, e.g., <https://www.pacourts.us/Storage/media/pdfs/20210604/110536-file-10197.pdf>.

¹⁶ See, e.g., <https://www.inquirer.com/news/pennsylvania-state-university-enrollment-drop-pandemic-20211011.html> and <https://triblive.com/news/pennsylvania/covid-19-cited-in-pennsylvania-university-enrollment-numbers/>.

¹⁷ <https://www.pennlive.com/news/2021/08/pa-state-universities-looking-at-an-11th-consecutive-year-of-enrollment-decline.html> and https://www.calu.edu/inside/faculty-staff/institutional-research/files/CDS_2010-2011.pdf.

exists on which to project a future influx of cases from District 27-3-03.

IX. MDJ Participation

On July 22, 2022, the President of the Special Courts Judges Association of Pennsylvania contacted the Court concerning the Plan. His letter referred to baseless criticisms that some of the MDJs have raised. The MDJs claim that they were not conferred with as part of this process. This is not accurate. I, along with Court Administration, met in-person with the MDJs on September 17, 2021; Reestablishment was an item of discussion. At the meeting, I informed the MDJs that we had received the data and guidelines from the AOPC. We requested that if any MDJ planned on retiring or not running for another term, to please provide that information to us. Further, the MDJs were told then that a committee would be formed to review the draft plan once it was completed. Importantly, I told them that the committee would have an MDJ representative, and that individual would not be a sitting MDJ to avoid that person having a vested interest in the outcome. This was, in fact, how the reestablishment committee operated, along with representation from the County executive branch, the District Attorney, Public Defender, and Court Administration.

We then met with the MDJs on January 6, 2022, to review the draft plan. A follow-up meeting was scheduled to occur on January 11, 2022, but was postponed at the request of the MDJs. Significantly, on January 24, 2022, 8 of the 10 (the 11th district was vacant) submitted a signed letter evidencing their support for Proposal 1. See Attachment "G." Then, on February 25, 2022, after the public comment period and the day before the submission deadline, the MDJs submitted a second letter, signed by all 10, stating that they were opposed to any reestablishment plan on the basis that an MDJ should not have to run for re-election in a "strange and new district." See Attachment "H." In any case, to say that the MDJs were never conferred with is a meritless claim.

The second claim has been the repeating of the guideline that "there is no goal to eliminate a particular number or percentage of districts [.]". It is my understanding that this guideline refers to the fact that, unlike in 2012, the Supreme Court is not setting forth a blanket quota of reductions in the number of district courts statewide. It is not a prohibition on proposing an elimination(s) if the data and local conditions lead to a determination that it is appropriate to do so.

X. Conclusion

The Supreme Court tasked president judges with fashioning a reestablishment plan that fits their judicial district. The Reestablishment Plan submitted here does just that. The guidelines for reestablishment are simple at

their core: (1) use caseload data to determine how many MDJs your judicial district needs; and (2) draw balanced districts based on judicial workload. There are no guidelines stating to make sure that the MDJs do not have to run for reelection in “strange, new districts,” or to ensure that some of the state’s wealthiest municipalities do not incur speculative costs for their police to drive to a new office location. Nor is there a guideline calling for the MDJs to write the plan (as ours have claimed that a previous president judge let them do in 2011).

President John F. Kennedy once remarked that there are “risks and costs to action. But they are far less than the long range risks of comfortable inaction.” His wisdom is particularly fitting in this matter because a do-nothing, head-in-the-sand approach serves very narrow interests. While those interests can and have been loud in this process, they are not concerned with the betterment and improvement of the judicial system as whole.

State and local resources for the minor judiciary have been inefficiently deployed for the past twenty-plus years. Washington County has seen significant demographic shifts and declining caseloads, but failed to adjust to those realities. This was particularly exacerbated by ignoring any opportunity to address the boundaries and number of magisterial districts in 2011. Further, the MDJs themselves have exposed this basic fact in their various responses to the Court’s proposed reestablishment plan. Not one of the proposals attempted to use objective measures to support an alternative. Rather, there have been misrepresentations and lower-case “p” politics; all in service of facially inadequate ideas that satisfy none of the guidelines for reestablishment, but instead serve the personal and electoral interests of the MDJs themselves.

A neutral analysis of the data and guidelines leaves one conclusion: Washington County should have no more than nine magisterial districts. Nine magisterial districts will meet the caseload and workload needs of Washington County. Nine magisterial districts will have geographical balance while providing access to even the furthest municipalities. Nine magisterial districts will properly allocate the resources of the Commonwealth and County. Nine magisterial districts will deliver the citizens of Washington County with a minor judiciary that meets its needs for the next decade.

The opportunity to reestablish the magisterial district courts only arises every ten years. There was a past failure to address the changes in demographics, caseload, and workload for our County; taking no action or a half-measure now would only compound the existing inequities and inefficiencies. This Reestablishment Plan is equitable, efficient, and long overdue. It satisfies the needs of the citizens of Washington County as they exist in 2022, and not as they were imagined in 2002.

ATTACHMENT “A”

PROPOSAL I

Magisterial District/ Magisterial District Judge	Proposed Municipalities	Effective Date of Proposed Alignment
27-1-01 Kelly J. Stewart	East Washington Borough Washington City	January 1, 2023
27-1-02 Mark A. Wilson	Carroll Township Donora Borough Finleyville Borough Monongahela City New Eagle Borough Nottingham Township Union Township	January 1, 2023
27-1-03 Eric G. Porter	Allenport Borough Bentleyville Borough Charleroi Borough Dunlevy Borough Elco Borough Fallowfield Township Long Branch Borough North Charleroi Borough Roscoe Borough Speers Borough Stockdale Borough Twilight Borough	January 1, 2028
27-2-01 Vincenzo J. Saieva, Jr.	Canonsburg Borough Cecil Township Chartiers Township Houston Borough	January 1, 2023 (Canton Township to Magisterial District 27-3-05) January 1, 2024 (Cecil Township from Magisterial District 27-3-06)
27-3-01 Vacant	North Strabane Township Peters Township	January 1, 2023
27-3-02 Curtis L. Thompson	None – Eliminated	January 1, 2028
27-3-03 Joshua P. Kanalis	Beallsville Borough California Borough Centerville Borough Coal Center Borough Cokeburg Borough Deemston Borough East Bethlehem Borough Ellsworth Borough Marianna Borough North Bethlehem Borough Somerset Township West Bethlehem Township West Brownsville Borough West Pike Run Township	January 1, 2028
27-3-05 Michael L. Manfredi	Canton Township South Strabane Township	January 1, 2023
27-3-06 Louis J. McQuillan	Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township McDonald Borough Midway Borough Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township Smith Township	January 1, 2024
27-3-07 Gary H. Havelka	None – Eliminated	January 1, 2024
27-3-10 John P. Bruner	Amwell Township Blaine Township Buffalo Township Claysville Borough Donegal Township East Finley Township Green Hills Borough Hopewell Township Independence Township Morris Township North Franklin Township South Franklin Township West Finley Township West Middletown Borough	January 1, 2023

PROPOSAL II

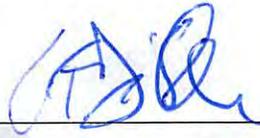
Magisterial District/ Magisterial District Judge	Proposed Municipalities	Effective Date of Proposed Alignment
27-1-01 Kelly J. Stewart	East Washington Borough Washington City	January 1, 2023
27-1-02 Mark A. Wilson	Carroll Township Donora Borough Finleyville Borough Monongahela City New Eagle Borough Nottingham Township Union Township	January 1, 2023
27-1-03 Eric G. Porter	Allenport Borough Bentleyville Borough Charleroi Borough Dunlevy Borough Elco Borough Fallowfield Township Long Branch Borough North Charleroi Borough Roscoe Borough Speers Borough Stockdale Borough Twilight Borough	January 1, 2028
27-2-01 Vincenzo J. Saieva, Jr.	Canonsburg Borough Houston Borough North Strabane Township	January 1, 2023
27-3-01 Vacant	None – Eliminated	January 1, 2023
27-3-02 Curtis L. Thompson	None – Eliminated	January 1, 2028
27-3-03 Joshua P. Kanalis	Beallsville Borough California Borough Centerville Borough Coal Center Borough Cokeburg Borough Deemston Borough East Bethlehem Borough Ellsworth Borough Marianna Borough North Bethlehem Borough Somerset Township West Bethlehem Township West Brownsville Borough West Pike Run Township	January 1, 2028
27-3-05 Michael L. Manfredi	Chartiers Township North Franklin Township South Strabane Township	January 1, 2023
27-3-06 Louis J. McQuillan	Cecil Township McDonald Borough Peters Township	January 1, 2023
27-3-07 Gary H. Havelka	Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township Midway Borough Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township Smith Township	January 1, 2023
27-3-10 John P. Bruner	Amwell Township Blaine Township Buffalo Township Canton Township Claysville Borough Donegal Township East Finley Township Green Hills Borough Hopewell Township Independence Township Morris Township South Franklin Township West Finley Township West Middletown Borough	January 1, 2023

ATTACHMENT “B”

Judicial District Summary Worksheet – Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheet in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint. Complete one worksheet or one for each county if you are a joint judicial district.

Judicial District Number:	27	County:	Washington	Class of County:	4
<p>1. List the existing magisterial districts in your judicial district (##-##-##):</p> <p>27-1-01 27-2-01 27-3-03 27-3-07</p> <p>27-1-02 27-3-01 27-3-05 27-3-10</p> <p>27-1-03 27-3-02 27-3-06</p>					
Caseload Analysis					
2. Average total caseloads:		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>		<i>Avg for Class of County</i>	
		A.	4,151	B.	4,150
3. Compare the difference between the caseload average of your judicial district to the class of county.		<i>Difference (2A - 2B)</i>		<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>	
		1		6th	out of 9
4. Is your judicial district caseload average at the lower end of the caseload range when compared to the other judicial districts in your class of county?				Yes	
Proposed Actions					
5. Are any magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment? If YES , list the magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment (no changes).					No
6. Are any magisterial district proposed for realignment? If YES , list the magisterial districts proposed for realignment (changes).					Yes
27-1-01 27-3-01 27-3-10					
27-1-02 27-3-03					
27-1-03 27-3-05					
27-2-01 27-3-06					
7. Are any magisterial districts proposed for elimination? If YES , list the magisterial districts proposed for elimination.					Yes
27-3-02					
27-3-07					

Additional Workload Factors	
8. Do you have a night court operating within the judicial district?	No
9. Do you have a central court within your judicial district?	Yes
10. Do you have any special programs that will entail effort by the MDJs such as truancy programs or drug, DUI, veteran, or mental health diversion programs? If YES , briefly explain the types of programs.	No
Final Checklist	
11. Was a request for public comment posted?	Yes
12. Method of posting - electronic, physical copy, or both?	Both
13. Were media outlets notified?	Yes
14. Were public comments received?	Yes
15. Did you include a copy of the posting and public comments in your submission?	Yes
16. Did you complete summary worksheets for all magisterial districts?	Yes
17. Did you include your petition and all supporting documentation, if applicable?	Yes
18. Did you confer with the MDJs in your county?	Yes
19. Additional Remarks	
As Washington County is 651 people short of being classified as a 3rd class county and multiple municipalities have indicated that they are appealing their 2020 Federal census numbers, we have computed our data points for this worksheet as both a 3rd and 4th class county.	
Verification of Submission	
20. Date submitted to AOPC:	
21. President Judge Name: John F. DiSalle	
Signature	 7/21/2022

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	27-1-01	County:	Washington <input style="float: right;" type="text"/>
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign <input style="float: right;" type="text"/>		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 7,522	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		3371	1st <input style="float: right;" type="text"/> out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		3372	81 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 59,853	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		25,656	75 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Kelly J. Stewart	1/2/28	12/31/47	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
90 W. Chestnut St., Suite 200 Washington PA 15301			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes	<input type="button" value="v"/>	
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes	<input type="button" value="v"/>	
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes	<input type="button" value="v"/>	
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure	<input type="button" value="v"/>	
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Washington City			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-70, I-79, US Route 19, US Route 40, PA Route 18, PA Route 844			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
North Franklin Township Washington City			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No	<input type="button" value="v"/>	
East Washington Borough Washington City			
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-1-01: 6,601 Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074 Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150 Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 59%		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-1-01: 52,491 Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797 Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: 26%	

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-1-02	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,444	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-707	6th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-706	-17 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 33,255	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-942	-3 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Mark A. Wilson	12/31/23	12/31/32	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
604B Park Ave. Monongahela PA 15063			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Carroll Township, Donora Borough, Monongahela City			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
PA Route 43, PA Route 88, PA Route 136, PA Route 481, PA Route 837			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Carroll Township Donora Borough Monongahela City New Eagle Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
Carroll Township Donora Borough Finleyville Borough Monongahela City New Eagle Borough Nottingham Township Union Township			
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-1-02: 4,678		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-1-02: 41,538	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -0.6%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 13%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	27-1-03	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/2/2028	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 4,268	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		117	4th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		118	3 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 34,302	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		105	0.3 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information															
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:															
Eric G. Porter	1/4/26	12/31/49													
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>												
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:															
416 Fallowfield Ave. Charleroi PA 15022															
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes														
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes														
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes														
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure														
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.															
Charleroi Regional, RESA Regional															
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.															
I-70, PA Route 88, PA Route 136, PA Route 481, PA Route 917															
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.															
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Allenport Borough</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Roscoe Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charleroi Borough</td> <td>Speers Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunlevy Borough</td> <td>Stockdale Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elco Borough</td> <td>Twilight Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fallowfield Township</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Charleroi Borough</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				Allenport Borough	Roscoe Borough	Charleroi Borough	Speers Borough	Dunlevy Borough	Stockdale Borough	Elco Borough	Twilight Borough	Fallowfield Township		North Charleroi Borough	
Allenport Borough	Roscoe Borough														
Charleroi Borough	Speers Borough														
Dunlevy Borough	Stockdale Borough														
Elco Borough	Twilight Borough														
Fallowfield Township															
North Charleroi Borough															
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No														
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Allenport Borough</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Long Branch Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bentleyville Borough</td> <td>North Charleroi Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charleroi Borough</td> <td>Roscoe Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunlevy Borough</td> <td>Speers Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elco Borough</td> <td>Stockdale Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fallowfield Township</td> <td>Twilight Borough</td> </tr> </table>				Allenport Borough	Long Branch Borough	Bentleyville Borough	North Charleroi Borough	Charleroi Borough	Roscoe Borough	Dunlevy Borough	Speers Borough	Elco Borough	Stockdale Borough	Fallowfield Township	Twilight Borough
Allenport Borough	Long Branch Borough														
Bentleyville Borough	North Charleroi Borough														
Charleroi Borough	Roscoe Borough														
Dunlevy Borough	Speers Borough														
Elco Borough	Stockdale Borough														
Fallowfield Township	Twilight Borough														
20. Additional Comments:															
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-1-03: 5,184		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-1-03: 41,633													
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797													
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -0.4%													
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 25%															

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-2-01	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,402	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-749	7th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-748	-18 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 33,987	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-210	-.6 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Vincenzo J. Saieva, Jr.	1/4/26	12/31/43	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
68 E. Pike St., Suite 205 Canonsburg PA 15317			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?			Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.			No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Canonsburg Borough, Chartiers Township, Houston Borough			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-79, PA Route 18, PA Route 519, PA Route 980			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Canonsburg Borough Canton Township Chartiers Township Houston Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).			No
Canonsburg Borough Cecil Township Chartiers Township Houston Borough			
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-2-01: 5,520		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-2-01: 40,935	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -2%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 33%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-01	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,734	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-417	5th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-416	-10 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 24,453	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-9,744	-28 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Vacant <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	12/31/23 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>
<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
453 Valleybrook Rd., Suite 100 McMurray PA 15317	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
Monongahela City, Peters Township	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
US Route 19, PA Route 88, PA Route 136, PA Route 837	
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
Finleyville Borough Nottingham Township Peters Township Union Township	
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No
North Strabane Township Peters Township	
20. Additional Comments:	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-01: 6,197 Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074 Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150 Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 49%	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-01: 41,334 Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797 Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -1%

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-02	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Eliminate		2. Effective date: 1/2/2028	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 2,332	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-1819	11th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-1818	-44 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 19,674	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-14,523	-42 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Curtis L. Thompson	1/2/28	12/31/31	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
900 Main St., Suite 120 Bentleyville PA 15314			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?			Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.			No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Beallsville Borough, Southwest Regional, West Pike Run Township			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-70, US Route 40, PA Route 136, PA Route 519, PA Route 917			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Beallsville Borough	North Bethlehem Township		
Bentleyville Borough	Somerset Township		
Cokeburg Borough	West Bethlehem Township		
Deemston Borough	West Pike Run Township		
Ellsworth Borough			
Marianna Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).			No
None			
20. Additional Comments:			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-03	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/2/2028	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,315	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		-836	8th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-835	-20 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 31,137	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-3,060	-9 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Joshua P. Kanalis <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/4/26 <i>Birthdate</i>	12/31/49 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>	 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
685 National Pike West Brownsville PA 15417			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
California Borough, California University, Centerville Borough, East Bethlehem Township, Southwest Regional, West Brownsville Borough			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
PA Route 43, PA Route 88, PA Route 481			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
California Borough Centerville Borough Coal Center Borough East Bethlehem Township Long Branch Borough West Brownsville Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
Beallsville Borough	East Bethlehem Township	West Brownsville Borough	
California Borough	Ellsworth Borough	West Pike Run Township	
Centerville Borough	Marianna Borough		
Coal Center Borough	North Bethlehem Township		
Cokeburg Borough	Somerset Township		
Deemston Borough	West Bethlehem Township		
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-03: 4,731		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-03: 43,480	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: 4%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 14%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-05	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 6,815	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		2664	2nd out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		2665	64 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 53,751	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		19,554	57 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Michael L. Manfredi <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/4/26 <i>Birthdate</i>
	12/31/48 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>
	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
1929A Route 519 Canonsburg PA 15317	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	Yes
North Strabane Township - Multiple housing developments planned South Strabane Township - Multiple housing developments planned	
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
North Strabane Township, South Strabane Township	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
I-70, I-79, US Route 19, US Route 40, PA Route 136, PA Route 519, PA Route 980	
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
East Washington Borough North Strabane Township South Strabane Township	
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No
Canton Township South Strabane Township	
20. Additional Comments:	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-05: 4,032 Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074 Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150 Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: -3%	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-05: 39,882 Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797 Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -5%

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-06	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2024	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 4,785	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		634	3rd out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		635	15 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 32,615	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-1,582	-5 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information					
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:					
Louis J. McQuillan <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/2/28 <i>Birthdate</i>	12/31/48 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>	12/31/48 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>		
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:					
3441 Millers Run Rd Cecil Town Center Suite 103 Cecil PA 15321					
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes				
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes				
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes				
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure				
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.					
Cecil Township, McDonald Borough, Mt. Pleasant Township					
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.					
I-79, US Route 18, US Route 22, PA Route 50, PA Route 576, PA Route 980					
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.					
Cecil Township McDonald Borough Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township					
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No				
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township McDonald Borough Midway Borough </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;"> Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township Smith Township </td> </tr> </table>				Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township McDonald Borough Midway Borough	Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township Smith Township
Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township McDonald Borough Midway Borough	Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township Smith Township				
20. Additional Comments:					
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-06: 4,779		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-06: 46,544			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797			
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: 11%			
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 15%					

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-07	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Eliminate		2. Effective date: 12/31/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,198	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		-953	9th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-952	-23 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 33,931	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-266	-.8 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Gary H. Havelka	12/31/23	12/31/35	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
2038 Smith Township State Rd, Suite 3 Burgettstown PA 15021			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Jefferson Township, Smith Township, McDonald Borough			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
US Route 22, PA Route 18			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township Midway Borough Smith Township			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
None			
20. Additional Comments:			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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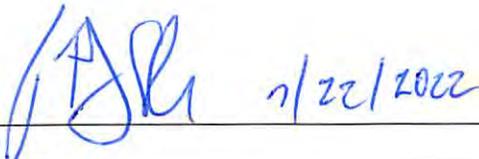
Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-10	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 2,852	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-1299	10th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-1298	-31 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 19,215	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-14,982	-44 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
John P. Bruner	1/2/28	12/31/46	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
200 Buffalo Center Lane, Suite C Washington PA 15301			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?			Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.			No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Donegal Township			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-70, I-79, US Route 19, US Route 40			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Amwell Township	Green Hills Borough	West Middletown Borough	
Blaine Township	Hopewell Township		
Buffalo Township	Independence Township		
Claysville Borough	Morris Township		
Donegal Township	South Franklin Township		
East Finley Township	West Finley Township		
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).			No
Amwell Township	Green Hills Borough	West Finley Township	
Blaine Township	Hopewell Township	West Middletown Borough	
Buffalo Township	Independence Township		
Claysville Borough	Morris Township		
Donegal Township	North Franklin Township		
East Finley Township	South Franklin Township		
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-10: 3,945		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-10: 28,336	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -32%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: -5%			

Judicial District Summary Worksheet – Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheet in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint. Complete one worksheet or one for each county if you are a joint judicial district.

Judicial District Number:	27	County:	Washington	Class of County:	4	▼				
<p>1. List the existing magisterial districts in your judicial district (##-##-##):</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-1-01 27-2-01 27-3-03 27-3-07</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-1-02 27-3-01 27-3-05 27-3-10</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-1-03 27-3-02 27-3-06</p>										
Caseload Analysis										
2. Average total caseloads:					<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>		<i>Avg for Class of County</i>			
					A. 4,151			B. 4,150		
3. Compare the difference between the caseload average of your judicial district to the class of county.					<i>Difference (2A - 2B)</i>		<i>Ranking</i>		<i>Total</i>	
					1	6th		out of 9		
4. Is your judicial district caseload average at the lower end of the caseload range when compared to the other judicial districts in your class of county?							Yes			
Proposed Actions										
5. Are any magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment?							No			
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">If YES, list the magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment (no changes).</p>										
6. Are any magisterial district proposed for realignment?							Yes			
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">If YES, list the magisterial districts proposed for realignment (changes).</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-1-01 27-3-03 27-3-10</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-1-02 27-3-05</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-1-03 27-3-06</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-2-01 27-3-07</p>										
7. Are any magisterial districts proposed for elimination?							Yes			
<p style="margin-left: 40px;">If YES, list the magisterial districts proposed for elimination.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-3-01</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">27-3-02</p>										

Additional Workload Factors	
8. Do you have a night court operating within the judicial district?	No
9. Do you have a central court within your judicial district?	Yes
10. Do you have any special programs that will entail effort by the MDJs such as truancy programs or drug, DUI, veteran, or mental health diversion programs? If YES , briefly explain the types of programs.	No
Final Checklist	
11. Was a request for public comment posted?	Yes
12. Method of posting - electronic, physical copy, or both?	Both
13. Were media outlets notified?	Yes
14. Were public comments received?	Yes
15. Did you include a copy of the posting and public comments in your submission?	Yes
16. Did you complete summary worksheets for all magisterial districts?	Yes
17. Did you include your petition and all supporting documentation, if applicable?	Yes
18. Did you confer with the MDJs in your county?	Yes
19. Additional Remarks	
Verification of Submission	
20. Date submitted to AOPC:	
21. President Judge Name: John F. DiSalle	
Signature	 2/22/2022

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-1-01	County:	Washington <input type="button" value="v"/>
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign <input type="button" value="v"/>		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 7,522	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		3371	1st <input type="button" value="v"/> out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		3372	81 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 59,853	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		25,656	75 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Kelly J. Stewart	1/2/28	12/31/47	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
90 W. Chestnut St., Suite 200 Washington PA 15301			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		<input type="button" value="v"/>
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		<input type="button" value="v"/>
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		<input type="button" value="v"/>
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		<input type="button" value="v"/>
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Washington City			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-70, I-79, US Route 19, US Route 40, PA Route 18, PA Route 844			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
North Franklin Township Washington City			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		<input type="button" value="v"/>
East Washington Borough Washington City			
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-1-01: 6,601		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-1-01: 52,491	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: 26%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 59%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-1-02	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,444	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		-707	6th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-706	-17 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 33,255	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-942	-3 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Mark A. Wilson	12/31/23
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>
12/31/32	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
604B Park Ave. Monongahela PA 15063	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
Carroll Township, Donora Borough, Monongahela City	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
PA Route 43, PA Route 88, PA Route 136, PA Route 481, PA Route 837	
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
Carroll Township Donora Borough Monongahela City New Eagle Borough	
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No
Carroll Township Donora Borough Finleyville Borough Monongahela City New Eagle Borough Nottingham Township Union Township	
20. Additional Comments:	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-1-02: 4,678	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-1-02: 41,538
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074	Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150	Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -0.6%
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 13%	

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-1-03	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/2/2028	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 4,268	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		117	4th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		118	3 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 34,302	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		105	0.3 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information															
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:															
Eric G. Porter	1/4/26	12/31/49													
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>												
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:															
416 Fallowfield Ave. Charleroi PA 15022															
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes														
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes														
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes														
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure														
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.															
Charleroi Regional, RESA Regional															
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.															
I-70, PA Route 88, PA Route 136, PA Route 481, PA Route 917															
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.															
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Allenport Borough</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Roscoe Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charleroi Borough</td> <td>Speers Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunlevy Borough</td> <td>Stockdale Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elco Borough</td> <td>Twilight Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fallowfield Township</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Charleroi Borough</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				Allenport Borough	Roscoe Borough	Charleroi Borough	Speers Borough	Dunlevy Borough	Stockdale Borough	Elco Borough	Twilight Borough	Fallowfield Township		North Charleroi Borough	
Allenport Borough	Roscoe Borough														
Charleroi Borough	Speers Borough														
Dunlevy Borough	Stockdale Borough														
Elco Borough	Twilight Borough														
Fallowfield Township															
North Charleroi Borough															
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No														
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Allenport Borough</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Long Branch Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bentleyville Borough</td> <td>North Charleroi Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charleroi Borough</td> <td>Roscoe Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunlevy Borough</td> <td>Speers Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elco Borough</td> <td>Stockdale Borough</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fallowfield Township</td> <td>Twilight Borough</td> </tr> </table>				Allenport Borough	Long Branch Borough	Bentleyville Borough	North Charleroi Borough	Charleroi Borough	Roscoe Borough	Dunlevy Borough	Speers Borough	Elco Borough	Stockdale Borough	Fallowfield Township	Twilight Borough
Allenport Borough	Long Branch Borough														
Bentleyville Borough	North Charleroi Borough														
Charleroi Borough	Roscoe Borough														
Dunlevy Borough	Speers Borough														
Elco Borough	Stockdale Borough														
Fallowfield Township	Twilight Borough														
20. Additional Comments:															
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-1-03: 5,184		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-1-03: 41,633													
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797													
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -0.4%													
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 25%															

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-2-01	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,402	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-749	7th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-748	-18 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 33,987	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-210	-.6 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Vincenzo J. Saieva, Jr.	1/4/26	12/31/43	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
68 E. Pike St., Suite 205 Canonsburg PA 15317			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Canonsburg Borough, Chartiers Township, Houston Borough			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-79, PA Route 18, PA Route 519, PA Route 980			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Canonsburg Borough Canton Township Chartiers Township Houston Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
Canonsburg Borough Houston Borough North Strabane Township			
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-2-01: 5,402		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-2-01: 39,938	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -4%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 30%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-01	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Eliminate		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,734	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-417	5th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-416	-10 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 24,453	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-9,744	-28 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
<p>10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Vacant 12/31/23 </p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;"> <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i> <i>Birthdate</i> <i>Term Expiration Date</i> <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i> </p>	
<p>11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;"> 453 Valleybrook Rd., Suite 100 McMurray PA 15317 </p>	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
<p>16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Monongahela City, Peters Township</p>	
<p>17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">US Route 19, PA Route 88, PA Route 136, PA Route 837</p>	
<p>18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;"> Finleyville Borough Nottingham Township Peters Township Union Township </p>	
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">None</p>	
20. Additional Comments:	
<p>Office is currently vacant.</p>	

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-02	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Eliminate		2. Effective date: 1/2/2028	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 2,332	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-1819	11th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-1818	-44 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 19,674	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-14,523	-42 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Curtis L. Thompson	1/2/28	12/31/31	
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
900 Main St., Suite 120 Bentleyville PA 15314			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?			Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?			Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.			No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Beallsville Borough, Southwest Regional, West Pike Run Township			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-70, US Route 40, PA Route 136, PA Route 519, PA Route 917			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Beallsville Borough	North Bethlehem Township		
Bentleyville Borough	Somerset Township		
Cokeburg Borough	West Bethlehem Township		
Deemston Borough	West Pike Run Township		
Ellsworth Borough			
Marianna Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).			No
None			
20. Additional Comments:			
MDJ Thompson has indicated that he is retiring at the end of his current term.			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-03	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/2/2028	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,315	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-836	8th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-835	-20 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 31,137	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-3,060	-9 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Joshua P. Kanalis <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/4/26 <i>Birthdate</i>	12/31/49 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>	 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
685 National Pike West Brownsville PA 15417			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
California Borough, California University, Centerville Borough, East Bethlehem Township, Southwest Regional, West Brownsville Borough			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
PA Route 43, PA Route 88, PA Route 481			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
California Borough Centerville Borough Coal Center Borough East Bethlehem Township Long Branch Borough West Brownsville Borough			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
Beallsville Borough	East Bethlehem Township	West Brownsville Borough	
California Borough	Ellsworth Borough	West Pike Run Township	
Centerville Borough	Marianna Borough		
Coal Center Borough	North Bethlehem Township		
Cokeburg Borough	Somerset Township		
Deemston Borough	West Bethlehem Township		
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-03: 4,731	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-03: 43,480		
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074	Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797		
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150	Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: 4%		
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 14%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number: 27-3-05		County: Washington	
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 6,815	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		2664	2nd out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		2665	64 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 53,751	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		19,554	57 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Michael L. Manfredi <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/4/26 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>
	12/31/48 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
1929A Route 519 Canonsburg PA 15317	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
North Strabane Township, South Strabane Township	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
I-70, I-79, US Route 19, US Route 40, PA Route 136, PA Route 519, PA Route 980	
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
East Washington Borough North Strabane Township South Strabane Township	
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No
Chartiers Township North Franklin Township South Strabane Township	
20. Additional Comments:	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-05: 4,650 Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074 Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150 Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 12%	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-05: 42,108 Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797 Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: 1%

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-06	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 4,785	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		634	3rd out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		635	15 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 32,615	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-1,582	-5 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Louis J. McQuillan <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/2/28 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>
 <i>Birthdate</i>	12/31/48 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
3441 Millers Run Rd Cecil Town Center Suite 103 Cecil PA 15321	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
Cecil Township, McDonald Borough, Mt. Pleasant Township	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
I-79, US Route 18, US Route 22, PA Route 50, PA Route 576, PA Route 980	
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
Cecil Township McDonald Borough Mount Pleasant Township Robinson Township	
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No
Cecil Township McDonald Borough Peters Township	
20. Additional Comments:	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-06: 6,124 Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074 Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150 Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 48%	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-06: 41,364 Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797 Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -1%

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-07	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,198	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-953	9th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-952	-23 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>		<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
	A. 33,931	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-266	-.8 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
Gary H. Havelka <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	12/31/23 <i>Birthdate</i>	12/31/35 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>	12/31/35 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
2038 Smith Township State Rd, Suite 3 Burgettstown PA 15021			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Jefferson Township, Smith Township, McDonald Borough			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
US Route 22, PA Route 18			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Burgettstown Borough Cross Creek Township Hanover Township Jefferson Township Midway Borough Smith Township			
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
Burgettstown Borough	Midway Borough		
Cross Creek Township	Mount Pleasant Township		
Hanover Township	Robinson Township		
Jefferson Township	Smith Township		
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-07: 4,359	Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-07: 41,352		
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074	Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797		
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150	Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -1%		
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: 5%			

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	27-3-10	County:	Washington
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 2,852	B. 4,151	C. 4,150
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		-1299	10th out of 11
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-1298	-31 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 19,215	B. 34,197	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-14,982	-44 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information			
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:			
John P. Bruner <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/2/28 <i>Birthdate</i>	12/31/46 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>	 <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:			
200 Buffalo Center Lane, Suite C Washington PA 15301			
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes		
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes		
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure		
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.			
Donegal Township			
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.			
I-70, I-79, US Route 19, US Route 40			
18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.			
Amwell Township	Green Hills Borough	West Middletown Borough	
Blaine Township	Hopewell Township		
Buffalo Township	Independence Township		
Claysville Borough	Morris Township		
Donegal Township	South Franklin Township		
East Finley Township	West Finley Township		
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No		
Amwell Township	East Finley Township	West Finley Township	
Blaine Township	Green Hills Borough	West Middletown Borough	
Buffalo Township	Hopewell Township		
Canton Township	Independence Township		
Claysville Borough	Morris Township		
Donegal Township	South Franklin Township		
20. Additional Comments:			
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Magisterial District 27-3-10: 3,938		Avg. Proposed Workload - Magisterial District 27-3-10: 32,269	
Avg. Proposed Case Filings - Judicial District: 5,074		Avg. Proposed Workload - Judicial District: 41,797	
Avg. Case Filings - Class of County: 4,150		Avg. Proposed Workload % Above/Below: -23%	
Avg. Proposed Case Filing % Above/Below: -5%			

ATTACHMENT “C”

Magisterial District Revision County-wide Districts Washington County

PROPOSAL I

Legend

 Municipal Boundary

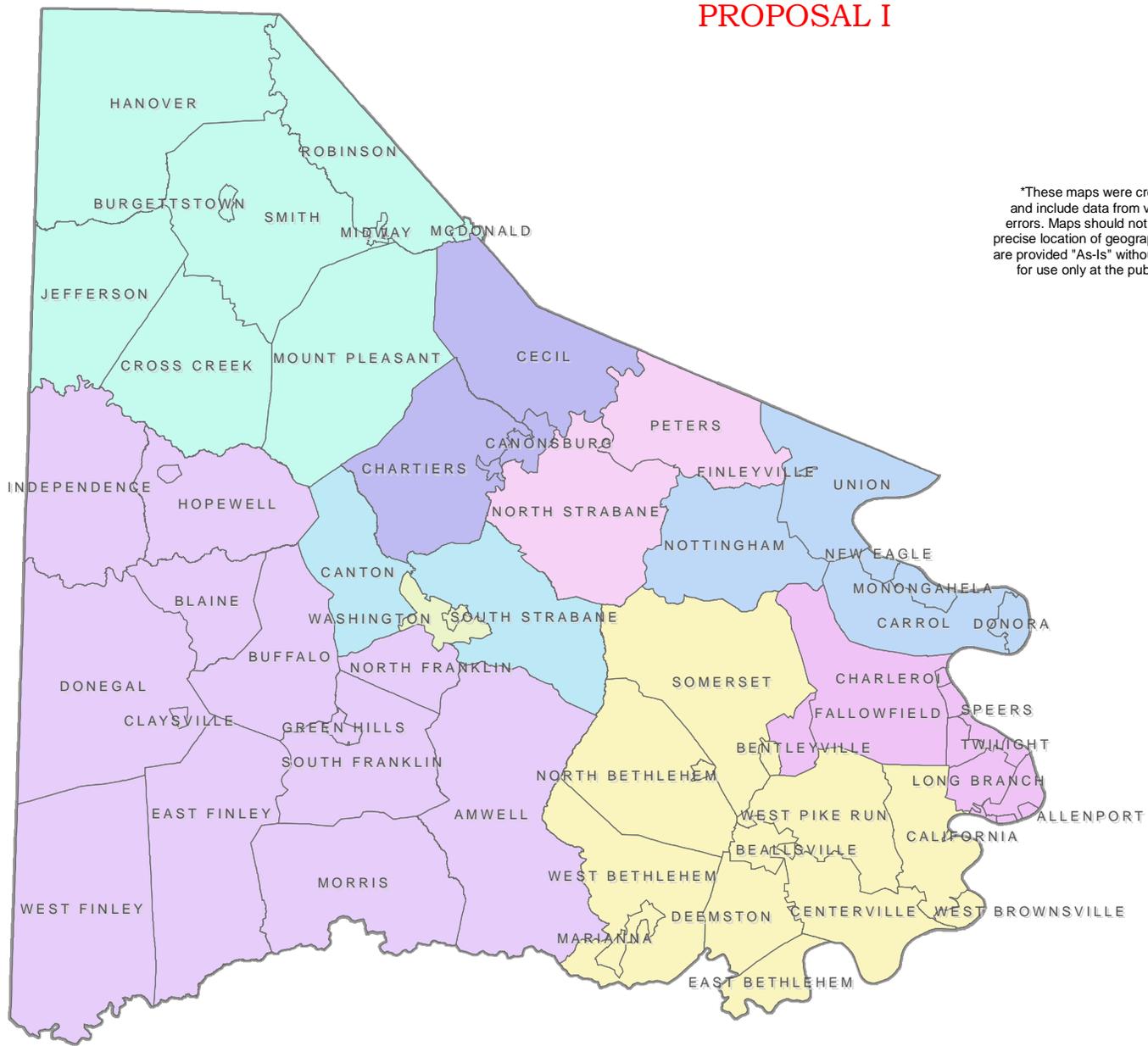


0 15,000 30,000 60,000
Feet

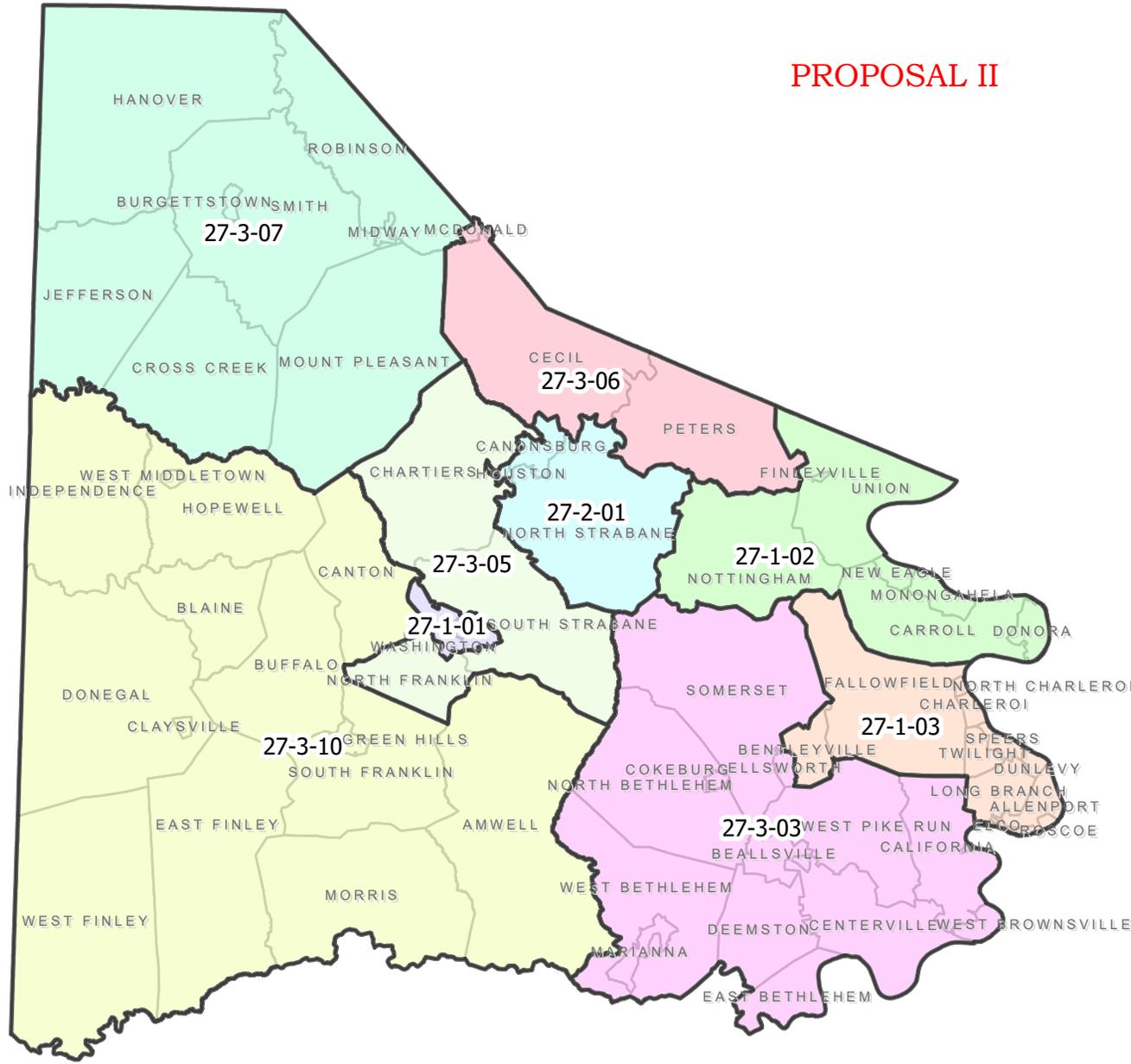
*These maps were created from Washington County's Geographic Information System (GIS) and include data from various municipal, county, state and federal sources, which may contain errors. Maps should not be used for exact measurement of distance, direction, ground position, precise location of geographic features, or a vulnerability assessment at a specific location. Maps are provided "As-Is" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, and are intended for use only at the published scale. Detailed on-the-ground surveys and historical analyses of sites may differ from these maps.

Magisterial Districts

-  27-1-01
-  27-1-02
-  27-1-03
-  27-2-01
-  27-3-01
-  27-3-02 *
-  27-3-05
-  23-3-06
-  27-3-10



PROPOSAL II



Magisterial Districts

- 27-1-01
- 27-1-02
- 27-1-03
- 27-2-01
- 27-3-03
- 27-3-05
- 27-3-06
- 27-3-07
- 27-3-10

Magisterial District District Boundary Update Washington County

*These maps were created from Washington County's Geographic Information System (GIS) and include data from various municipal, county, state and federal sources, which may contain errors. Maps should not be used for exact measurement of distance, direction, ground position, precise location of geographic features, or a vulnerability assessment at a specific location. Maps are provided "As-Is" without warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, and are intended for use only at the published scale. Detailed on-the-ground surveys and historical analyses of sites may differ from these maps.

Legend

Municipal Boundary



ATTACHMENT “D”

Below is a timeline of the reestablishment process that occurred in Washington County.

- On September 17, 2021, the Court met with the MDJs. At that time, the MDJs were advised that the reestablishment process was beginning, and that a committee would be formed with the MDJ representative being a magisterial district judge who either had or was about to take senior status. This was so that no MDJ on the committee would have a stake in the outcome. In accordance with the reestablishment instructions,¹ the Court requested that any retirement plans be made known, and encouraged all of the MDJs to provide any information they may have felt was relevant to the reestablishment process.
- Between September 17 and late November 2021, Court Administration analyzed the AOPC provided information and data for the County, and worked to formulate a proposal for the Committee's review. It is important to note that during this time period, the MDJs did not provide any information regarding trends or issues in their districts, and did not attempt to discuss the reestablishment with the President Judge or District Court Administrator.
- On December 16, 2021, the Committee met to review a draft reestablishment proposal. The Committee consisted of the following individuals: the President Judge, District Court Administrator, Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts, a soon-to-retire Magisterial District Judge, the District Attorney and First Assistant, the Public Defender, and a representative of the County executive branch.
- The Committee reviewed the draft proposal. There were in-depth discussions of all the changes. The most extensive discussion centered on whether to split the wards of the most populous city, Washington, into two different magisterial districts. The consensus was not to split the wards, and the resulting proposal was unanimously approved.
- On January 6, 2022, a meeting was held with the MDJs to review the proposed Plan. A copy of the memorandum enclosing the Plan is attached. The meeting lasted for over 2 hours, and involved detailed discussions of the proposal.

¹ The instructions state that the process should begin by *conferring* with the MDJs to gain input concerning (1) any retirement plans; or (2) trends or issues the magistrates have seen in their districts. The instructions make clear that the President Judge of a judicial district has “the final say” in making a recommendation to the Supreme Court. In the explanatory material provided by the AOPC, it was also relayed that the Court is not required to have a committee, or, if one is created, that the MDJs are not entitled to pick, constitute, or dictate the process.

- A second meeting was scheduled with the MDJs for January 11, 2022, to provide an opportunity for any further comments or alternate proposals. That meeting was postponed, at the request of MDJ Joshua Kanalis, due to a COVID-19 issue among the MDJs. The email string detailing the delay is attached.
- MDJ Kanalis submitted an “alternate” proposal on January 12, 2022. The alternate proposal purported to be on behalf of all the MDJs; however, multiple MDJs contacted either the President Judge or Court Administration to indicate that they had no involvement or knowledge of the alternate proposal. MDJ Kanalis’ proposal called for the status quo to remain, except the combination of Districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-03 (the latter being MDJ Kanalis’ district) in a different year than proposed by the Court.²
- On January 13, 2022, the Court published a proposed reestablishment Plan on its website at www.washingtoncourts.us, with a deadline of February 14, 2022, for public comment. Subsequently, notice of the proposal was published in two newspapers of general circulation and the official legal journal for the County. Email notification was also made to the municipalities in the County utilizing email addresses provided by the County Finance Director.
- On January 18, 2022, the Court held a second meeting with the MDJs. At that time, no written alternatives were set forth by the MDJs. They did not offer any information regarding trends or issues in their districts. However, it was requested that Court Administration try to create an alternative that utilized District 27-3-01 (which was vacated on January 3, 2022) in a different manner. Following a few days to study and re-analyze the data, Court Administration provided an alternative proposed map that still contained the elimination of two districts but realigned the magisterial districts differently. This alternative was summarily rejected by the overwhelming majority of the MDJs.
- On January 21, 2022, a front-page article on reestablishment was run by the *Observer-Reporter*, the largest newspaper in the County.

² It should be noted that at no time throughout this process has any MDJ (including the two that are affected) proposed an alternative that does not combine Districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-03. Rather, the question has been whether to realign and consolidate those districts into a single district in 2026 or 2028. An effective date of 2026 causes the elimination of MDJ Kanalis’ district; delaying that date by 2 years eliminates MDJ Thompson’s district.

- On January 24, 2022, 8 of the 10 active MDJs delivered a signed letter to the President Judge stating that they were in favor of the published (Plan) for reestablishment.
- On February 11, 2022, a Common Pleas Board of Judges meeting was held and the topic of reestablishment was discussed. It was the consensus that the proposed realignment created an overall better map and distribution of the magisterial workload for the judicial district. There was some discussion that the data supported further reducing the magisterial districts to 8 and not just 9. Much of the discussion, however, centered on the effective date for the consolidation and realignment of districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-03.
- On February 14, 2022, the Court received yet another “alternative” proposal from MDJ Kanalis (the alternative proposal was dated January 21, 2022). The proposal was provided by MDJ Havelka because MDJ Kanalis apparently was unable to use a scanner. The alternative called for the elimination of only one magisterial district,³ and called for engaging in judicial machinations to move significant swaths of traffic cases and parking citations from one district to another to redistribute case numbers. Significantly, the alternative admittedly did not consider workload at all, and justified ignoring the Supreme Court’s instructions by making unsubstantiated assertions about projected growth in rural areas and projected population stagnation in the County’s bustling central corridor (the opposite of everything that has happened in the last decade).
- The Court responded to the February 14, 2022, “alternative” by email to all the MDJs, and asked for a response to five concerns raised by the alternative. Again, the President Judge and Court Administration were contacted directly by multiple MDJs to say that they either did not know about this alternate proposal and/or did not agree with it. Subsequent to responding, it was brought to the Court’s attention that the alternative was actually backdated to January 21, 2022.
- At the close of business on February 14, 2022, the public comment period ceased. The Court received twelve timely public comments in total. Those comments are detailed later in this memorandum.
- On February 17, 2022, MDJ Havelka contacted the District Court Administrator and informed him that he was retiring at the end of his term, on December 31, 2023. This would allow for the elimination of MDJ

³ Again, there was agreement to combine Districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-03, the only difference was the effective date being in 2028.

Havelka's current district (27-3-07) by attrition, and subsequent realignment and consolidation as called for in the published proposal. In the course of discussing the Plan, the Court Administrator indicated that there were no plans to close or move the physical office location from its current location, which was a relief to MDJ Havelka. On February 23, 2022, MDJ Havelka met with the President Judge and intimated his intention to retire based on the acceptance of the proposal.

- On February 24, 2022, MDJ Thompson submitted a letter to the President Judge and District Court Administrator stating that he would not seek reelection at the end of his current term. MDJ Thompson, the longest serving of all of the MDJs, requested that his district be eliminated and realigned into Districts 27-3-03 and 27-1-03.
- On February 24, 2022, in consideration of the communications from MDJs Thompson and Havelka, and after final review prior to submission of the proposed Plan, it was decided to adjust the effective date of the realignment and consolidation of Districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-03 from 2026 to 2028. MDJ Thompson (District 27-3-02) has indicated that he will not run for another term at the conclusion of his current term at the end of 2027. The Court did not feel that this adjustment was a significant modification of the proposed plan as originally published and advertised.
- On February 25, 2022, the MDJs submitted a fourth alternative plan. See attached (please note that it is dated February 23, but was hand delivered on February 25). This plan barely differs from the one provided on January 12, 2022. While apparently now satisfying the MDJs after 44 days of reflection, this plan does not comport with any of the guidelines for reestablishment. This plan, like all others submitted, misrepresents adherence to caseload analysis, ignores workload equity, and blatantly bases the plan on individual political considerations of the MDJs.
- After submission and review of the original proposal, the AOPC determined that the adjustment of the effective date of realignment and consolidation of Magisterial Districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-03 was, in fact, a significant modification and informed the Court that the proposal must be re-advertised. It was also recommended by the AOPC that the Court consider the use of the current vacancy in Magisterial District 27-3-01 for one of the eliminated districts.
- On May 20, 2022, the Court published a second proposed reestablishment Plan on its website at www.washingtoncourts.us, with a deadline of June

21, 2022, for public comment. Subsequently, notice of the proposal was published in two newspapers of general circulation and the official legal journal for the County. Email notification was also made to the municipalities in the County utilizing email addresses provided by the County Finance Director.

- On May 25, 2022, a front-page article on reestablishment was run by the *Observer-Reporter*, the largest newspaper in the County.
- At the close of business on June 21, 2022, the public comment period ceased. Those comments are detailed later in this memorandum.

ATTACHMENT “E”

PROPOSAL I

MDJ Reestablishment Proposal Summary									
Magisterial District	Filings - Annual Average Current	Current # of Staff	Filings - Annual Average Proposed	Proposed # of Staff	Workload - Annual Average Current	Deviation from Judicial District Average [a]	Deviation from Judicial District Average [b]	Workload - Annual Average Proposed	Deviation from Judicial District Average [c]
27-1-01	7,522	5.0	6,601	5.0	59,853	+75.02%	+43.20%	52,491	+25.59%
27-1-02	3,444	3.0	4,678	3.5	33,255	-2.75%	-20.44%	41,538	-0.62%
27-1-03	4,268	3.0	5,184	4.0	34,302	+0.31%	-17.93%	41,633	-.39%
27-2-01	3,402	3.0	5,520	4.0	33,987	-.61%	-18.69%	40,935	-2.06%
27-3-01	3,734	3.0	6,197	5.0	24,453	-28.49%	-41.50%	41,334	-1.11%
27-3-02	2,332	2.0	4,731	3.5	19,674	-42.47%	-52.93%	43,480	+4.03%
27-3-03	3,315	2.5	-	-	31,137	-8.95%	-25.50%	-	-
27-3-05	6,815	5.0	4,032	3.0	53,751	+57.18%	+28.60%	39,882	-4.58%
27-3-06	4,785	3.5	4,779	4.0	32,615	-4.63%	-21.97%	46,544	11.35%
27-3-07	3,198	2.5	-	-	33,931	-0.78%	-18.82%	-	-
27-3-10	2,852	2.0	3,945	3.0	19,215	-43.81%	-54.03%	28,336	-32.21%
Totals	45,667	34.5	45,667	35.0	376,173	-	-	376,173	-

All data was provided by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.

Traffic, Non-Traffic, Private Summary, Criminal, Private Criminal, and Civil filings were averaged over a 6-year period from 2014-2019.

Miscellaneous filings were average over a 3-year period from 2017-2019.

Average filing counts are used for judicial district comparison and staffing purposes only. The current metric is 1 staff member per 1,500 filings. Staffing is recommended at 1 staff member per 1,200-1,400 filings. For the purpose of this proposal, the metric of 1 staff member per 1,300 filings was used.

Average workload is used for the purpose of magisterial district realignment. The workload calculation differentiates between treating all case types the same and acknowledging that a different level of effort is required for different types of cases. No magisterial district should have a total workload which is 15% higher or lower than the workload of any other district in the judicial district. If a departure of that degree exists, an explanation must be provided.

[a] represents the deviation from judicial district average based on 11 magisterial district judges using *current* magisterial district lines.

[b] represents the deviation from judicial district average based on 9 magisterial district judges using *current* magisterial district lines.

[c] represents the deviation from judicial district average based on 9 magisterial district judges using *proposed* magisterial district lines.

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA } SS
COUNTY OF
WESTMORELAND }

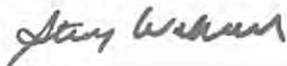
Stacy Wolford, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Managing Editor of the Mon Valley Independent, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Monessen, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

January 27, 2022, January 29, 2022, February 01, 2022, February 03, 2022, February 05, 2022, February 08, 2022, February 10, 2022, February 12, 2022

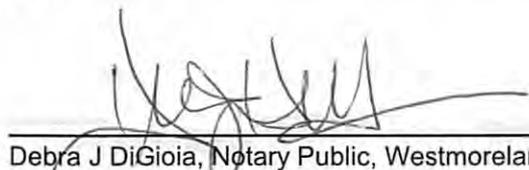
That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



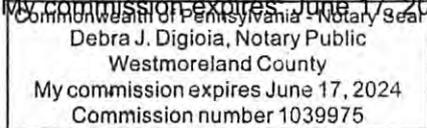
Managing Editor

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 12th day of February 2022.



Debra J DiGioia, Notary Public, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

My commission expires June 17, 2024



Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries
00005888 00055016

Kathy Tarr
Washington Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information & instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link:

<https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=131/27,29;2/1,3,5,8,10,12>

Government Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information & instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link:
<https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=131/27,29;2/1,3,5,8,10,12>

Republic of Kazakhstan - Ministry of Justice

Свидетельство о номере 1036819
на регистрацию архива от 11.03.04
Министерство юстиции
Республика Казахстан - Юридический департамент

Handwritten signature

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 3:48 PM
Subject: Notice of Proposed Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District (Washington County)

Pursuant to Article V, § 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution and 42 Pa. Con. Stat. Ann. § 1503, following the Federal decennial census, the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County is required to evaluate and submit a plan to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to (1) reestablish; (2) realign; and/or (3) eliminate, the individual magisterial districts of the County.

Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link:
<https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=13>. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on February 14, 2022, as set forth in the notice to the public.

Public notice of this proposal will be advertised in the *Observer-Reporter* and *Mon Valley Independent* during the comment period. The headline story of the Friday, January 21, 2022, edition of the *Observer-Reporter* may also be referenced as an additional source of information.

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

Contact	Borough/Township	Email Address		Mailing Address
Stephen Luncinski	Allenport Borough	allenport15412@yahoo.com	allenport15412@yahoo.com;	P.O. Box 186, 1850 Main Street, Allenport, PA 15412
H. Wayne Montgomery	Amwell Township	amwelltownship@comcast.net	amwelltownship@comcast.net;	885 Amity Ridge Road, Amity, PA 15311
Mayor Scott Miles	Beallsville Borough	beallsvilleboro@gmail.com	beallsvilleboro@gmail.com;	P.O. Box 6, 82A South Street, Beallsville, PA 15313
Mayor Thomas Brown	Bentleyville Borough	btvboro@fairpoint.net	btvboro@fairpoint.net;	900 Main Street, Suite 101, Bentleyville, PA 15314
Fred Moore	Blaine Township	blainetwp@gmail.com	blainetwp@gmail.com;	P.O. Box 128, 40 Main Street, Taylorstown, PA 15365
James Arbore	Buffalo Township	supervisors@buffalotwp.com	supervisors@buffalotwp.com;	400 Buffalo Center Lane, Washington, PA 15301
Mayor Mary Ann Reedy	Burgettstown Borough	burgsec1@brdband.com	burgsec1@brdband.com;	1509 Main Street, Burgettstown, PA 15021
Mayor Dr. Frank Stetar	California Borough	cbst15419@yahoo.com	cbst15419@yahoo.com;	225 Third Street, California, PA 15419
Mayor David Rhome	Canonsburg Borough	cmunch@canonsburgboro.com	cmunch@canonsburgboro.com;	68 East Pike Street, Canonsburg, PA 15317
Tom Bodnovich	Canton Township	cantontwp@yourcanton.com	cantontwp@yourcanton.com;	1265 W. Chestnut Street, Washington, PA 15301
Thomas Rapp	Carroll Township	carrolltownship@comcast.net	carrolltownship@comcast.net;	130 Baird Street, Monongahela, PA 15063
Cindy Fisher	Cecil Township	recp@ceciltownship.com	recp@ceciltownship.com;	3599 Millers Run Road, Cecil, PA 15321
Mayor Dylan Lamp	Centerville Borough	office@centervilleboro.org	office@centervilleboro.org;	100 East End Road, Brownsville, PA 15417
Mayor Edward Bryner	Charleroi Borough	bcs0@charleroiboro.org	bcs0@charleroiboro.org;	338 Fallowfield Avenue, Charleroi, PA 15022
Gary Friend	Chartiers Township	jnoble@chartierstwp.com	jnoble@chartierstwp.com;	2 Buccaneer Drive, Houston, PA 15342
Patricia D. Brown	Claysville Borough	claysville2003@yahoo.com	claysville2003@yahoo.com;	P.O. Box 423, 117 Main Street, Claysville, PA 15323
Mayor Joanne Staley	Coal Center Borough	municipalsecretary2007@gmail.com	municipalsecretary2007@gmail.com;	P.O. Box 174, 132 Water Street, Coal Center, PA 15423
Mayor Carol Basara	Cokeburg Borough	secretary@cokeburgboro.com	secretary@cokeburgboro.com;	P.O. Box 474, 99 Washington St., Cokeburg, PA 15324
Dean F. Casciola	Cross Creek Township	township@hky.com	township@hky.com;	28 Clark Avenue, Avella, PA 15312
Mayor Robert Longdon	Deemston Borough	deemston@atlanticbbn.net	deemston@atlanticbbn.net;	1622 Morey Road, Fredericktown, PA 15333
Richard Fidler	Donegal Township	donegaltownship@gmail.com	donegaltownship@gmail.com;	P.O. Box 310, 34 N. Liberty Sreet, West Alexander, PA 15376
Mayor James McDonough	Donora	manager@donoraboro.org	manager@donoraboro.org;	603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, PA 15033
Becky Hammond	Dunley Borough	dunlevyboro@gmail.com	dunlevyboro@gmail.com;	P.O. Box 18, 2 Walnut Street, Dunlevy, PA 15432
Jasen Henck	East Bethlehem Township	ebtwp@atlanticbb.net	ebtwp@atlanticbb.net;	P.O. Box 687, 36 Water St., Fredericktown, PA 15333
Roy Ealy, Jr.	East Finley Township	eastfinley@verizon.net	eastfinley@verizon.net;	1394 East Finley Drive, Claysville, PA 15323
Mayor Michael Gomber	East Washington Borough	secretary@eastwash.com	secretary@eastwash.com;	15 Thayer Street, Washington, PA 15301
Mayor Frank Kennedy	Elco Borough	raymek@zoominternet.net	raymek@zoominternet.net;	P.O. Box 194, Elco, PA 15434
Mayor Michael Gazi	Ellsworth Borough	lbr@atlanticbb.net	lbr@atlanticbb.net;	P.O. Box 545, 23 Main Street, Ellsworth, PA 15331
Bruce Smith	Fallowfield Township	kt@fallowfieldtownship.org	kt@fallowfieldtownship.org;	9 Memorial Drive, Charleroi, PA 15022
Mayor Mike Kutsek	Finleyville Borough	finleyvilleborough@yahoo.com	finleyvilleborough@yahoo.com;	3515 Washington Avenue, Finleyville, PA 15332
Mayor Terry George	Green Hills Borough	dgrass1506@hotmail.com	dgrass1506@hotmail.com;	2755 Park Avenue, Washington, PA 15301
Dale Handick	Hanover Township	hanovertwp@comcast.net	hanovertwp@comcast.net;	11 Municipal Drive, Burgettstown, PA 15021
Mary Rush	Hopewell Township	Parkview20Avella@yahoo.com	Parkview20Avella@yahoo.com;	20 Parkview Road, Avella, PA 15312
Mayor James Stubenbort	Houston Borough	houstonborough@comcast.net	houstonborough@comcast.net;	42 Western Avenue, Houston, PA 15342
Thomas Jennings	Independence Township	indtwpwashco@hky.com	indtwpwashco@hky.com;	34 Campbell Street, P.O. Box E, Avella, PA 15312
Christopher Lawrence	Jefferson Township	pgragan.jeffersonstwp@hotmail.com	pgragan.jeffersonstwp@hotmail.com;	670 Cedar Grove Road, Burgettstown, PA 15021
Mayor Josphe DeBlasio, Jr.	Long Branch Borough	lbsec@zoominternet.net	lbsec@zoominternet.net;	440 Mt. Tabor Road, Coal Center, PA 15423
	Marianna Borough	mariannaborough@yahoo.com	mariannaborough@yahoo.com;	P.O. Box 368, 1 Procasky Road, Marianna, PA 15345
Mayor David Cooper	McDonald Borough	mmaximovich@mcdonaldboro.com	mmaximovich@mcdonaldboro.com;	151 School Street, McDonald, PA 15057
				P.O. Box 574, 304 Noblestown Road, Suite 10, Midway, PA 15060
Mayor Karen Bartosh	Midway Borough	midboro@comcast.net	midboro@comcast.net;	
Mayor Gregory Garry	City of Monongahela	tgido@cityofmonongahela-pa.gov	tgido@cityofmonongahela-pa.gov;	449 West Main Street, Monongahela, PA 15063
Robert J. Sanders	Morris Township	morrilstwp@morrilstwpwashco.org	morrilstwp@morrilstwpwashco.org;	P.O. Box 34, 77 Park Drive, Prosperity, PA 15329
Gary Farner	Mount Pleasant Township	mpt@mpt-pa.com	mpt@mpt-pa.com;	31 McCarrell Road, Hickory, PA 15340
Mayor Chas Fine	New Eagle Borough	neboro@comcast.net	neboro@comcast.net;	157 Main Street, New Eagle, PA 15067
				P.O. Box 112, 2178 East National Pike, Scenery Hill, PA 15360
Robert L. Taylor	North Bethlehem Township	northbeth4644@yahoo.com	northbeth4644@yahoo.com;	
Mayor Steve Hega	North Charleroi Borough	norcharborough@gmail.com	norcharborough@gmail.com;	555 Walnut Avenue, Charleroi, PA 15022

Robert A. Sabot	North Franklin Township	j.kotchman@nftwp.com	j.kotchman@nftwp.com;	620 Franklin Farms Road, Washington, PA 15301
Neil Kelly	North Strabane Township	nst@northstrabanetwp.com	nst@northstrabanetwp.com;	1929 State Roue 519, Canonsburg, PA 15317
Todd E. Flynn	Nottingham Township	nottinghamtwp@comcast.net	nottinghamtwp@comcast.net;	909 Sugar Run Road, Eighty Four, PA 15330
David M. Ball	Peters Township	dmball@peterstownship.com	dmball@peterstownship.com;	610 East McMurray Road, McMurray, PA 15317
Mary Donaldson	Robinson Township	cbrown@robinsonpa.gov	cbrown@robinsonpa.gov;	8400 Noblestown Road, McDonald, PA 15057
Mayor Thomas J. Wilkinson	Roscoe Borough	roscoeborough@yahoo.com	roscoeborough@yahoo.com;	P.O. Box 502, 500 Arthur Avenue, Roscoe, PA 15477
Thomas A. Schilinski	Smith Township	secretary@smithtownship.org	secretary@smithtownship.org;	P.O. Box 94, 1848 Smith Township State Road, Slovan, PA 15078
James Bockstoce	Somerset Township	somerset@bentcom.net	somerset@bentcom.net;	615 Vanceville Road, Eighty Four, PA 15330
William H. Cline	South Franklin Township	korlosky@southfranklintwp.com	korlosky@southfranklintwp.com;	100 Municipal Road, Washington, PA 15301
Thomas Moore	South Strabane Township	shumensky@southstrabane.com	shumensky@southstrabane.com;	550 Washington Road, Washington, PA 15301
Mayor William R. Lee	Speers Borough	admin@bspeers.comcastbiz.net	admin@bspeers.comcastbiz.net;	300 Phillips Street, Charleroi, PA 15022
Mayor Michael Lee	Stockdale Borough	stockdaleboro@live.com	stockdaleboro@live.com;	P.O. Box 398, 402 Locust Street, Stockdale, PA 15483
Mayor Amanda Minardi	Twilight Borough	twilightboro@comcast.net	twilightboro@comcast.net;	8 Chestnut Road, Charleroi, PA 15022
Heather L. Daerr	Union Township	secretary@uniontwp.com	secretary@uniontwp.com;	3904 Finleyville-Elrama Road, Finleyville, PA 15332
Mayor Scott Putnam	City of Washington	washington.cityclerk@gmail.com	washington.cityclerk@gmail.com;	55 West Maiden Street, Washington, PA 15301
Thomas E. Donahoo	West Bethlehem Township	wbtp1@fairpoint.net	wbtp1@fairpoint.net;	P.O. Box 309, 247 Jefferson Ave., Marianna, PA 15345
Mayor Lindsey Bennett	West Brownsville Borough	westbrownsvilleboro@yahoo.com	westbrownsvilleboro@yahoo.com;	235 Main Street, West Brownsville, PA 15417
Robert D. Scherich	West Finley Township	westfinley@aol.com	westfinley@aol.com;	401 Beham Ridge Road, West Alexander, PA 15376
Mayor Donald Umphrey	West Middletown Borough	west_middletown@yahoo.com	west_middletown@yahoo.com;	P.O. Box 95, 18 West Main Street, West Middletown, PA 15379
Rick Molish	West Pike Run Township	238Township@gmail.com	238Township@gmail.com;	238 Pike Run Drive, Daisytown, PA 15427

Public Notices

B8 THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2022 OBSERVER-REPORTER

Public Notices

Notice is hereby given that the 2022 Annual Meeting on Wednesday, February 9 at 5:15 pm. The meeting will be held at the GCUW office in Waynesburg and is open to the public. For more information, please call 724-852-1009 or email info@greenecountyunitedway.org.

Meeting

The East Dunkard Meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed changes to the East Dunkard Meeting minutes and to elect officers for the coming year.

Bids

Sealed proposals will be opened on January 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Courthouse, Room 100, 15001, upon receipt of the proposals. The proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes and must be accompanied by a check for \$500.00 as a bid security. The check should be payable to the order of the Board of Directors of the Charter Area School District. The proposals should be submitted to the Charter Area School District, 125 Fecsen Drive, Charter, PA 15022. For more information, please contact the Charter Area School District at www.charterpa.org.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Directors of the Charter Area School District will receive sealed bids until 12:00 p.m. prevailing time, Thursday, February 10, 2022, to be open on that same date and time in the Administration Building, 125 Fecsen Drive, Charter, PA 15022 for the following:

LEGAL NOTICE

On Tuesday, February 15, 2022, the Canon-McMillan School District will receive bids for Movable Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment for the New Middle School, 100 Big Mac Boulevard, Canonburg, PA 15317. Bids will be received up to 2:00 P.M. to the attention of Jurdon Maier, Director of Facilities and Transportation, at the Central Administration Office, 1 North Jefferson Ave., Canonburg, PA 15317. Project Documents are available by contacting Jurdon Maier at jmaier@cmsd.k12.pa.us. Bidders will receive a public link to the Project Documents. No hard copies will be distributed and no deposit is required.

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Sealed Bids will be received at the Charter Area School District, 125 Fecsen Drive, Charter, PA 15022, on Thursday, January 20, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the bid is to replace the existing labor, materials, and equipment for the maintenance of the Charter Area School District. The bid is for the following:

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WC
ALTY
th Confidence

owl and the Orange
two sporting bowls
ed in January 1925.

Advertising Information

address:
er-reporter.com
ad, please use
nly. Please call to
d was received.
724-223-2639

umber:
0 ext. 2485
00 pm Mon.-Fri.



DINING ROOM SET
Macys Bordeaux, Okema mahogany, includes 6 chairs, rectangular table, pads, china cabinet. \$2,500 or best offer. 724-745-1324.

DINING SET - Glass top table (44.75" round by 29.75 high), 4 chairs. Paid \$800. Asking \$300. 724-926-3023

DOG CAGE - Medium/large 36" folding, galvanized. \$30. 724-926-3023

DRYER (electric) - Whirlpool Supreme, heavy duty XL capacity, 3 cycles/5 temperatures. \$250. 724-926-3023

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR - \$350. Call in evening 724-693-9844

Classifieds



SOLD*

OR MORE



Kathy Tarr

From: mconte@yourmvi.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 10:37 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: RE: Public Notice

Ok perfect – thank you so much

Thank You,
Michele Conte
Classified Advertising
The Mon Valley Independent
1719 Grand Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062
724-314-0031
mconte@yourmvi.com

From: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtongcourts.us>
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:36 AM
To: mconte@yourmvi.com
Subject: RE: Public Notice

Hi Michele,

Instead of Wednesday, Friday, Sunday, let's do Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday. Please run on the following days:

Thursday, January 27, 2022
Saturday, January 29, 2022
Tuesday, February 1, 2022
Thursday, February 3, 2022
Saturday, February 5, 2022
Tuesday, February 8, 2022
Thursday, February 10, 2022
Saturday, February 12, 2022

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtongcourts.us

From: mconte@yourmvi.com <mconte@yourmvi.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtongcourts.us>
Subject: RE: Public Notice

Hi Kathy,

Unfortunately, we do not have a Sunday publication, and Monday's are e-edition only. Which other days do you prefer (instead of: Sundays 30 & 6), if any?

Thank You,
Michele Conte
Classified Advertising
The Mon Valley Independent
1719 Grand Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062
724-314-0031
mconte@yourmvi.com

From: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:45 PM
To: mconte@yourmvi.com
Subject: RE: Public Notice

Hi Michele,

In the Classified section under public notices.

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

From: mconte@yourmvi.com <mconte@yourmvi.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:40 PM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: RE: Public Notice

Hi Kathy,

You would like this advertised in the Classified section under public notices or the front part of the newspaper?

Thank You,
Michele Conte
Classified Advertising
The Mon Valley Independent
1719 Grand Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062
724-314-0031
mconte@yourmvi.com

From: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:28 PM
To: mconte@yourmvi.com
Subject: Public Notice

Hi Michelle,

I was given your name as the point of contact for running a public notice. If you are not the correct person, please let me know.

We would like the following published as a Public Notice:

Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=13>.

Please publish on the following dates and bill to Washington County:

Wednesday, January 26, 2022
Friday, January 28, 2022
Sunday, January 30, 2022
Wednesday, February 2, 2022
Friday, February 4, 2022
Sunday, February 6, 2022
Wednesday, February 9, 2022
Friday, February 11, 2022

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 11:56 AM
To: 'orclass@observer-reporter.com'
Subject: Public Notice

We would like the following published as a Public Notice:

Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=13>.

Please publish on the following dates:

~~Thursday~~ ²⁷
~~Wednesday~~, January 26, 2022
Friday, January 28, 2022
Sunday, January 30, 2022
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Friday, February 4, 2022
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Wednesday, February 9, 2022
Friday, February 11, 2022

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

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Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

Kathy Tarr

From: David Finder
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 2:14 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: FW: Notice to the Bar

From: Kathy Sabol - WCBA <kathy@washcobar.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 20, 2022 3:58 PM
To: David Finder <david.finder@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Re: Notice to the Bar

Will do!
K

On Thu, Jan 20, 2022 at 3:52 PM David Finder <david.finder@washingtoncourts.us> wrote:

Kathy,

Can you put this in the next e-mail blast and the next legal journal?

Notice to the Profession:

Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link:

<https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=13>. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on February 14, 2022, as set forth in the notice to the public.

Patrick R. Grimm, Esq.

District Court Administrator

Washington County Court of Common Pleas

Thanks,

Dave

David J. Finder, Esq.

Deputy Court Administrator

(724) 228-6798

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Sent from Gmail Mobile Kathleen L. Sabol Executive Director Washington County Bar Association 119 S. College St.
Washington, PA 15301 724-225-6710

WASHINGTON COUNTY REPORTS

Vol. 102

JANUARY 27, 2022

No. 28

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Pennsylvania and the official legal notices and
advertisements of the several courts of the
County of Washington, Pennsylvania.



SERVING THE LEGAL COMMUNITY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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FOR RETURN SERVICE: 119 S. College St., Washington, PA 15301

**PERIODICAL PUBLICATION. DATED MATERIAL.
DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY.**

MOTIONS COURT SCHEDULE

Judge	COMPLETE info at www.washingtoncourts.us/101/Judges
DiSalle, John (PJ) CR#2	Until further order, all motions, incl. Criminal & Orphans' Court, shall be handled remotely via email or fax to chambers. Filing party must notify all necessary parties that a motion is being filed and if motion is contested. Contested motions shall include a scheduling order. Motions for Modification of Bail or Release from Probation must be circulated first to Probation/Pretrial Services & DA's Office for acknowledgment of objection or consent. An advance copy of any Orphan's Court motion shall be sent to the Audit Attorney or Guardianship Clerk, where applicable.
Gilman, Gary CR#1	Tu, W, Th and Fr at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Civil, 16th-end of the month. Copy of motion due before noon the business day prior to scheduled presentation. Motions in person. May be remote upon request.
Costanzo, Valarie CR#3	Motions on Tu, Th at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Criminal: Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov, Dec. Motions in person.
Lucas, Michael CR#6	M 1:15p and Tu, W, Th 8:45a; also Fr 8:45a when Civil Judge of the Term, 1st-15th of each month. Motions in person.
Neuman, Brandon CR#4	Tu, W, Th at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Criminal: Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec. Motions to be signed up with chambers Motions Inbox at least 24hrs in advance. Motions in person.
McDonald, Traci CR#5	W, Th. Contested motions heard by telephone; contact chambers to schedule. Filing party must notify all necessary parties and the court via email that a motion is being filed. The Court will reply by email a date and time. Proof of consent must accompany all consent motions. All motions must be emailed to billie.jo.pustovrh@washingtoncourts.us and court.crier.mcdonald@washingtoncourts.us
Pettit, Jesse CR#7	Motions on Tu at 9:15am (copies due by Fri noon) and W at 9:15a (copies due by Mon noon).

COURT CALENDARS

Orphans' Court Audit Mar 18, May 13, Jul 14, Sep 16, Nov 18
 Sheriff's Sales Feb 4, Mar 4, Apr 1, May 6, Jun 3

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=13>. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on February 14, 2022, as set forth in the notice to the public.

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Obiter Dictum

From the *AB1 Journal Daily Newsletter*: [1] According to a 4-3 decision of the Florida Supreme Court, an app that connected traffic ticket defendants with lawyers was engaged in the unauthorized practice of law. The court ruled against the now defunct company, TIKD Services and its founder and CEO. The Florida Bar had sued TIKD and lost an initial round when a referee found no unlicensed practice because the app offered only administrative and financial services. The Florida Supreme Court disagreed: “As a non-lawyer, TIKD simply lacks the skill or training to ensure the quality of the legal services provided to the public through the licensed attorneys it contracts with, nor does it possess the ability to ensure compliance with the rules of professional conduct.” [2] A new California law allows civil suits against sexual partners who remove a condom during sex without consent, a practice known as “stealthing.” California governor Newsom signed a measure into law making California the first state in the nation to specifically ban the practice. [3] The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit has invalidated a Michigan township’s ordinance requiring property owners to replace trees that they remove from their property or pay into a tree fund, determining that such ordinance was an unconstitutional condition on their rights under the takings clause. [4] Federal prosecutors are seeking a ten year sentence for two lawyers who pled guilty to a single charge in a Molotov cocktail attack on an empty New York City police car during racial justice protests. Prosecutors say a terrorism enhancement should apply to the sentences. [5] An Ohio judge has been suspended by the Ohio Supreme Court for a year for ordering a court spectator to take a drug test and then sentencing her to jail when she refused. The incident happened in March 2020. The spectator was in court because her boyfriend was accused of violating probation by failing to appear at a county drug program and was sitting quietly in the back of the courtroom for her boyfriend’s case to be called. [6] The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit has upheld a police policy to temporarily seize guns from people transported for a mental health evaluation following a domestic incident, after determining that the guns seizure policy falls within a special needs exception to the 4th Amendment’s warrant requirement. [7] A five million dollar lawsuit was recently filed claiming that Kellogg misled consumers about the composition of the fruit fillings in its strawberry pop tarts, alleging that the filling in the whole grain toaster pastry contains more pears and apples than strawberries.

Note: O.D. does not necessarily reflect the views of the employees, officers, and/or members of the Washington County Bar Association. O.D. is not an editorial, it is a compilation of items about the law, attorneys, and related matters. It is not intended to endorse or promote any particular point of view.

WASHINGTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

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ESTATE NOTICES

FIRST PUBLICATION

Ashmore, Adrian R.

Late of Bulger, Smith Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63220076

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Karen Ashmore, 1552
Treasure Lake, DuBois, PA 15801
Attorney: Donald S. Mazzotta, Esq., 1370
Navahoe Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15228

WCR Vol 102 Issues 28,29,30

Bender, Grace I.

a/k/a Grace Bender
a/k/a Grace Irene Bender
a/k/a Grace Irene Chilensky Bender
Late of Burgettstown
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0063

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Lisa Ann Marshall c/o
Attorney: Peter K. Darragh, Esq., P.O.
Box 435, Hickory, PA 15340

WCR Vol 102 Issues 28,29,30

Craig, Shirley J.

a/k/a Shirley Jean Craig
Late of Canton Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0036

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make

known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Gordon C. Craig, 1024 Breezewood Dr., Canonsburg, PA 15317
Attorney: Mark S. Riethmuller, Esq.,
Speakman, Reithmuller & Allison, 6 S.
Main St., Ste. 614, Washington, PA
15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 28,29,30

Ingram, Garth Andrew

Late of Canonsburg
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Diane Patricia McLeod,
280 Sunnyside Rd., Bonfield, ON
POH1EO

Attorney: Tamora L. Reese, Esq., 87 E.
Maiden St., Ste. 22, Washington PA
15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 28,29,30

Marche Sr., Lawrence A.

Late of Monongahela
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2148

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Lawrence A. Marche Jr.,
527 Finley St., Monongahela, PA 15063
Attorney: James W. Haines, Jr., Esq.,
1202 W. Main St., Monongahela, PA
15063

WCR Vol 102 Issues 28,29,30

Willey, Georgia
Late of Allenport
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2108

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Ryan M. Zaph, 1036 Autumn Ave., Morgantown, WV 26508
Attorney: Lisa J. Buday, Esq., P.O. Box 488, California, PA 15419

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 28,29,30

SECOND PUBLICATION

Bricker, Betty B.
a/k/a Betty Brookman Bricker
Late of North Franklin Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0056

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Robin Sue Hughes, 214 Greenhill Dr., Washington PA 15301
Attorney: Susan Mondik Key, Esq., Peacock Keller, LLP, 95 West Beau St., Ste. 600, Washington, PA 15301

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Buydash, Helen
Late of Midway Borough
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Administratrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Administratrix without delay.

Co-Administratrix: Sandy Brower, 130

Old McKee Rd., Oakdale, PA 15071, Co-Administrator, Richard Buydash, 516 Pinkerton Rd., Oakdale, PA 15071,
Attorney: Jeffery P. Derrico, Esq., Greenlee Derrico Posa, LLC, 122 S. McDonald St., McDonald, PA 15057

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Elias, Thomas James
Late of Smith Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2126

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Deborah a. Mueller c/o
Attorney: David C. Brumfield, Esq., AlpernSchubert, P.C., 310 Grant St., Ste. 2727, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Hunter, Mark Eugene
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: James Hunter, 4113 Jefferson Ave., Washington, PA 15301
Attorney: Jessica Roberts, Esq., Neighborhood Attorneys, LLC, 8 East Pine Ave., Washington, PA 15301

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Hunter, John Leroy
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or

attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: James Hunter, 4113 Jefferson Ave., Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Jessica Roberts, Esq., Neighborhood Attorneys, LLC, 8 East Pine Ave., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Johnson, Mary Ann

a/k/a Mary A. Johnson
Late of South Strabane Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executors without delay.

Executors: Stephen T. Johnson, 170 Meadow View Rd., Washington, PA 15301, Emily J. Minor, 98 Meadow View Rd., Washington PA 15301,

Attorney: Cary D. Jones, Esq., Marriner, Jones & Fitch, 6 S. Main St., Ste. 600, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Krause, Florence Marne

Late of West Brownsville
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2079

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Timothy A. Krause, 251 Elm St., Weedsville, PA 15868

Attorney: Lisa J. Buday, Esq., P.O. Box 488, California, PA 15419

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Monticello, III, Peter W.

a/k/a Peter William Monticello, III a/k/a Peter W. Monticello a/k/a Pete Monticello, III a/k/a Peter Monticello a/k/a Pete Monticello

Late of Avella
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-1945

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Charles E. Monticello, Esq. c/o,

Attorney: Peter K. Darragh, Esq., P.O. Box 435, Hickory, PA 15340

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Powell, Millcent J.

Late of Finleyville
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0053

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Kathy Jeannine Marcus, 3742 Yale Ave., Lima, OH 45804

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Shawley, Ralph Richard

Late of East Bethlehem Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Sara Florence McVicker, P.O.

Box 163, Vestaburg, PA 15368
Attorney: Mark S. Riethmuller, Esq.,
 Speakman, Riethmuller & Allison, 6 S.
 Main St., Ste. 614, Washington, PA
 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

Taylor, Jane D.
 a/k/a Jane Dolores Taylor
 Late of McMurray
 Washington Co., PA
 File No. 63-22-0018

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Matthew W. Taylor c/o
Attorney: Daniel M. Flynn, Esq., Michael
 D. Flynn & Assoc., P.C., 2770 South Park
 Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102-3839

WCR Vol 102 Issues 27,28,29

THIRD PUBLICATION

Balaban, Thomas L.
 Late of South Franklin Twp.
 Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Thomas J. Balaban, 2301 Jefferson Ave., Ste. 4, Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Cary D. Jones, Esq., Marriner,
 Jones & Fitch, 6 S. Main St., Ste. 600,
 Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Baltich, John Michael
 Late of Ellsworth
 Washington Co., PA

File No. 63-21-2135

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Brian Baltich, 66 Evans Rd., Charleroi, PA 15022

Attorney: Herman J. Bigi, Esq., Bigi & Walsh Law Offices, 337 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Coleman, Kevin G.
 Late of Canonsburg
 Washington Co., PA
 File No. 63-21-02206

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Georgia Coleman, 309 Martha Dr., Canonsburg, PA 15317

Attorney: Orlando R. Sodini, Esq., Sutter-Williams, LLC, 850 Ridge Ave., Ste. 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15212

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Ferris, Mark Desmul
 Late of Burgettstown
 Washington Co., PA
 File No. 63-21-2208

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Patricia Ferris, 783 Aunt Clara Rd., Burgettstown, PA 15021

Attorney: Gregory P. Diulus, Esq., 4898

Campbells Run Rd., #3, Pittsburgh, PA
15205

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Ford, John Vernon

a/k/a Vernon Ford a/k/a J. Vernon Ford
a/k/a John Ford
Late of Carol Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-19-0657

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Timothy Ford, 288 William Dr.,
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Attorney: John J. Bench, Esq., 240 Executive Dr., Unit 1813, Cranberry Twp., PA
16066

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Fullgraf, Priscilla E.

a/k/a Priscilla Elaine Fullgraf a/k/a
Priscilla Fullgraf a/k/a Elaine Fullgraf
Late of Donegal Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administratrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administratrix without delay.

Administratrix: Helen Fleming c/o

Attorney: Frank Arcuri, Esq., 125 South
College St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Kraushaar, Mark Elwood

a/k/a Mark E. Kraushaar
Late of North Strabane Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2201

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is

hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Brian Elwood Kraushaar, 360
Oak Spring Rd., Canonsburg, PA 15317

Attorney: Dante J. Mancini, Esq., Law
Office of Dante J. Mancini, 3120 Pine-
hurst Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15216

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Longstreath, Johnny Lester

a/k/a Johnny L. Longstreath a/k/a John L.
Longstreath a/k/a John Longstreath
Late of Canton Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2198

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Jon Longstreath, 2768
Jefferson Ave., Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Mark S Riethmuller, Esq.,
Speakman, Riethmuller & Allison, 6 S.
Main St., Ste. 614, Washington, PA
15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

McGuier, Joel R.

Late of East Finley Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-2185

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Executors without delay.

Co-Executors: Andrew A. McGuier, 723
Saline St., Pittsburgh, PA 15207, Devin J.

McGuier, 39 Ivondale St., Pittsburgh, PA 15207, Ian R. McGuier, 124 Pearl St., Apt. 4, Pittsburgh, PA 15224
Attorney: Mark S. Riethmuller, Esq., Speakman, Riethmuller & Allison, 6 S. Main St., Ste. 614, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 26,27,28

Shawley, Elizabeth Carol
 Late of East Bethlehem Twp.
 Washington Co., PA
 File No. 63-22-0002

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Sara Florence McVicker, P.O. Box 163, Vestaburg, PA 15368

Attorney: Mark S. Riethmuller, Esq., Speakman, Riethmuller & Allison, 6 S. Main St., Ste. 614, Washington, PA 15301

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TPR NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

IN RE: RYAN MICHAEL a/k/a RYAN THOMAS MICHAEL

D.O.B. 8/31/2008

CHILD OF: Brandon Michael a/k/a Brandon Thomas Michael a/k/a Brandon T. Michael a/k/a Michael Brandon a/k/a Michael T. Branded a/k/a T. Michael a/k/a Michael Brandon Thomas a/k/a Branded T. Michael a/k/a Brandon Michel

NO: 63-21-1204

Take notice that a Petition for Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights of parent, Brandon Michael a/k/a Brandon Thomas

Michael a/k/a Brandon T. Michael a/k/a Michael Brandon a/k/a Michael T. Branded a/k/a T. Michael a/k/a Michael Brandon Thomas a/k/a Branded T. Michael a/k/a Brandon Michel, to the minor child, Ryan Michael a/k/a Ryan Thomas Michael, will be presented to the Orphans' Court of Washington County, Pennsylvania. Any person wishing to assert parental rights should appear in Courtroom No. 5 of the Washington County Courthouse, Washington, Pennsylvania, for a hearing as to the same on February 10, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

You are warned that even if you fail to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the Court without your being present.

You have the right to be represented at the hearing by an attorney. You should take this notice to your attorney at once. If you do not have an attorney or cannot afford representation, contact the Southwestern Pennsylvania Legal Aid Society, 10 West Cherry Avenue, Washington, Pennsylvania, 15301, (724) 225-6170, to find out where you can obtain legal help.

Paige Eisengart, Caseworker
 Washington County Children & Youth
 Social Service Agency
 95 West Beau Street, Suite 300
 Washington, PA 15301
 Telephone: (724) 228-6884

WCR Vol 102 Issue 28

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICE

Family Members of Everett Glenn McDonough and Gladys G. McDonough are trying to locate the attorney who handled the last will and testament including the revocable living trust from between 2003 and 2016. Both have recently passed and the only paperwork left behind is dated 2003. We are sure their will and testament was revised after that date. Please contact the family at 724-413-5035.

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Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Sabol - Washington County Bar Association <kathy@washcobar.org>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:10 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: WCBA e-News Jan. 24, 2022



New Members

Welcome to WCBA's newest members!

Leah Langhans, Range Resources, Canonsburg
Rosemari J. Fassette, Law Clerk (McDonald), Washington

Need an updated WCBA membership list? Email wcbawashcobar.org. A reminder: the membership list is not sold or provided to anyone except members and is to be used for member-to-member professional communications and not for marketing, commercial, political, or other uses.

Do you know an attorney who is not a member of WCBA? Make the ask! Each and every member makes the organized Bar that much stronger. Visit the [WCBA website](#) to download a copy of the membership application.

Note: per WCBA bylaws, a member opposed to the admission of any individual will have 10 days from the date the new member's name is published to object to the applicant's admission for cause and request that the Board of Directors submit the application to the membership for consideration at its next meeting, which request the Board may accept or reject in its sole discretion.

Mock Trials Scheduled

Volunteers STILL Needed!

There are seven trials scheduled, starting promptly at 4:45pm on the following dates: Feb. 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22. There are an additional two dates scheduled for playoffs, if needed. All will be held via zoom (links will open between 4:15 and 4:30). **Each trial needs a presiding judge, a bailiff, and at least five scoring judges/jurors.**

SIGN-UP ON LINE

Or, download this printable [form](#)

Bonus! As part of our thanks for your assistance, you may apply \$10/trial toward your Winter Bench Bar registration. There is a maximum discount of \$50 per WBB registrant and there is

a limited number of jurors/volunteers needed per trial. Once you score a school's team, you can not score that school in any of that team's subsequent trials. WBB discount only applies if you are "seated" for a trial; if you are selected and are a no-show or arrive too late to be seated, then you will not receive the discount.

News You Can Use & Member News

Notice to the Profession MDJ Stewart - Office Closure, Covid

From Kathy Tarr, Deputy Court Administrator - Special Courts. Due to a COVID-19 issue, the office of MDJ Kelly J. Stewart, Magisterial District 27-1-01, will be closed for the remainder of the week. The office is expected to re-open on Monday, January 31, 2022. **DUI Central Court scheduled for this Friday, January 28, 2022, at Magisterial District 27-1-01 WILL take place as scheduled.**

Notice to the Profession MDJ Districts

From Patrick R. Grimm, District Court Administrator. Following the federal census, the Court has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=13>. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on February 14, 2022, as set forth in the notice to the public.

Condolences

To WCBA Member **Bill Allison** on the Jan. 17, 2022, death of his brother, Robert McCarrell Allison. The Obituary can be viewed [HERE](#). Funeral services were private.

Congratulations

To WCBA Members **Tom Steele** and **Dan Gustine**, who are now partners at Peacock Keller.

Family Law News

Congratulations to former WCBA Member and frequent WBB lecturer Bruce Ferguson, who will be taking a position as Divorce Hearing Officer in Allegheny County. For additional Allegheny County family court news, click [HERE](#).

Local practice tips from Washington County Family Court Administrator Sharon Francis:
Reminder: Divorce & Custody office moved to the Family Court Center 3rd floor with Domestic Relations

New filings for custody & modification of custody no longer need to be dropped off to wait for a judicial signature on the notice. These can be filed at the Prothonotary same day after the initial conference date is scheduled in the Family Law office.

Judge Pettit Motions - please make the draft order the last page in your motions.



CLEs & Events

Feb 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22 (& maybe Mar 1, 2) -- High School Mock Trials -- volunteers needed! Signup today! (register [ONLINE](#) or use [THIS FORM](#))

Feb 23 -- YLD Q1 Meeting & Happy Hour, 4:30-6:30pm, J&D Winery, Racetrack Road. RSVP by email to wcba@washcobar.org. Agenda items to yochumabby@gmail.com

Mar 11 -- Winter Bench Bar, Hilton Garden Inn, Southpointe
7 credits will be available, either in-person or zoom... mix & match any/all 7. Course info and registration form will be ready soon (waiting for one last piece of the puzzle to fall into place!).

Aug 12-14 -- Summer Bench Bar, Oglebay Resort

Nov 18 -- Annual Bar Banquet, Southpointe Golf Club

Jan 11, 2023 -- U.S. Supreme Court Admission (rescheduled from 2021, 2020)



Washington County Bar Association
Washington County Reports
Washington County Bar Foundation
119 South College St., Washington, PA 15301 -- www.washcobar.org



The Washington County Bar Association | 119 S. College St., Washington, PA 15301

[Unsubscribe kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us](mailto:kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us)

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1 Story

Posted on: January 11, 2022

Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC – MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT REESTABLISHMENT 2022

Pursuant to Article V, § 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution and 42 Pa. Con. Stat....
[Read on...](#)

[Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan](#) Home

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Case Participants



Court Calendar



Family / Juvenile



Jury Duty

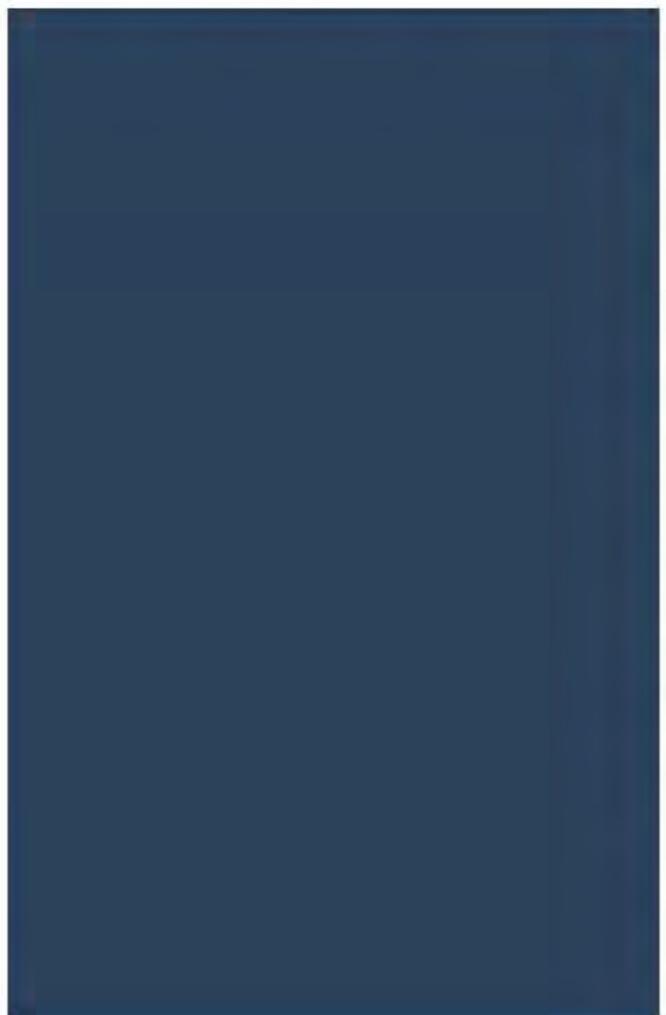


Local Rules & Forms



Motions Court

PROPOSAL II



[Home](#) > [News Flash](#)

[Home](#)

Posted on: May 20, 2022

Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

[Click here to review the Revised Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District.](#)

[Click here for a MDJ Workload Snapshot](#)

The reestablishment plan for Washington County will be available for thirty (30) days to allow for public comment. A copy of the plan may also be made available in hardcopy by contacting Court Administration at (724) 228-6797. Written comments may be directed to Kathy Tarr, Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts, 1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003, Washington, PA 15301, or by email at kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on June 21, 2022. Comments must be specific, directed to the reestablishment plan, and include the full name and address of the sender.

Media inquiries regarding the state-wide process should be directed to Stacey Witalec, AOPC Communications Director, at (717) 231-3324.



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Case Dockets



Protection From Abuse



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Announcements

Mark Your Calendar

[Click here to review the Revised Magisterial District Judge Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District](#)

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Posted on: May 20, 2022

Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

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MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT REESTABLISHMENT PLAN

27th Judicial District

Washington County

2022-2031

AFFP

Proposal Reestablish 27th Dist

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA } SS
COUNTY OF
WESTMORELAND }

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following the federal census, the Washington County Court of Common Pleas has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal, may be found on the Court website, at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=145/26,28,31;6/4,8,11,14,18>

Stacy Wolford, being duly sworn, says:

That she is Managing Editor of the Mon Valley Independent, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Monessen, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

May 26, 2022, May 28, 2022, May 31, 2022, June 04, 2022, June 08, 2022, June 11, 2022, June 14, 2022, June 18, 2022

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates.

SIGNED:



Managing Editor

Subscribed to and sworn to me this 18th day of June 2022.



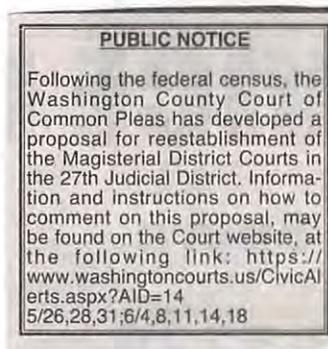
Debra J DiGioia, Notary Public, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania

My commission expires: June 17, 2024

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Notary Seal
Debra J. Digioia, Notary Public
Westmoreland County
My commission expires June 17, 2024
Commission number 1039975

00005888 - 00057922 Association of Notaries

Kathy Tarr
Washington Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301



Commission Expires: 1030012
by Commission Expires: June 11, 2014
Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith
Investment Bankers

Handwritten signature

Notice of REVISED Proposed MDJ Reestablishment Plan - 27th Judicial District (Washington County) - Message (HTML)

File Message Acrobat Tell me what you want to do...

Ignore X Reply Reply Forward Meeting Central Court To Manager Rules OneNote Find Zoom Send to Viva
 Junk - Delete Reply Reply Forward All IM - Team Email Done ✓ Done OneNote Related - Zoom OneNote Insights
 Delete Respond Quick Steps Move Actions Assign Mark Categorize Follow Translate Select Zoom OneNote Viva
 Policy Unread Tags Editing Zoom OneNote Insights



Tue 5/24/2022 3:51 PM

Kathy Tarr

Notice of REVISED Proposed MDJ Reestablishment Plan - 27th Judicial District (Washington County)

To

allenport15412@yahoo.com; anwelltownship@comcast.net; bealsvilleboro@gmail.com; btvboro@fairpoint.net; blainetwp@gmail.com; supervisors@buffalotwp.com; burgsec1@brdband.com; cbst15419@yahoo.com; hr@canonsburgboro.com; cantontwp@yourcanton.com; carrolltownship@comcast.net; recp@cecltownship.com; office@centervilleboro.org; bcso@charleroboro.org; jnoble@charterstwp.com; daysville2003@yahoo.com; municipalsecretary2007@gmail.com; secretary@cokeburgboro.com; township@hky.com; deemston@atlantictbbn.net; donegaltownship@gmail.com; manager@donoraboro.org; dunlevyboro@gmail.com; ebtwp@atlantictbb.net; eastfinley@verizon.net; secretary@eastwash.com; raymek@zoominternet.net; br@atlantictbb.net; kt@fallowfieldtownship.org; finleyvilleborough@yahoo.com; dgrass1506@hotmail.com; hanovetwp@comcast.net; Parkview20Avella@yahoo.com; houstonborough@comcast.net; indtwpwashco@hky.com; pgragan.jeffersonetwp@hotmail.com; bsec@zoominternet.net; mariannaborough@yahoo.com; mmximovich@mcdonaldboro.com; midboro@comcast.net; tgjdo@cityofmonongahela-pa.gov; morristwp@morristwpwashco.org; mpt@mpt-pa.com; neboro@comcast.net; northbeth4644@yahoo.com; norcharborough@gmail.com; j.kotchman@nftwp.com; nst@northstrabanutwp.com;

Pursuant to Article V, § 7 of the Pennsylvania Constitution and 42 Pa. Con. Stat. Ann. § 1503, following the Federal decennial census, the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County is required to evaluate and submit a plan to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts to (1) reestablish; (2) realign; and/or (3) eliminate, the individual magisterial districts of the County.

Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=14>. Comments must be received no later than the close of business on June 21, 2022, as set forth in the notice to the public.

Public notice of this proposal will be advertised in the *Observer-Reporter* and *Mon Valley Independent* during the comment period.

Kathy A. Tarr
 Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
 1 South Main St., Suite 1003
 Washington PA 15301
 Phone: 724-228-6936
 Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

Kathy Tarr

From: mconte@yourmvi.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 12:47 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: public notice
Attachments: Custom.jpg

Hi Kathy,

Please find attached a copy of the notice to run in the Mon Valley Independent on 5/26, 28, 31; 6/4, 8, 11, 14 & 18 – for a total cost of: \$423.00

We will send the invoice, along with the proof of publication, to your attention.

*Thank You, Kathy
Have a Great Day!*

Michele Conte

Classified Advertising

The Mon Valley Independent

1719 Grand Blvd., Monessen, PA 15062

724-314-0031

mconte@yourmvi.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following the federal census, the Washington County Court of Common Pleas has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal, may be found on the Court website, at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=145/26,28,31;6/4,8,11,14,18>

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 10:36 AM
To: orclass@observer-reporter.com
Subject: Public Notice

Please publish the following as a Public Notice:

Following the federal census, the Washington County Court of Common Pleas has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=14>.

Please publish on the following dates:

Thursday, May 26, 2022
Sunday, May 29, 2022
Wednesday, June 1, 2022
Sunday, June 5, 2022
Thursday, June 9, 2022
Sunday, June 12, 2022
Wednesday, June 15, 2022
Friday, June 17, 2022

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Kathy

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

PROPOSAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

Following the federal census, the Washington County Court of Common Pleas has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link:

[https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=14.](https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=14)

5-26,29,6-1,5,9,12,17

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Sabol - Washington County Bar Association
<kathy+washcobar.org@ccsend.com>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 3:04 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: WCBA e-News June 10, 2022

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."



Quick snapshot for the TL;DR Crowd (see Bar Calendar for full details):

NEXT WEEK:

CLE: Cyberstalking/Privacy, Fri., June 17, Noon-2pm, Jury Lounge

REG NOW OPEN:

July 21 Annual Steak Fry, Bar Picnic & Golf Outing. Register ONLINE or use Form

HOT OFF THE PRESS:

July 23 Garden Party Invitation

Juvenile Dependency GAL & Parent Counsel Positions - July 1

From the Court Administrator's Office. Any attorney interested in applying for an appointment as a *guardian ad litem* or parent counsel in juvenile dependency cases may submit a letter of interest to the Court of Common Pleas. *Guardians ad litem* appointments are a contracted position with annual compensation of \$50,000, exclusive of appointments in uncontested or voluntary termination of parental rights cases involving the child. The contract will be limited to representation of 40 children; any appointments in excess of this cap will proceed on an hourly basis. The parent counsel appointments are also for a contracted position. Cases will be billed hourly pursuant to the Court's fee policy with an annual compensation cap of \$50,000. All counsel will be expected to adhere to a code of conduct that includes practice expectations for dependency case representation. A total of 5 *guardian ad litem* and 3 parent attorney positions are available beginning July 1. Interested attorneys should email their interest to Judge Traci McDonald and Patrick R. Grimm, Esq., Court Administrator, at billie.io.pustovrh@washingtoncourts.us and patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us, as soon as possible for consideration.

MDJ Proposal

Comments due June 21

In last week's information the date to comment was incorrectly reported. Comments must be received by June 21 (not June 22). To read the court's second proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District, go to the [Court website](#), where you'll also find the [Explanatory Report and caseload statistics](#).

You are Invited

July 23 Bar Foundation
Fundraiser at Ed's!

The Bar Foundation is holding its second "house party" fundraiser. The first, hosted by Frank & Virginia Roney, was held at their home in December 2019. Covid, however, halted what was intended to be an annual event. This year, it's back, and Ed & Elaine Morascyzk cordially invite you to enjoy the festivities at their home. This lakeside garden party will feature live music by "Almost Sinatra" aka John Noble, Esq., & the Murphy Music Center Big Band; dinner fresh from the grill; fireworks; and more. Open to All -- Bar members, colleagues, clients, family, and friends; \$75pp; sponsorship opportunities also available. Click [HERE](#) for the invitation.

Congrats

2nd place trivia team
nets prize for Bar Foundation

Back in March, there were several Bar- and Court-related teams that entered the Rotary Charity Trivia Contest. Congratulations to "Grimm's Reapers" which came in second place out of 27 teams, garnering a \$750 donation to the Washington County Bar Foundation. The YLD team, "Ruth Bader Winsburg" placed 13 and the Senior Bar's "Nerd Immunity" placed 20. Judge DiSalle's team came in at number 10.

ABA Email Spoof

The ABA is alerting attorneys that there is a spoofing attempt afoot that uses a state bar's name in conjunction with the name of an ABA staff member and part of the ABA's web domain in the email address. If the email scheme has found its way to your inbox, please alert the [Bar office](#) and they will notify the ABA.



Bar Calendar

BLUE indicates a clickable link

Jun 17 -- CLE: "Who's Watching You? Cyber Stalking, Technology & Abuse" (2s), Family Law Section, 12-2pm. FBI trained expert, Steven Bradley, will address tools & tips to use in court in family & criminal law matters related to personal privacy, safety, and the

use/misuse of technology and social media. Learn how cyberstalking occurs, how to detect and prevent it, and how to protect your clients' & your own privacy. (Bonus musical content: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YvAYIJSSZY>.)

June 28 -- Annual Past Presidents Dinner, Angelo's, 4:30-6:30pm (RSVP to Bar office by June 21)

Jul 15 -- CLE: "Interviewing Trauma Victims in Court & for Representation" Family Law Section, 12-2pm (details tba)

Jul 21 -- Annual Bar Picnic, Steak Fry, & Golf Outing, Nemaquin Country Club. Use [link to register online](#) or use [this form](#).

Jul 23 -- Bar Foundation "Garden Party" fundraiser. Hosted by Ed & Elaine Morascyzk on behalf of the Washington County Bar Foundation. 6pm reception, 7pm dinner, 9:30pm fireworks (courtesy of DNT Fireworks). Live music by "Almost Sinatra" -- John Noble, Esq., & the Murphy Music Center Big Band. Join us! Open to All -- Bar members, colleagues, clients, and friends; \$75pp; sponsorship opportunities also available. Click [HERE](#) for the invitation.

Aug 12-14 -- Summer Bench Bar, Oglebay Resort. We are this close to opening registration. Stay tuned for details!

Sep 8 -- Memorial Minutes for John Brzustowicz, Joe Francis (Josh Carroll, lead presenter), Bob Johnson, Bill Speakman (Damon Faldowski, lead presenter). If you would like to make remarks in person or in writing (which will be read into the record), please contact the [Bar office](#) or [Tom Vreeland](#), Chair of the Legal History & Biography subCommittee.

Nov 10 -- Memorial Minutes for Hon. Gus Diamond and Gene Vittone. If you would like to make remarks in person or in writing (which will be read into the record), please contact the [Bar office](#) or [Tom Vreeland](#), Chair of the Legal History & Biography subCommittee.

Nov 18 -- Annual Bar Banquet, Southpointe Golf Club

Dec 9-11 -- CLE Bonus Trip, Key West, FL. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for details! If you are interested in presenting a CLE, we'd love to hear from you!

Jan 11, 2023 -- U.S. Supreme Court Admission (rescheduled from 2020 and 2021). We are "starting over" with registration for this event. If you are interested in participating, please email kathy@washcobar.org to get on the list (only 12 applicants are able to participate; we are up to 10 thus far).

Do you know of an event that may be of interest to the membership? Perhaps even something for which we could pursue CLE accreditation? Contact Kathy at the Bar office!

Washington County Bar Association
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119 South College St., Washington, PA 15301 -- www.washcobar.org



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WASHINGTON COUNTY REPORTS

Vol. 102

JUNE 2, 2022

No. 46

Official Legal Periodical for Washington County, Pennsylvania. Established March 31, 1920.

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SERVING THE LEGAL COMMUNITY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

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DO NOT DELAY DELIVERY.**

MOTIONS COURT SCHEDULE

Judge	COMPLETE info at www.washingtoncourts.us/101/Judges
DiSalle, John (PJ) CR#2	Until further order, all motions, incl. Criminal & Orphans' Court, shall be handled remotely via email or fax to chambers. Filing party must notify all necessary parties that a motion is being filed and if motion is contested. Contested motions shall include a scheduling order. Motions for Modification of Bail or Release from Probation must be circulated first to Probation/Pretrial Services & DA's Office for acknowledgment of objection or consent. An advance copy of any Orphan's Court motion shall be sent to the Audit Attorney or Guardianship Clerk, where applicable.
Gilman, Gary CR#1	Tu, W, Th and Fr at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Civil, 16th-end of the month. Copy of motion due before noon the business day prior to scheduled presentation. Motions in person. May be remote upon request.
Costanzo, Valarie CR#3	Motions on Tu, Th at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Criminal: May, Jul, Sep, Nov, Dec. Motions in person. For complete Standard Operating Procedures: https://www.washingtoncourts.us/194/Valarie-Costanzo NO MOTIONS Court June 7, 9
Lucas, Michael CR#6	M 1:15p and Tu, W, Th 8:45a; also Fr 8:45a when Civil Judge of the Term, 1st-15th of each month. Motions in person.
Neuman, Brandon CR#4	Tu, W, Th at 9:15a. Judge of the Term, Criminal: Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct. Dec. Motions to be signed up with chambers Motions Inbox at least 24hrs in advance. Motions in person.
McDonald, Traci CR#5	W, Th. Contested motions heard by telephone; contact chambers to schedule. Filing party must notify all necessary parties and the court via email that a motion is being filed. The Court will reply by email a date and time. Proof of consent must accompany all consent motions. All motions must be emailed to billie.jo.pustovrh@washingtoncourts.us and court.crier.mcdonald@washingtoncourts.us
Pettit, Jesse CR#7	Motions on Tu at 9:15am (copies due by Fri noon) and W at 9:15a (copies due by Mon noon). NO MOTIONS Court June 7, 8

COURT CALENDARS

Orphans' Court AuditJul 14, Sep 16, Nov 18
 Sheriff's Sales..... Jun 3, July 8, Aug 5

SUPREME COURT Convenes in Pittsburgh.....June 7, Oct 24-28
SUPERIOR COURT Convenes in Pittsburgh..... June 29-July 1
COMMONWEALTH COURT ... Convenes in Pittsburgh..... Oct 11-14

Washington County Reports is owned & published by the Washington County Bar Association, 119 S. College St., Washington, PA 15301. Phone 724-225-6710. Fax 724-225-8345. Email wcbabar.org. Washington County Reports does not edit any legal advertisement for substance or content, only for format.
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OBITER DICTUM

From the *ABA Journal Daily Newsletter*: [1] The Washington Supreme Court has held that a new state law strikes a balance between removing racial covenants from a home title while keeping them part of public record. The new law allows homeowners to obtain a court order to remove the illegal covenants from chains of title. A homeowner then takes the corrected document to county recording officials who place it in the public records with a notation that the original document was corrected. County officials then update the indexes of each original document referenced in the court order, adding a note that the original document is no longer the primary official record. The old document is then maintained separately by the county. The case at issue arose when a homeowner sought to remove racially restrictive covenants in his chain of title and eliminate the restriction from the public record. [2] The Colorado Supreme Court has ruled that the phrase “intended to harass” in the state’s cyber bullying law violates 4th Amendment protections as well as a free speech provision in the state constitution, noting that the phrase “is substantially over broad on its face, impermissibly encroach[ing] on protected speech.” The Colorado law at issue states that a person commits harassment “if, with intent to harass, annoy or alarm another person” they use electronic communication to initiate communication or direct language towards another person “in a manner intended to harass or threaten bodily injury or property damage.” The law also applies to anyone who makes obscene comments through electronic communication. The case arose from an individual who was accused of on-line harassment for a Facebook post alleging that a woman has a sexually transmitted disease addressing the post to anyone who was having sex with the woman. The court severed the phrase “intended to harass” from the statute, leaving in place the ban on electronic communications that are obscene or that threaten bodily injury or property damage. [3] The U.S. Supreme Court has declined to hear challenges to mandatory state bar associations in Michigan, Oklahoma, and Texas. Three federal appeals courts upheld the state bar’s right to collect mandatory bar dues last year “although the victories for Texas and Oklahoma’s bars were not complete.” [4] A Krispy Kreme customer contends, in a recently filed lawsuit, that he found a human tooth inside a “food product” that he purchased at a location in New York City. The Plaintiff’s suit states that the unexpected find was “disgusting and revolting.”

Note: O.D. does not necessarily reflect the views of the employees, officers, and/or members of the Washington County Bar Association. O.D. is not an editorial, it is a compilation of items about the law, attorneys, and related matters. It is not intended to endorse or promote any particular point of view.

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

Following the federal census, the Washington County Court of Common Pleas has developed a proposal for reestablishment of the Magisterial District Courts in the 27th Judicial District. Information and instructions on how to comment on this proposal may be found on the Court website at the following link: <https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=14>.

Obiter Dictum

From the *ABA Journal Daily Newsletter*: [1] The Washington Supreme Court has held that a new state law strikes a balance between removing racial covenants from a home title while keeping them part of public record. The new law allows homeowners to obtain a court order to remove the illegal covenants from chains of title. A homeowner then takes the corrected document to county recording officials who place it in the public records with a notation that the original document was corrected. County officials then update the indexes of each original document referenced in the court order, adding a note that the original document is no longer the primary official record. The old document is then maintained separately by the county. The case at issue arose when a homeowner sought to remove racially restrictive covenants in his chain of title and eliminate the restriction from the public record. [2] The Colorado Supreme Court has ruled that the phrase “intended to harass” in the state’s cyber bullying law violates 4th Amendment protections as well as a free speech provision in the state constitution, noting that the phrase “is substantially over broad on its face, impermissibly encroach[ing] on protected speech.” The Colorado law at issue states that a person commits harassment “if, with intent to harass, annoy or alarm another person” they use electronic communication to initiate communication or direct language towards another person “in a manner intended to harass or threaten bodily injury or property damage.” The law also applies to anyone who makes obscene comments through electronic communication. The case arose from an individual who was accused of on-line harassment for a Facebook post alleging that a woman has a sexually transmitted disease addressing the post to anyone who was having sex with the woman. The court severed the phrase “intended to harass” from the statute, leaving in place the ban on electronic communications that are obscene or that threaten bodily injury or property damage. [3] The U.S. Supreme Court has declined to hear challenges to mandatory state bar associations in Michigan, Oklahoma, and Texas. Three federal appeals courts upheld the state bar’s right to collect mandatory bar dues last year “although the victories for Texas and Oklahoma’s bars were not complete”.; [4] A Krispy Kreme customer contends, in a recently filed lawsuit, that he found a human tooth inside a “food product” that he purchased at a location in New York City. The Plaintiff’s suit states that the unexpected find was “disgusting and revolting.”

Note: O.D. does not necessarily reflect the views of the employees, officers, and/or members of the Washington County Bar Association. O.D. is not an editorial, it is a compilation of items about the law, attorneys, and related matters. It is not intended to endorse or promote any particular point of view.

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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
CRIMINAL DIVISION
No. CR 396-2020

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
V.
JOSEPH BENNETT

HEADNOTES:

[1] Constitutional Law: Second Amendment

The Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution confers the right to individuals to keep and bear arms for the core purpose of allowing law-abiding, responsible citizens to defend hearth and home.

[2] Federal Law: Commerce Clause

In order to prove a violation of federal law which prohibits certain persons from possessing or obtaining firearms, the government must show that the firearm travelled through interstate commerce. *Navarro v. Pennsylvania State Police*. 212 A.3d 26 (Pa. 2019).

[3] Evidence: Hearsay

Hearsay is an out-of-court statement offered to prove the truth of the matter asserted. *Commonwealth v. Puskar*. 740 A.2d 219, 255 (Pa. 1999).

[4] Evidence: Res Gestae

The “res gestae” exception to the rule against hearsay encompasses four areas: declarations as to present bodily condition; declarations of present mental state and emotion; excited utterances; and present-sense impressions. The present-sense impression exception allows statements made while the declarant is observing a condition or event, such that there is little opportunity for the declarant to reflect on or calculate what has been said.

[5] Criminal Law: Firearms Act

The purpose of the Firearms Act is to regulate the possession and distribution of firearms by certain persons within this Commonwealth. *Commonwealth v. Baxter*. 956 A.2d 465, 471 (Pa. Super. 2008).

[6] Criminal Law: Sentencing

The sentencing court is permitted to deviate from the sentencing guidelines so long as the court places on records the reasons for such deviation; the court must demonstrate that it understands the prescribed sentencing guideline range for the crime(s) it is punishing; and the court must state the factual basis and specific reasons which compelled the court to deviate from the sentencing range.

At the time of sentencing, the judge shall state on the record the reasons for the sentence imposed. Pa. R. Crim. P. 704(c)(2). The judge shall afford both the defendant and the Commonwealth the opportunity to present evidence and arguments relative to sentencing. Pa. R. Crim. P. 704(c)(1).

[7] Criminal Law: Criminal Procedure

Post-sentencing motions must be filed within ten days from the date of sentencing. Pa. R. Crim. P. 720(a)(1).

A motion to modify sentence by the Commonwealth must be filed within ten days after the imposition of the sentence. Pa. R. Crim. P. 721.

Under Rule 721(c)(1), if both the defendant and the Commonwealth have filed post-sentencing motions, the trial court must decide the motions simultaneously.

[8] Criminal Law: Procedure

Where there has been an error in the proceedings that would clearly result in the judge's granting of post- sentence motions, the judge should grant the motion for extraordinary relief before sentencing occurs. This rule is intended to allow the trial judge the opportunity to address only those errors so manifest that immediate relief is essential; for example, when there is a change in case law or when a judge is likely to grant an arrest of judgment. See *Commonwealth v. Grohowski*, 980 A.2d 113 (Pa. Super. 2009).

[9] Criminal Law: Procedure

Challenges to the weight of evidence may be raised orally, in a written motion before sentencing, or in a post-sentence motion. Pa. R. Crim. P. 607.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 3rd day of May, 2022, it is hereby ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED that the Commonwealth's Motion to Modify Sentence is DENIED. Additionally, the Defendant's Petition for Post-Sentence Relief Pursuant to Pa.R.Crim.P. 720(b) is DENIED.

On June 10, 2021, this Court found the Defendant, Joseph Bennett, guilty of the following: Making a Materially False Written Statement, 18 Pa. C.S. 611 l(g)(4)(ii), a Felony of the 3rd Degree; Unsworn Falsification to Authorities, 18 Pa. C.S. 4904(a)(1), a Misdemeanor of the 2nd Degree; and Statement Under Penalty, 18 Pa. C.S. 4904(b), a Misdemeanor of the 2nd Degree. Prior to sentencing, the Defendant filed a petition for extraordinary relief pursuant to Pennsylvania Rule of Criminal Procedure 704, which this Court determined was premature and thus did not address the merits of Defendant's arguments. The Court sentenced the Defendant on April 8, 2022, to concurrent periods of 12 months of probation with the special condition that the first 6 months be served on Electronic Home Monitor (EHM). Both the Defendant and the Commonwealth filed timely post-sentencing motions. The Commonwealth asks the Court to modify the Defendant's sentence. The Defendant raises the following issues:

1. Whether the Court erred when it would not permit the Defendant's witnesses to testify about what Mr. Eric Flint told the Defendant and David Pegher when the three had a conversation at Ace Sporting Good at the time the Defendant wanted to purchase a hand gun;
2. Whether the Defendant's Second Amendment constitutional rights were being infringed upon;
3. Whether Title 18 U.S.C. § 992(g) applies to the Defendant since the Commonwealth did not produce any evidence that the handgun that the Defendant tried to purchase was involved in interstate commerce.

For the following reasons, the Court DENIES both the Commonwealth and the Defendant's motions.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

On July 8, 2019, the Defendant met a friend, David Pegher, at the Ace Sporting Goods store on Route 19, South Strabane Township, with the intention of purchasing a handgun. The Defendant testified that he was purchasing the firearm for home protection. The prior day, the Defendant and his wife

had returned home from vacation where they noticed that several things were amiss inside their home, while other property could not be accounted for. The Defendant had recently provided his garage door code to persons who were working on his home at the time. Consequently, the Defendant decided to purchase a gun and asked Mr. Pegher for assistance because he was an experienced and seasoned gun owner.

The Defendant and Mr. Pegher went inside Ace and were assisted by Eric Flint, who had been a firearm salesman for 10 years. It is undisputed that Mr. Flint showed the Defendant several handguns and how they operated. The Defendant decided to purchase a Smith & Wesson 9 millimeter, so Mr. Flint provided two forms to the Defendant. The first form was Form-4497 from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms. See Exhibit 1. Thereafter, the Defendant only signed the second form from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The Defendant did not fill out the second form; Mr. Flint used the information from Form 4497 to complete it on a store computer.

Materially, the Defendant initially answered “Yes” to question 11(c) on Form 4497, which states “Have you ever been convicted in any court of a felony, or any other crime for which the judge could have imprisoned you for more than one year, even if you received a shorter sentence including probation?” *Id.* (emphasis in the original).¹ The Defendant testified that he read the entire form, answered all of the questions, and then gave the completed form to Mr. Flint. Further, it is undisputed that Mr. Flint accepted the application and then realized that the application would be rejected due to the Defendant answering “yes” to question 11(c).

Mr. Flint testified that he does not remember the specific transaction with the Defendant, but testified about his standard, routine practice regarding gun sales. The standard routine is that he first asks the customer to provide their driver’s license to verify who they are. Mr. Bennett provided a Pennsylvania driver’s license. Mr. Flint then gave the Defendant a blank Form 4497 to complete; the Defendant completed it and returned it to Mr. Flint. Mr. Flint used said information to complete the Pennsylvania form on a store computer; the Defendant then signed that form. Importantly, both forms require driver’s license information. Mr. Flint noticed that the Defendant answered “Yes” to question 11(c). Mr. Flint knew from his past experience and general knowledge that a “yes” response would result in the application being rejected. Mr. Flint testified that under such circumstances he always returns the form to the customer and asks the customer to confirm that their answers on the form are correct. As Mr. Flint testified, he is not an attorney and is prohibited from providing legal advice. Further, it is against store policy to provide advice to customers on how they should or should not answer the questions. If a customer is unsure how to answer a question, Mr. Flint directs them to the last 3 pages of the application labeled “Instructions.” Mr. Flint testified that he merely informs the customer how to change an answer (placing a line through the checked box and writing their initials next to the line) if they want to make a change, but never advises whether they should change an answer. According to Mr. Flint, this is his standard operating procedure from which he does not deviate.

The Defendant testified that he initially answered “Yes” to question 11(c) because he knew that he had pled guilty to Involuntary Manslaughter, a misdemeanor of the 1st degree on September 6, 2005; the Erie County Court of Common Pleas sentenced him to no less than 13 months to no more than 60 months of incarceration.² He returned

¹ This question is derived from 18 U.S.C. § 922 (g), part of the Gun Control Act.

² The Defendant testified that he was responsible for an accident driving while intoxicated that caused the death of his passenger.

Form 4497 to Mr. Flint, who then told him that the transaction was now over and inquired why the Defendant responded “Yes” to the question. The Defendant informed Mr. Flint that he was convicted of “a misdemeanor involuntary manslaughter” and gave the details of his sentence. The Defendant continued to testify that Mr. Flint then told the Defendant that because the conviction was not a felony and that he served less than one year, “you can change your answer” and “we’ll send it in and see what comes back.” The Defendant, therefore, changed his answer to “No” by following Mr. Flint’s instructions on how to do so on the form. Mr. Flint then filed the application via PICS, Pennsylvania Instant Check System, with the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP). The application was rejected.

On October 7, 2019, the South Strabane Police Department received a referral from the PSP regarding the PICS rejection. On December 27, 2019, South Strabane Police Officer Michael Schidlmeier filed aforementioned criminal charges against the Defendant.

The Commonwealth’s Motion to Modify Sentence

Following sentencing, the Commonwealth filed a motion requesting that the Court modify the Defendant’s sentence. Specifically, the Commonwealth takes umbrage to the 12-month probation sentence, with the special condition that the first 6 months be on electronic home monitoring with work release privileges, for Felony of the Third Degree conviction of Materially False Written Statement-Purchase of a Firearm. This particular statutes’ sentencing guideline is a standard range of 12 to 18 months of incarceration based upon the Defendant’s prior record score of 1 and an offense gravity score of 8. The mitigated range is less 9 months; the aggravated range is plus 9 months. The Commonwealth argued that the sentence is “unreasonable because it is excessively lenient without justification or mitigating circumstances.” *See* Motion to Modify, ¶5.

When imposing a sentence, “the court shall follow the general principle that the sentence imposed should call for total confinement that is consistent with section 9725 (relating to total confinement) and the protection of the public, the gravity of the offense as it relates to the impact on the life of the victim and on the community, and the rehabilitative needs of the defendant.” 42 Pa. C.S.A. § 9721. If a court imposes a sentence outside of the sentencing guidelines promulgated by Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing, it is imperative that the court “provide a contemporaneous written statement of the reason or reasons for the deviation from the guidelines to the commission, as established under section 2153(a)(14) (relating to powers and duties). Failure to comply shall be grounds for vacating the sentence or resentencing and resentencing the defendant.” 42 Pa. C.S.A. § 9721.

A sentencing judge has broad discretion in determining a reasonable penalty, and appellate courts afford the sentencing court great deference, as it is the sentencing court that is in the best position to view the defendant’s character, displays of remorse, defiance, or indifference, and the overall effect and nature of the crime. When imposing a sentence, the sentencing court must consider the protection of the public, the gravity of the offense as it relates to the impact on the life of the victim and on the community, and the rehabilitative needs of the defendant. As we have stated, a court is required to consider the particular circumstances of the offense and the character of the defendant. In particular, the sentencing court should refer to the defendant’s prior criminal record, his age, personal characteristics, and

his potential for rehabilitation.

Moreover, it is well settled that sentencing courts are not bound by the Sentencing Guidelines; the Guidelines are merely advisory. The sentencing court may deviate from the Sentencing Guidelines, because they are one factor among many that the court must consider when imposing a sentence. The sentencing court may depart from the guidelines if necessary, to fashion a sentence which takes into account the protection of the public, the rehabilitative needs of the defendant, and the gravity of the particular offense as it relates to the impact on the life of the victim and the community.

Commonwealth v. Edwards, 194 A.3d 625, 637 (Pa. Super. 2018)(citations and quotations omitted).

The Court stated on the record that it read the entire P.S.I., was going to consider it for crafting an appropriate sentence, and learned much at the trial and the sentencing hearing about why a standard range sentence should not be imposed, which can be summarized as follows:

1. The Defendant only had a prior record score of 1;
2. The prior record score came from a crime (involuntary manslaughter) he committed when he was only 19 years of age, and 15 years had passed since that time until the Defendant was charged herein;
3. At the sentencing hearing, it was apparent to the Court that the Defendant was truly sorrowful and remorseful of his crime that killed his friend (the Defendant stated he made the worst decision of his life when driving intoxicated, stated that he thinks about it every day, and stated that it changed his life ever since);
4. The Defendant has live an exemplary life since being released from boot camp at a State Correctional Institute. The Defendant been a productive member of society; he completed his college education and is currently a regional account manager in southwestern Pennsylvania for Verizon via a series of promotions;
5. The legislative history of the federal Gun Control Act, as noted repeatedly by the United States Supreme Court, was that “Congress sought to rule broadly-to keep guns out of the hands of those who have demonstrated that they may not be trusted to possess a firearm without becoming a **threat to society.**” *Dickerson v. Afew Banner Institute, Inc.*, 460 U.S. 103, 112 (1983) *citing Lewis v. United States*, 445 U.S. 55, 63 (1980)(emphasis added);
6. Although involuntary manslaughter qualifies as a serious crime for purposes of placing him within the class of persons historically excluded from Second Amendment protections,³ this Defendant’s lifestyle for the last 15 years does not demonstrate to this Court that he is a “threat to society” for sentencing purposes;
7. That the standard range punishment associated with such a conviction was, therefore, ill-suited and would not serve any greater purpose that a probationary sentence with electronic home monitoring.

³ See *Holloway v. United States Attorney General*, *supra*.

The Commonwealth stresses that Anthony Vardaro's character witness testimony included his opinions about how "the system failed Defendant and that the conviction was unjustified," and how the Defendant blamed the Court, the District Attorney, and the firearm salesman. *See* Motion to Modify Sentence, ¶17. Certainly, Anthony Vardaro's testimony went far beyond what would be considered a character witness testimonial; a fair part of it was more akin to a personal rant focused on a system wanting to persecute his stepson. The Commonwealth, however, never objected to the testimonial during the hearing. In fact, the Court called a side bar with the attorneys after Mr. Vardaro stepped down from the witness stand and informed the attorneys that it was not considering such testimony in fashioning its sentence.

With respect to the Commonwealth's argument that the Defendant did not show any remorse or responsibility his crimes, that may be true.⁴ However, the Defendant was always respectful to the Court, and he did not blame "the system" as Anthony Vardaro had; he merely repeated that he just wanted his "voice to be heard." The Court did hear his voice, albeit the Court found that the Commonwealth met its burden of proof and did not accept the Defendant's arguments. Further, the Court should not punish a defendant for exercising his right to a trial.

The cases the Commonwealth cited to support its position to modify the sentence reflect defendants who committed crimes of violence and/or had a substantial criminal history. In *Commonwealth v. Felix*, 539 A.2d 371 (Pa. Super. 1998), the Superior Court vacated the trial court's mitigated sentence where the appellee was convicted of burglary and theft, and had a criminal history of 21 arrests, 13 convictions, and several parole and probation violations were not fully reflected in the prior record score computation. *Id.* at 372-73. In *Commonwealth v. Sims*, 728 A.2d 357 (Pa. Super. 1999), the defendant pled guilty to two counts of simple assault against his girlfriend and the girlfriend's 9-year-old daughter. More specifically, the appellee held the girlfriend down, he bit her leg, put her into a chokehold, and threw her down a set of steps. Additionally, the appellee threw the child down the steps, slapped her on the back and punched her in the head. *Id.* at 358. Moreover, the appellee's record "reflect[ed] a history of felonies." *Id.* at 360. Consequently, the Superior Court vacated the trial court's mitigated sentence. Finally, in *Commonwealth v. Childs*, 664 A.2d 994 (Pa. Super. 1995), the appellee was convicted of aggravated assault, a second-degree felony and possessing an instrument of crime. The appellee aimed the gun at the victim's head, firing a shot while sitting in her car (the victim ducked at the time of the firing, and sped away to save her life). *Id.* at 995. The trial court imposed a ten-year probation sentence for the aggravated assault and three years concurrent probation terms for PIC. The standard range sentence for the aggravated assault was between 33 and 49 months. Further, the appellant had been convicted of voluntary manslaughter, and while serving a probationary sentence for the crime, he committed a bank robbery at a federal bank for which he was convicted and served approximately six years in federal prison. *Id.* at 999. The Superior Court vacated the trial court's mitigated sentence.

Unlike the aforementioned convicted persons, the Defendant herein did not commit a crime of violence, even though the Commonwealth classifies the crime of Materially False Written Statement- Purchase of a Firearm as a felony. Further, the Defendant's criminal record is not as extensive or as serious as the persons in *Childs*, *Felix*, and *Sims*. Thus, the Court denies the Commonwealth's motion.

⁴ A lack of remorse is a permissible factor when fashioning a sentence. *See Commonwealth v. Begley*, 780 A.2d 605, 644 (Pa. 2001).

THE DEFENDANT'S POST-SENTENCE MOTION**I. Excluded Testimony Regarding the Conversation at Ace Sporting Goods.**

The Defendant's first argument in his motion for extraordinary relief is based on evidence that was excluded by this Court during trial. At the non-jury trial, the Defendant called Mr. David Pegher as his first witness. During direct examination, defense counsel, Peter Marcoline, asked Mr. Pegher:

Q: I want you to give us specifics of what you heard and what was said by Mr. Flint and Mr. Bennett during this discussion.

A: Okay. What I understand is that Joe [Bennett] had given him a detailed background about the incident that occurred to him when he was 19 years of age -

ADA Carolla: And I'm going to object again, Your Honor. This is hearsay. This is now what Mr. Bennett is saying to the salesperson. This is exactly why we're here today. Mr. Bennett can testify to what he said -

The Court engaged the attorneys regarding the objection and, during this discussion, the Court informed the attorneys that it would not permit the witness to testify about what Mr. Flint said verbatim because that was hearsay. N.T., June 10, 2021, p. 133, LL. 19-20. The Court would permit the witness to testify about what Mr. Flint "directed him (the Defendant) to do, yes, but not word for word. I won't allow word for word." *Id.* at p. 135, LL. 7-8. Defense counsel disagreed with the Court; he believed it was admissible as a present sense impression. *Id.* at p. 134, LL. 24-5. To support this exception to the hearsay rule, counsel stated, "He's (David Pegher) listening to what Mr. Flint is describing and telling Mr. Bennett to do upon being proffered a form (4473) with a question answered yes if he knows will preclude the sale of a firearm." *Id.* at p. 134, LL. 25; p. 135, LL. 3-5.

Hearsay is an out-of-court statement that is being offered in court for the truth of the matter asserted in the statement. *Commonwealth v. Fitzpatrick*, 255 A.3d 452, 458 (Pa. 2021). An exception to the hearsay rule is if the declarant's statement is a present sense impression. The Superior Court has defined the present sense impression exception to the hearsay rule and the rationale for it as follows:

The present sense impression exception, regardless of the availability of the declarant to testify at trial, allows the admission of a *statement describing or explaining an event or condition made while the declarant was perceiving the event or condition, or immediately thereafter The observation must be made at the time of the event or shortly thereafter*, making it unlikely that the declarant had the opportunity to form an intent to misstate his observation. Consequently, the trustworthiness of the statement depends upon the timing of the declaration.

The rationale for this exception is that the relative immediacy of the declaration insures that there will have been little opportunity for reflection or calculated misstatement.

Commonwealth v. Hood, 872 A.2d 175, 183 (Pa. Super. 2005)(emphasis added). Additionally, the exception allows testimony of declarations regarding conditions or events the declarant observed irrespective of whether the event was exciting. *Commonwealth v. Gray*, 867 A.2d 560, 571 (Pa. Super. 2005).

It was not disputed that Mr. Flint, Mr. Pegher, and the Defendant had a conversation regarding the Defendant's attempted purchase of the firearm. Defense counsel was asking the witness questions about what Mr. Flint said during that

conversation; the questions were to be about what Mr. Flint stated prior to the Defendant changing his answer on Form 4473. The court does not believe this qualifies as a “present sense impression,” as defense counsel argues. Pa. R.E. 803(1) gives the present sense impression exception to hearsay as “*a statement describing or explaining an event or condition, made while or immediately after the declarant perceived it*” (emphasis added). The statements at issue were not based on Mr. Flint’s immediate perception of the Defendant’s form regarding the Defendant answering “yes” to question 11, but rather his knowledge and experience as a firearms salesman, which the court does not find fit into this exception.

Regardless, despite the Court’s ruling, defense counsel asked Mr. Pegher about the conversation they had with Mr. Flint and the Commonwealth never objected. For example:

Q. And—so if Mr. Flint testified earlier that he never tells an applicant how to answer a question, he would be lying; correct?

A. In this particular case I would say yes.

N.T., p. 147, LL. 10-3.

Even more telling was defense counsel’s questioning of the Defendant with respect to the conversation with Mr. Flint.

Q. Okay. And you [the Defendant] and Mr. Pegher didn’t walk out of the store at that point?

A. No. He [Mr. Flint] said, why did you mark yes to it [Question 11 on form 4473]?

Q. Okay. And what did you explain to him?

A. that I had a—

Q. And I want details because, unfortunately, Mr. Flint doesn’t remember anything. What do you remember telling Mr. Flint on July 8, 2019, why you marked yes and signed this form in attempting to purchase a firearm?

A. I told him that I plead guilty to a misdemeanor for involuntary manslaughter, and I even told him that somebody passed away.

Q. Okay. And where did that discussion go after you advised him of the misdemeanor plea of guilty to involuntary manslaughter?

A. He just—he asked me a couple follow-up questions, and he said based off of what I told him ... he said well, nobody died, and I said, somebody did die.

Q. So you weren’t hiding any of this information?

A. No.

Q. Now, I notice that the yes is ultimately crossed off. There is initials J.B. and 7/8/19. Did you fill that information out?

A. I did.

Q. How did you know to do that?

A. Because he [Mr. Flint] told me to—based off of what I told him that because I didn’t have a felony and the sentence was basically—the time I served was less than a year that I could cross that off and change the answer to no and initial, and then, I believe, he said something along the line of, like, we’ll send it in and see what comes back.

Q. Okay. And based on that indication from Mr. Flint, did you do that?

A. I did.

Id. at pp. 168-70.

For these reasons, the Court dismisses this argument.

II. THE DEFENDANT'S SECOND AMENDMENT CLAIM

The Defendant's next claim is that his Second Amendment constitutional rights were infringed because an involuntary manslaughter conviction is not considered a serious crime, and "Pennsylvania generally does not recognize Involuntary Manslaughter as a crime of violence..." See Petition for Post-Sentence Relief, ¶33. The Court dismisses this argument as irrelevant to the matter at hand.

Pursuant to *Binderup v. Office of the Attorney General of the United States*, 836 F.3d 336, 356-57 (3rd Cir.2016), if the prohibited or disqualifying offense under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g) is not considered a serious crime, enforcement of the statute is considered an infringement upon a person's Second Amendment rights. Herein, the Defendant's crime of involuntary manslaughter was caused by a vehicle crash while under the influence of alcohol. The Third Circuit Court of Appeals has already ruled that driving under the influence is considered a serious crime. "[The Appellant] Holloway's DUI conviction constitutes a serious crime, placing him within the class of persons historically excluded from Second Amendment protections. *Holloway v. Attorney General of the United States*, 948 F.3d 164, 177 (3rd Cir.2020)(internal quotations omitted)(Holloway was subject to a five-year period of incarceration like the Defendant herein).⁹ "[T]he fact that an offense does not include the use or threatened use of violence does not mean it is not serious." *Id.* at 174.

Further, the *Holloway* court concluded that if it accepted the Appellant's logic that misdemeanors should not be considered serious crimes, then the crimes of **involuntary manslaughter**, terrorism, assaulting a child, abusing a care-dependent person, making terroristic threats, threatening to use weapons of mass destruction, shooting a fire bomb into public transportation, indecent assault by forcible compulsion, concealing the murder of a child, luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure, restraining a person "in circumstances exposing him to risk of serious bodily injury," and stalking, would not be considered serious. *Id.* at 175 (emphasis added). The Court of Appeals found Holloway's logic to be incredulous. *Id.*

Regardless, the Defendant's argument that his Second Amendment rights were infringed upon has no relation to the crimes of which he was convicted, and is better suited for an appeal of a denial to purchase a firearm. The cases cited by the Defendant regard plaintiffs bringing actions in federal court, challenging their classification as persons prohibited from possessing firearms. The Defendant's classification as such is not an issue in this matter. The Defendant was not convicted of 18 Pa. C.S.A. § 6111 (g)(4)(ii) because his application was denied or because he was a person prohibited from purchasing a firearm. This court found that the Defendant knowingly and intentionally made a materially false written statement on a federal form in connection with the purchase, delivery, or transfer of a firearm - which is all that the statute requires.¹⁰ The Defendant's claim is rejected.

⁹ The Holloway court found support in *Begay v. U.S.*, 553 U.S. 137, 141 (2008) ("Drunk driving is an extremely dangerous crime.").

¹⁰ The two additional sections the Court found the Defendant to be in violation of, 18 Pa. C.S. 4904(a)(1) and (b), have no relation specifically to firearms, and as such, the Court does not feel the need to address these individual statutes in connection with the Defendant's Second Amendment argument.

III. The Application of 18 U.S.C. 992(G).

Regarding the application of 18 U.S.C. § 992(g) to the case herein, the Defendant claims that it does not apply because the Commonwealth failed to provide any evidence that the attempted transaction for the purchase of the handgun involved interstate commerce, and as such, the Commonwealth did not meet its evidentiary burden to sustain the conviction of 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 611 l(g)(4)(ii). This argument is also rejected.

At the conclusion of the non-jury trial, the Defendant did not make any argument that the Commonwealth needed to prove that the attempted transaction concerned a firearm that was part of interstate commerce and, therefore, an insufficiency of the evidence for a conviction. A sufficiency of the evidence claim, however, need not be made immediately at the conclusion of the trial. See Pa.R.Crim.P. 607 (A)(2). A defendant can make this claim immediately after the court renders the verdict, or after sentencing. Pa.R.Crim.P. 607 (A)(4), (5), (6). “A defendant may challenge the sufficiency of the evidence in any one or more of the ways listed in paragraph (a) of this rule.” *Id.* at Comment.

For support of this argument, the Defendant cites to the case of *Navarro v. Pennsylvania State Police*, 212 A.3d 26 (Pa. 2019) for support. In *Navarro*, the Appellee pleaded guilty to two counts of forgery graded as first-degree misdemeanors and the court sentenced him to twenty-four months of probation. Subsequently, the Appellee discovered that the Pennsylvania State Police (“PSP”) recovered his stolen firearm and he submitted an application for its return pursuant to Pennsylvania’s Uniform Firearms Act (“UFA”), 18 Pa.C.S.A. §§ 6101-6128. The PSP denied the application because a Pennsylvania Instant Check System (“PICS”) report indicated appellee had disqualifying convictions under federal law.

The Appellee challenged the denial. The PSP informed him that the denial was based on federal Section 922(g) of the Federal Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 921 -931 (“GCA”), which prohibits any person “who has been convicted in any court of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year ... to ship or transport in interstate or foreign commerce, or possess in or affecting commerce, any firearm or ammunition; or to receive any firearm or ammunition which has been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.” 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). The Appellee was also informed that his 2013 forgery convictions — punishable by up to five years’ imprisonment — were “prohibiting” under Section 922(g). This section of title 18 also requires a finding that the firearm had “been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce.” *Id.*

The Appellee appealed to the Office of the Attorney General (“OAG”), and at a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (“ALJ”), the ALJ sustained the PSP’s decision. The Appellee then filed an appeal to the Commonwealth Court. The Commonwealth Court vacated and remanded for further factual findings. That Court explained that Section 922(g) requires “proof of two things: (1) a disqualifying conviction, and (2) that the firearm in question was involved in interstate or foreign commerce.” *Navarro*, 212 A.3d at 28. The PSP filed an appeal to the Supreme Court wherein it argued that it was not required under Section 6111.1(e) of the UFA to provide proof that the handgun was involved in interstate commerce when it denied the firearm transfer based on Section 922(g)(1) of the federal GCA. The Supreme Court sustained the Commonwealth Court.

As the Commonwealth Court here properly found, the federal prohibition of Section 922(g) simply cannot apply absent some proof the firearm at issue moved in interstate or foreign commerce. We agree with the panel’s conclusion the

evidence relating to such commerce need not be extensive and may be satisfied by showing the gun was manufactured outside Pennsylvania (or that the gun otherwise crossed state lines).

Id. at 33.

While the facts of the two cases are not aligned since the Defendant was attempting to purchase a firearm instead of trying to have those which he owned returned, Navarro addresses and endorses the conclusion that the same outcome must apply when someone is attempting to purchase a firearm. The Supreme Court noted that there was not any case directly on point to assist it. They, however, found a Commonwealth Court case of *Taylor v. Pa. State Police*, No. 390 C.D. 2010, unpublished memorandum, 2011 WL 10843320 (Pa. Cmwlth. filed Feb. 18, 2011) to be “instructive.” *Id.*

In *Taylor*, the Appellant tried to purchase a firearm and submitted an application on the PICS system. His application was “undetermined” and he was advised he had 30 days to provide additional information. Taylor responded, but the PSP subsequently denied his application because he had been convicted for Firearms Carried Without a License, which was a prohibiting offense under 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). Taylor appealed to the OAG, and the ALJ conducted a hearing on the issue. At the hearing, the PSP's representative testified Taylor's conviction was for a first-degree misdemeanor that, under state law, carried a maximum sentence of up to five years' imprisonment. Taylor's attorney argued the federal prohibition codified at Section 922(g) did not apply, among other reasons, because Taylor was not engaged in interstate commerce. The ALJ, however, sustained the PSP's decision to refuse the firearm purchase, concluding that the firearm had been manufactured in Florida. Taylor appealed to the Commonwealth Court, which affirmed. Accepting Commonwealth Court Judge Patricia A. McCullough's reasoning in her concurrent opinion in *Taylor*, the *Navarro* Court noted there must be some evidence that the handgun was involved in interstate commerce for the prohibition of Section 922(g) to apply. “[T]he requirement of interstate or foreign commerce was clearly satisfied by the ALJ's determination that the firearm was, as the Majority noted, manufactured in Florida.” *Navarro*, 212 A3d at 33, quoting *Taylor v. Pa. State Police*, No. 390 C.D. 2010, unpublished memorandum, 2011 WL 10843320 (Pa. Cmwlth. filed Feb. 18, 2011)(McCullough, J., concurring). The Supreme Court emphasized that Judge McCullough “cited an exhibit introduced into evidence at trial of a photocopy of the firearm manufacturer's website, showing it is located in Coca, Florida, and noted the evidence of out-of-state manufacture was in keeping with the requirements under federal law.” *Id.* (citations omitted). As a consequence, the Supreme Court stated, “[W]e conclude the Commonwealth Court did not err in determining the ALJ must make findings regarding the interstate or foreign commerce status of a firearm before affirming PSP's decision to deny transfer to appellee.” *Id.*¹¹

Regarding the Making Any Materially False Written Statement (F-3), the Commonwealth charged the Defendant of “knowingly providing false information on ATF Form 4473, ... , in violation of Section 6111 (g)(4)(ii) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code... .” As for the Unsworn Falsification to Authorities (M-2), and Statement Under Penalty (M-3), the Commonwealth charged the Defendant of “knowingly providing false information on ATF Form 4473, ... , in violation of Section 4904(a)(1) of the Pennsylvania Crime Code... .” Finally, the reason the Commonwealth charging the Defendant for Statement Under Penalty (M-3) was because of “knowingly providing false information on ATF

¹¹ The Supreme Court remanded the case to the Administrative Law Judge for additional factual findings on the issue.

Form 4473, ... , in violation of Section 4904(b) of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code... .” See Bill of Information. Importantly, all three charges are premised on the notion that the Defendant provided materially false information on Form 4473, which corresponds to 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1), part of the Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C. § 921 *et. seq.* The form specifically states,

WARNING: You may not receive a firearm if prohibited by Federal or State law. The information you provide will be used to determine whether you are prohibited from receiving a firearm. Certain violation of the Gun Control Act, 18 U.S.C. § 921 *et.seq.* are punishable by up to 10 years imprisonment and/or up to a \$250,000 fine. Read the Notices, Instructions, and Definitions on this form. Prepare in original only at the licensed premises (“licensed premises ” includes business temporarily conducted from a qualifying gun show or event in the same State in which the licensed premises is located) unless the transaction qualifies under 18 U.S.C. § 922(c). All entries must be handwritten in ink. “PLEASE PRINT.”

See Exhibit 1.

“[A]ny knowingly false statement given by a person in connection with the purchase of a firearm - even if given in response to the questions on the federal form - is ‘material’ and subjects that person to prosecution under section 6111(g)(4).” *Commonwealth v. Baxter*, 956 A.2d 465, 472 (Pa.Super. 2008).

The record is devoid of any testimony or exhibit that verifies that the firearm that the Defendant attempted to purchase was involved with or in interstate commerce. However, the Court does not believe that the Commonwealth must introduce this evidence to support a conviction for 18 Pa. C.S.A. § 6111 (g)(4)(ii). The form is premised on 922(g), but 922(g) only pertains to possession or sale of the firearm. It is unrelated to the specific act of filling out the application to purchase a firearm, unlike section 6111, which expressly relates to statements made in an attempt to obtain a firearm. The cases discussed above concerned the appellants’ rejected applications and what the PSP must show to uphold the denial, unrelated to how someone answers Form 4473. The result of the Defendant’s application is immaterial to the crimes for which he was convicted. Again, this argument is better fit for an appeal of the denial to purchase a firearm, not a conviction for making false statements on the application to do so. The Defendant’s argument is dismissed.

BY THE COURT:
/s/Gary Gilman, Judge

ESTATE NOTICES

FIRST PUBLICATION

Bohn, Edith Jane

a/k/a Jane Bohn
Late of South Strabane Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0366

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Drew A. Bohn c/o

Attorney: Mark E. Casper, Jr., Esq.,
Jones, Gregg, Creehan & Gerace, LLP,
411 Seventh Ave., Ste. 1200, Pittsburgh,
PA 15219

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Clark, Stephanie Ann

a/k/a Stephanie A. Clark
Late of Amwell Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor & Attorney: Cary D. Jones,
Esq., Marriner, Jones & Fitch, 6 S. Main
St., Ste. 600, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Hatfield, Wilma V.

Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0794

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or

attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Keith Hatfield, 1333 Deerfield Rd., Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Clark A. Mitchell, Esq., Law Offices of Clark A. Mitchell, 17 S. College St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Izzo, Wilma L.

a/k/a Wilma Izzo
Late of Carroll Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Mary Louise Izzo, 4517 Winfield St., Harrisburg, PA 17109

Attorney: Mark E. Ramsier, Esq., 823 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon, PA 15012

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Knight, Ferne C.

Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0695

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Debra K. Chain a/k/a Debra M. Chain, 18 Willow Ct., Ridgefield, CT 06877

Attorney: E.J. Julian, Esq., Julian Law Firm, 71 N. Main St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Lento, Barbara Ann

a/k/a Barbara A. Lento
Late of Chartiers Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0119

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Betsy Renee McCarthy, 428 S. Washington St., Hastings, MI 49058

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Mason, Richard Lee

a/k/a Richard L. Mason
a/k/a Richard Mason
Late of Vestaburg
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executrix: Debra Hughes c/o

Attorney: Mark M. Mehalov, Esq., 18 Miller Street Sq., P.O. Box 2123, Uniontown, PA 15401

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Matthews, Sr., Thomas J.

a/k/a Thomas Joseph Matthews
Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0730

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Joanne Longstreath, 1951 The Road, Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Dennis M. Makel, Esq., Makel & Assoc., LLC, 98 E. Maiden St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Milich, Elaine H.

a/k/a Elaine Milich
Late of Brownsville
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0677

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Karen Haiden, 136 Rices Landing Rd., Rices Landing, PA 15357

Attorney: Lisa J. Buday, Esq., P.O. Box 488, California, PA 15419

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Molinko, Florence

a/k/a Florence Marie Molinko
Late of McMurray
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Kimberly Boyd, 108 Nancy Ln., McMurray, PA 15317

Attorney: Jeffrey P. Derrico, Esq., Greenlee Derrico Posa, LLC, 60 E. Beau St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Murr, Lillian

a/k/a Lillian June Murr
Late of East Washington Borough
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0833

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Robert McFall, 1703B
Dick Pond Rd., Myrtle Beach, SC 29575

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Sprock, Sandra Lee

a/k/a Sandra Lee Spence
Late of Canton Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Jerald Ray Dobroski,
48 Spring St., Charleroi, PA 15022

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Wrubleski, Rose

a/k/a Rose L. Wrubleski
Late of South Strabane Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Albert J. Wrubleski, 448 Country Club Rd., Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Thomas O. Vreeland, Esq., Bassi, Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., 62 E. Wheeling St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

Zirngibl, Nancy O.

a/k/a Nancy Clare Zirngibl
Late of West Bethlehem
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0816

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: David M. Zirngibl, 5 Piper Rd.,
West Bethlehem, PA 15345

Attorney: Daniel L. Goodyear, Esq.,
Sciullo & Goodyear, 3809 Willow Ave.,
Castle Shannon, PA 15234

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

SECOND PUBLICATION

Barber, Richard

Late of Stockdale
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0811

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Wendy Barber, P.O. Box
227, Stockdale, PA 15483

Attorney: Michele P. Conti, Esq., 986
Brodhead Rd., Moon Twp., PA 15108

WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Bartoletti, Sr., Richard A.

Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0800

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney.

ney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Gineen Ferrara FKA Gineen Bartoletti, 502 Harvester Dr., Oakdale, PA 15071

Attorney: Wayne M. Chiurazzi, Esq., 101 Smithfield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15222

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Belcastro, Tracy

Late of McDonald
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0056

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Deborah J. Belcastro, 341 Waterdam Rd., McDonald, PA 15057

Attorney: Edwin W. Russell, Esq., Meyer Unkovic & Scott, LLP, Henry W. Oliver Bldg., 535 Smithfield St., Ste. 13, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Bethem, Gregg Leonard

Late of Fallowfield Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administratrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administratrix without delay.

Administratrix: Angela Atkins, 816 Barclay Rd., Indiana, PA 15701

Attorney: Megan A. Kerns, 1747 Ros-traver Rd., Belle Vernon, PA 15012

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Dewey, Sandra L.

Late of McDonald Borough
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Jamie Grady, 3402 Gulf Shores Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89122

Attorney: Kathleen B. Murren, Esq., Skarlatos Zonarich, 320 Market St., Ste. 600W, Harrisburg, PA 17101

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Herriott, Donald K.

Late of Midway Boro
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0080

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: James Fulmer, 1105 Robinson Hwy., McDonald, PA 15057

Attorney: Loretta B. Kendall, Esq., 364 E. Lincoln Ave., McDonald, PA 15057

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Hoelle, James D.

Late of N. Franklin Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0764

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Dara Hoelle, 118 Clubside Dr., Canonsburg, PA 15317

Attorney: Kiersten L. Lane, Esq., P.O. Box 38667, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Levandosky, William P.

Late of Marianna
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-2022-0192

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Margaret Roule, 23 2nd St.,
Marianna, PA 15345

Attorney: Marjorie A. Marotta, Esq., 4160
Washington Rd., Ste. 208, McMurray, PA
15317

WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

McCullum, James Stanley

Late of Carroll Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administratrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administratrix without delay.

Administratrix: Ruth Ann Fidanzato,
10566 Valentine Rd. N., Tallahassee, FL
32317

Attorney: Bradley M. Bassi, Esq., Bassi,
Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., P.O. Box 144,
111 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA
15022

WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Menhart, Gail

Late of East Bethlehem
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Richard Menhart, 101 Fan-
ton Ln., Prosperity, PA 15329

Attorney: Timothy N. Logan, Esq., Logan
& Gatten, 54 N. Richhill St., Waynesburg,
PA 15370

WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Menhart, Sr., Frank C.

Late of East Bethlehem
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Richard Menhart, 101 Fan-
ton Ln., Prosperity, PA 15329

Attorney: Timothy N. Logan, Esq., Logan
& Gatten, 54 N. Richhill St.,

WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Merrill, Lane F.

a/k/a Lane Merrill
Late of Chartiers Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-1868

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Nancy Mastrangioli,
680 Allison Hollow Rd., Washington, PA
15301

Attorney: Marjorie A. Marotta, Esq.,
4160 Washington Rd., Ste. 208,
McMurray, PA 15317

WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Nebel, Jr., Charles J.

Late of Canonsburg Borough
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is

hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Dorothy M. Nebel c/o
Attorney: Vance E. Antonacci, Esq.,
McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC, 570
Lausch Ln., Ste. 200, Lancaster, PA
17601

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Poness, Patricia Marie

Late of Strabane
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-21-1789

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Rosemary Pepper,
427 McGovern Rd., Houston, PA 15342
Attorney: Marjorie A. Marotta, Esq.,
4160 Washington Rd., Ste. 208,
McMurray, PA 15317

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Sabo, Erin M.

a/k/a Erin Maureen Sabo, MD
Late of Smith Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Daniel P. Sabo, 31 Number 3
Hill Rd., Burgettstown, PA 15021
Attorney: Thomas O. Vreeland, Esq., Bas-
si, Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., 62 E. Wheel-
ing St., Washington, PA 15301-4804

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Vensel, John Paul

a/k/a Jack Vensel a/k/a John P. Vensel
Late of Donegal Twp.
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0726

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executors without delay.

Executors: Pamela Celeste McPherson &
John Paul Vensel II c/o
Attorney: John Paul Vensel, II., Esq.,
6 S. Main St., Ste. 518, Washington, PA
15301

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

Williams, Theda G.

Late of Claysville
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Frederick Thomas Williams,
11 Milliken Blvd., West Alexander, PA
15376

Attorney: William H. Knestrick, Esq.,
Neighborhood Attorneys, LLC, 8 East
Pine Ave., Washington, PA 15301

_____ WCR Vol 102 Issues 45,46,47

THIRD PUBLICATION

Columbine, Charles Gasper

a/k/a Charles G. Columbine
Late of Charleroi
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0716

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons hav-

ing claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Kenneth Bradley Mellor, 1800 Main St., Ste. 200, Canonsburg, PA 15317

Attorney: Kathryn Gioia, Esq., Bowles Rice LLC, 1800 Main St., Ste. 200, Canonsburg, PA 15317

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Columbus, Garry John

Late of Winter Haven, Polk County, FL
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0253

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Terri Pike, 4335 Hill Forrest Dr., Kingwood, TX 77345

Attorney: Geoffrey P. Wozman, Esq., 100 Ross St., Ste. 130, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Drow, John Anthony

a/k/a John A. Drow
Late of Coal Center
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: John Adam Drow, 408 West 8th St., Florence, KS 66851

Attorney: Bradley M. Bassi, Esq., Bassi, Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., P.O. Box 144, 111 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Duran, Joann P.

Late of Bulger
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0682

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Laurie Crawford, 137 Decker Ln., Monroe, TN 38573

Attorney: Joseph L. Luvara, Esq., 2 PPG Place, Ste. 400, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Gisoni, Sr., Joseph A.

a/k/a Joseph A. Gisoni
Late of City of Washington
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Joseph A. Gisoni, Jr. c/o

Attorney: Mark Geary, Esq., 225 Washington Trust Bldg., 6 South Main St., Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Keplar, Louis J.

Late of California
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0670

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Ann M. Keplar, 118 4th St., California, PA 15419

Attorney: Lisa J. Buday, Esq., P.O. Box
488, California, PA 15419

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Major, Joyce A.

Late of Borough of Donora
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Vicki M. Wichterman, 378
Patterson Ln., Rostraver Twp., PA 15012

Attorney: Mark J. Shire, Esq., Shire Law
Firm, 1711 Grand Blvd., Park Centre,
Monessen, PA 15062

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Pesognelli, Dominick A.

a/k/a Dominick Anthony Pesognelli
Late of Monongahela
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Dominick A. Pesognelli, Jr.,
777 Kennedy St., Monongahela, PA
15063

Attorney: Bradley M. Bassi, Esq., Bassi,
Vreeland & Assoc., P.C., P.O. Box 144,
111 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA
15022

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Piatt, Doris Ann

Late of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0787

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having

claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Donald R. Piatt, 4488 Picket
Court, Mason, OH 45040

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Sabatasse, Tina M.

Late of City of Washington
Washington Co., PA
File No. 63-22-0741

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Administrator or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Administrator without delay.

Administrator: Jalen M. Morris, 132 Piatt
Estates Dr., Washington, PA 15301

Attorney: Stephen J. Taczak, Esq.,
Taczak Law Office, LLC, 12 N. Jefferson
Ave., Canonsburg, PA 15317

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Schaum, Joan L.

Late of City of Monongahela
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executor or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executor without delay.

Executor: Charles V. Schaum, 217 Grace
Manor Dr., Coraopolis, PA 15108

Attorney: Richard C. Mudrick, Esq., 300
Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Scorza, Helen

a/k/a Helen Rose Scorza
Late of Bentleyville
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters

on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Executrix or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Executrix without delay.

Executrix: Melissa Scorza, P.O. Box 263, Amity, PA 15311

Attorney: Gregory C. Hook, Esq., 189 W. High St., P.O. Box 792, Waynesburg, PA 15370

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

Walters, Ruth C.

Late of South Strabane Twp.
Washington Co., PA

The Register of Wills has granted Letters on the Estate of the Decedent. Notice is hereby given to request all persons having claims against the decedent to make known the same to the Co-Executors or attorney, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment to the Co-Executors without delay.

Co-Executors: John Henry Holzapfel, Isabelle Holzapfel c/o

Attorney: Frank C. Roney, Jr., Esq.,
382 W. Chestnut St., Ste. 102, Washington, PA 15301

WCR Vol 102 Issues 44,45,46

CORPORATION NOTICES

Fictitious Name Registration

Notice is hereby given that an Application for Registration of Fictitious Name was filed in the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on February 03, 2022 for **Meturetor** at 529 Cherryhill Drive, Bridgeville, PA 15017. The name and address of each individual interested in the business is Michael Kohler at 529 Cherryhill Drive, Bridgeville, PA 15017. This was filed in accordance with 54 PaC.S. 311.417

WCR Vol 102 Issue 46

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a Certificate of Organization was filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on March 31, 2022, for a Limited Liability Company formed under the Pennsylvania Uniform Limited Liability Company Act of 2016. The name of the company is: **BELLA EXCAVATING & DEVELOPMENT, LLC**. Its principal place of business is 171 Pine Street, Roscoe, Pennsylvania 15477

Mark J. Shire, Esquire
Pa.I.D. #44843
SHIRE LAW FIRM
1711 Grand Boulevard
Park Centre
Monessen, PA 15062
Tele: (724) 684-8881
Fax: (724) 684-7475
Email: shire@shirelaw.com

WCR Vol 102 Issue 46

REAL PROPERTY NOTICE

ACTION TO QUIET TITLE NOTICE

TO: THOMAS POLOVICHACK, JOHN PETROS, THE ESTATE OF LEO DOBROSKY, THE ESTATE OF CHESTER DOBROSKY, THE ESTATE OF STANLEY DOBROSKY, THE ESTATE OF WALTER DOBROSKY, PETE B. RUCKI, EDWARD DOBROSKY and any and all unknown occupants of 432 Grunderville Road, Warren, Warren County, Pennsylvania, 16365.

Please take notice that John Smelko, Plaintiff, has filed a complaint to Quiet Title against the above name defendants, and others who may have an interest in 432 Grunderville Road, Warren, Pennsylvania, 16365, in the Court of Common Pleas of Warren County, Pennsylvania, Civil Division, at Docket No.: 77-2022. Plaintiff is the owner of the described property situate in the Township of Pleasant, County of Warren and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, bearing parcel number YV-933-644600-000, more commonly known as 432 Grunderville Road, Warren, Pennsylvania, 16365. The defendants may have some interest in the above described property. Plaintiff has filed this action to quiet title to the property and seek to bar the defendants from ever asserting any right, title, interest, lien or claim against the property.

NOTICE TO DEFEND

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED IN COURT. IF YOU WISH TO DEFEND AGAINST THE CLAIMS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES, YOU MUST TAKE ACTION WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS AFTER THIS COMPLAINT AND NOTICE ARE SERVED, BY ENTERING A WRITTEN APPEARANCE PERSONALLY OR BY ATTORNEY AND FILING IN WRITING WITH THE COURT YOUR DEFENSES OR OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS SET FORTH AGAINST YOU. YOU ARE WARNED THAT IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, THE

CASE MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOU AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU BY THE COURT WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE FOR ANY MONEY CLAIMED IN THE COMPLAINT OR FOR ANY OTHER CLAIM OR RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE PLAINTIFF. YOU MAY LOSE MONEY OR PROPERTY OR OTHER RIGHTS IMPORTANT TO YOU.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

PA Lawyer Referral Services
PA Bar Association
100 South Street
Harrisburg, PA 17108
Phone (800) 692-7375

Northwestern Legal Services
First Niagara Bldg., 4th Floor
315 Second Ave., Suite 401
Warren, PA 16365
Phone (800) 665-6957

William J. Gagliardino, Esquire
THE LAW OFFICES WILLIAM J.

GAGLIARDINO

1310 Old Freeport Rd.

Box 111293

Pittsburgh, PA 15238

(412) 837-2505

wjg@gagliardinolaw.com

WCR Vol 102 Issue 46

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL DIVISION

NO: CV-2022-2454

**WILLIAM A. CAMPBELL,
and MARY C. CAMPBELL,
husband and wife, PLAINTIFFS**

v.

CANTON TOWNSHIP, DEFENDANT.

**HEARING NOTICE/
NOTICE OF DEFAULT**

**NOTICE TO the Defendant, Canton
Township:**

You are notified that, by virtue of Court Order dated May 12, 2022 and filed of record in the Washington County Prothonotaries Office at the above captioned case number, a hearing on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment/Summary Judgment is scheduled for August 3, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom number 6 of the Washington County Courthouse. Should you wish to object, or otherwise contest, the requested relief, you must appear to so note said objection.

FURTHER, YOU ARE IN DEFAULT BECAUSE YOU HAVE FAILED TO ENTER A WRITTEN APPEARANCE PERSONALLY OR BY ATTORNEY AND FILE YOUR DEFENSES OR OBJECTIONS WITH THE COURT. UNLESS YOU ACT BEFORE, OR DURING, THE HEARING ON AUGUST 3, 2022, THE CASE MAY PROCEED WITHOUT YOU AND A JUDGMENT MAY BE ENTERED WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE FOR THE RELIEF REQUESTED BY THE PLAINTIFF. YOU MAY LOSE MONEY OR PROPERTY OR OTHER RIGHTS IMPORTANT TO YOU.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS NOTICE TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A

LAWYER, OR CANNOT AFFORD REPRESENTATION, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR OR QUALIFY FOR AN ATTORNEY AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE. PLEASE CONTACT THE BELOW AGENCIES:

Southwestern Pennsylvania
Legal Aid Society
10 West Cherry Avenue
Washington, Pennsylvania, 15301
(724) 225-6170

Washington County Bar Association
119 South College Street,
Washington, Pennsylvania, 15301
(742) 225-6710

Christopher J. Blackwell, Esq.
PA ID# 324512
Blackwell & Associates
6 South Main St., Ste 321
Washington, PA 15301
724-225-4005

WCR Vol 102 Issue 46

SHERIFF’S SALE—Anthony E. Andronas, Sheriff

Abstracts of properties taken in execution upon the writs shown, at the number and term shown, as the properties of the severally named defendants, owners or reputed owners, and to be sold by ANTHONY E. ANDRONAS, Sheriff of Washington County, Pennsylvania on **FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2022 at 10:00 o’clock A.M.** in Public Meeting Room 104, Courthouse Square Building, 100 West Beau Street, Washington, Pennsylvania.

CONDITIONS OF SALE: Ten (10%) percent of purchase bid (but not less than Sheriff’s costs) shall be paid in CASH, CERTIFIED FUNDS OR MONEY ORDER at the **completion of the sale** and the balance on or before the following **WEDNESDAY at 4:00 o’clock P.M.** If ten (10%) percent down payment is not made on the day of the sale, or if the balance of payment is not made on Wednesday following the date of sale, the property will again be put up for sale on the following **FRIDAY at 10:00 o’clock A.M.**, at the expense and risk of the bidder from the original sale. A schedule of distribution will be filed by the Sheriff not later than thirty (30) days from the date of the sale and distribution will be made in accordance with the schedule unless exceptions are filed within ten (10) days thereafter. (Complete description of the properties are on file in the Sheriff’s Office at Courthouse Square, 100 West Beau Street, Suite 303, Washington, PA)

BURGETTSTOWN

US BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Not In Its Individual Capacity but Solely as Owner Trustee for VRMTG Asset Trust
vs
ERIKA GILBERT

DOCKET #: 2021-5858
JUDGEMENT: \$63,327.39

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, Burgettstown
Borough;

Address: 35 STELLA STREET,
BURGETTSTOWN, PA 15021
Tax #: 070-019-00-01-0007-020

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: KML LAW GROUP, P.C.,
(215) 627-1322

CALIFORNIA

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Successor by Merger to National City Bank
vs
TODD A. KLUS, Known Heir of DARLENE KLUS A/K/A DARLENE ANN KLUS A/K/A DARLENE A. KLUS, ET AL

DOCKET #: 2021-7712
JUDGEMENT: \$37,135.24

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, California Borough;

Address: 948 PENNSYLVANIA
AVENUE, CALIFORNIA, PA 15419
Tax #: 080-017-00-03-0001-01

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: TUCKER ARENSBERG, P.C.,
(412) 566-1212

CHARLEROI

**TRUIST BANK f/k/a BRANCH
BANKING & TRUST COMPANY**

vs

**DEBORAH R. PROCTOR AND
MARK A. PROCTOR, c/o
Thomas P. Agrafiotis, Esquire**

**DOCKET #: 2018-6471
JUDGEMENT: \$318,406.65**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, Charleroi Borough;

Address: 331 FALLOWFIELD AVENUE,
CHARLEROI, PA 15022
Tax #: 160-021-00-02-0005-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: McCABE, WEISBERG &
CONWAY, (215) 790-1010

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

MOUNT PLEASANT

**COMMUNITY LOAN SERVICING,
LLC f/k/a BAYVIEW LOAN
SERVICING, LLC**

vs

**PENELOPE G. KRAMER AKA
PENELOPE G. KRAMER**

**DOCKET #: 2021-7762
JUDGEMENT: \$33,506.02**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, Mount Pleasant
Township;

Address: 1010 SECOND STREET,
MCDONALD, PA 15057
Tax #: 460-012-01-00-0022-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: KML LAW GROUP, P.C.,
(215) 627-1322

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

NEW EAGLE

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.

vs

**MARY ANN ROBERTS, as Executrix
of the Estate of RICHARD B.
CHARLTON AKA
RICHARD HARLTON**

**DOCKET #: 2021-6925
JUDGEMENT: \$37,525.98**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, New Eagle
Borough;

Address: 433 FIRST AVENUE, NEW
EAGLE, PA 15067
Tax #: 480-012-00-01-0029-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: MANLEY DEAS
KOCHALSKI LLC, (614) 220-5611

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

PETERS

**FLEXOSPAN STEEL BUILDINGS,
INC.**

vs

**McCLURE CONSTRUCTION CO.,
LLC, McCLURE SALES COMPANY,
INC., and, in their individual
capacities, Estate of ROBERT B.
McCLURE, ET AL**

**DOCKET #: 2021-7495
JUDGEMENT: \$1,806,360.19**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, Peters Township;

Address: 110 MOORE DRIVE,
MCMURRAY, PA 15317 & VACANT
LOT IN PETERS TWP
Tax #: 540-011-03-02-0009-01 &
(VACANT LAND-540-011-03-02-0009-
02) (2)

Improvements: Residential Dwelling
Attorney: KNOX McLAUGHLIN
GORNALL & SENNETT, P.C.,
(814) 459-2800

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

UNION

**U.S. BANK NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION**

vs

**STACEY DYRWAL, In Her Capacity
as Executrix and Devisee of the Estate
of JUDY L. TALMONTI A/K/A JULY
LYNN TALMONTI A/K/A JUDY
TALMONTI**

**DOCKET #: 2020-1245
JUDGEMENT: \$126,829.34**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, Union Township;

Address: 3478 ORCHARD AVENUE
A/K/A 3478 ORCHARD DRIVE,
FINLEYVILLE, PA 15332
Tax #: 640-010-02-03-0006-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC,
(844) 856-6646

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

vs

**JAMES E. DURBIN AND TRACY L.
DURBIN**

**DOCKET #: 2012-1092
JUDGEMENT: \$1,850.84**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, City of Washington;

Address: 480 BROAD STREET, WASH-
INGTON, PA 15301
Tax #: 780-005-00-02-0002-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: PORTNOFF LAW
ASSOCIATES, LTD, (866) 720-9748

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

WASHINGTON (Cont'd)

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF
PENNSYLVANIA**

vs

CHAD R. BAKER

**DOCKET #: 2022-1641
JUDGEMENT: \$109,701.16**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, City of Washington;

Address: 376 MAPLE AVENUE,
WASHINGTON, PA 15301
Tax #: 770-025-00-04-0005-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF
PENNSYLVANIA IN-HOUSE COUN-
SEL, 412-320-2191

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

WASHINGTON (Cont'd)

CITY OF WASHINGTON

vs

GILES INVEST, L.L.C.

**DOCKET #: 2016-2727
JUDGEMENT: \$1,545.78**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, City of Washington;

Address: 30 OREGON STREET,
WASHINGTON, PA 15301
Tax #: 710-009-00-03-0013-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: PORTNOFF LAW
ASSOCIATES, LTD, (866) 720-9748

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

WASHINGTON (Cont'd)

**CITY OF WASHINGTON
vs
VALARIE D. SCHNORE**

**DOCKET #: 2019-3887
JUDGEMENT: \$2,088.04**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, City of Washington;

Address: 643 ALLISON AVENUE,
WASHINGTON, PA 15301
Tax #: 770-008-00-02-0007-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: PORTNOFF LAW
ASSOCIATES, LTD, (866) 720-9748

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

WEST PIKE RUN

**FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND
LOAN ASSOCIATION OF GREENE
COUNTY, as existing under the laws of
the United States**

**vs
DENNIS J. KUROWSKI, II**

**DOCKET #: 2021-7813
JUDGEMENT: \$71,313.11**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, West Pike Run
Township;

Address: 217 WHITEHALL ROAD,
DAISYTOWN, PA 15427
Tax #: 700-011-00-00-0010-00

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: PEACOCK KELLER LLP,
(724) 222-4520

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

WASHINGTON (Cont'd)

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
vs
SIX HUNDRED ONE BEECH ST.
TRUST**

**DOCKET #: 2015-4779
JUDGEMENT: \$1,425.49**

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,
Washington County, City of Washington;

Address: 601 BEECH STREET,
WASHINGTON, PA 15301
Tax #: 760-015-00-01-0017-01

Improvements: Residential Dwelling

Attorney: PORTNOFF LAW
ASSOCIATES, LTD, (866) 720-9748

WCR Vol 102 Issues 46,47,48

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& ASSOCIATES

412-281-2200

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700 Grant Bldg., 310 Grant St., Pgh., PA 15219

ATTACHMENT “F”

PROPOSAL I - FAVORABLE

Kathy Tarr

From: Todd Pappasergi <todd.pappasergi@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Cc: Patrick Grimm
Subject: Re: MDJ Realignment

Please accept the following as a comment in favor of the proposed MDJ realignment. As indicated in the report/study following the census and latest statistics for Washington County, the status quo clearly cannot be maintained. Washington County has the highest number of MDJs for 4th class counties, while at the same time having the 4th lowest caseload for the applicable time period. Indeed, Monroe County, with a caseload of approximately 700 cases higher than Washington County, has a stable of only nine MDJs. Even if Washington County would have increased population to classify as a 3rd class county, 11 MDJs still would not be warranted with the current caseload.

Judicial budgets, both at the county and state level, have been under increasing scrutiny and tightening over the past twenty years, and this is a trend that will likely continue. I applaud Court Administration and the Board of Judges for developing a plan that take that budget constraining into account, while simultaneously evenly distributing caseloads and geographic populations. Moreover, phasing the reconfiguration will ensure that litigants, the minor judiciary, and court staff/employees have a smooth and seamless transition into the new MDJ districts.

Sincerely,

Todd Pappasergi, Esq.

* Attorney Pappasergi is an officer of the Washington County Bar Association; however, this statement is given by him as an individual and does not reflect the views of the WCBA or its Board of Directors.

Kathy Tarr

From: John Egers <johnegers@julianlawfirm.com>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 1:13 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Cc: John Egers
Subject: Comments on MDJ redistricting

I find the proposed plan appropriate. Its clear that the caseloads have dropped and the reduction of districts is necessary from the data provided. As an attorney that practices both in the civil and criminal sides of the minor courts, the consolidation will assist in limiting conflicts not only in my scheduling, but with the scheduling of other private attorneys and Assistant District Attorneys would will have one less court in each of the their two zones of prosecution. Likewise, policing agencies, specifically the state police will have fewer magistrates to schedule with for hearings. This plan also alleviates the high caseload in the City of Washington with Magistrate Stewart. It also does a fair job of maintaining the identity of the bailiwicks in place, with Washington brought back together with East Washington, with Canonsburg, Houston Chartiers and Cecil being brought together on one side of Route 19 and North Strabane and Peters Township combined on the other side of Route 19. The elimination of the two districts will allow for the newly defined districts to relocate their offices in a more centralized location to service the wider area they will oversee. In the recent past, I have been to magistrate offices in this county to file a civil suit and noticed that on certain days no activity was occurring. Compare that with Judge Redlinger, now Judge Stewart's office where something is always happening. This is a cost saving measure that is necessary in light of the caseload here and in comparable counties in the remainder of the state. I am in favor the proposed plan.

John E. Egers, Jr., Esq.

Julian Law Firm
Attorneys at Law
71 North Main Street
Washington, PA 15301
724-228-1860
Fax 724-225-9643
Toll Free 1-855-730-4834

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PROPOSAL I - UNFAVORABLE

Borough of California
225 Third Street
California, PA 15419

Dr. Frank Stetar, Mayor	Mr. Patsy Alfano, Council President	Mr. Phil Difilippo, Councilman
Mr. Jon Bittner, Councilman	Mr. Chip Glab, Councilman	Mr. Tony Mariscotti, Councilman
Mr. John Frank, Councilman	Mr. James Maddiex, Councilman	Dr. Richard Martin, Administrator

February 11, 2022

Mr. Patrick Grimm, Esq.
Court Administrator
Court of Common Pleas
1 South Main Street Suite 1003
Washington PA

Dear Administrator Grimm:

At its regular meeting of February 10, 2022, council directed me to summarize and submit to you their concerns about the proposed realignment of DMJ districts in Washington County. We are particularly concerned about the effects of combining Judge Kanalis' and Judge Thompson's offices. The increased workload on that combined office will cause us to have officers sitting and waiting for cases to be called rather than being available for patrol. As hearings generally involve overtime, the longer they wait the more our taxpayers will have to pay. Neither of these realities serves the interests of our community.

As home to the largest institution of higher learning in the county, California recognizes the need for our college students, and for that matter all residents, to be able to access justice efficiently and expeditiously. As Gladstone poignantly observed, "Justice delayed is justice denied," and this scheme will surely delay justice for our residents.

According to the guidelines issued by the state Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, the average number of filings per court in counties of the fourth class is 4150. Washington County averages 4151 filings in its current 11 DMJ districts. According to the realignment guidelines given to the county president judges, districts should not deviate from the average of all the county's DMJ districts by more than 15% above or below. Judge Kanalis' office is actually one of the few offices in the county that currently falls within those guidelines: yet, this addle-minded scheme would cause his office to be closed. Just a few years ago several municipalities were reassigned to Judge Thompson's court to bolster his numbers: even so, his office is to this day 41% below the county average in case filings. Still, the county bench seems determined to preserve his district at the expense of our court.

Judge Kanalis' court is one of only three in the county that has actually shown an increase in filings over the past ten years. The neighboring district has shown a twelve and a half percent loss over that same decade. Why in the world would the judicial system want to replace a strong, growing district with a much weaker one?

Finally, we are concerned with the heavy-handed, dictatorial fashion in which this whole process has been approached in Washington County. AOPC rule number one states that the process should begin by conferring with the DMJs in the county. The only conferring that appears to have taken place was when they were all called together and told that this is how it's going to be. Questions and concerns appear to be met with a deaf ear. We will not speculate on the political dynamic of whatever the motivation may be, but it is apparent that eliminating two MDJ districts while keeping a vacant office open pending the securing of a new judge is suspicious, particularly given the residence and political histories of some of the players in this bizarre drama and the fact that this office falls well outside of the 15% guideline

If the Washington County bench is not willing to step up and get its own house in proper order, then perhaps the state judiciary needs to take a hard look at what's going on here. Serving the citizens of our region is of paramount importance to this council, and it is disappointing that such does not appear to be the case where this judicial realignment is concerned.

Respectfully Yours,

Richard H. Martin

Dr. Richard H. Martin
Borough Administrator
California, PA

C: J. Mittleman

January 31, 2022

Dear Ms. Tarr:

On January 21, 2022, the *Observer Reporter*, printed an article announcing a proposed realignment of the district courts system. I would like to take this opportunity to respond to that proposal. The proposal is preposterous at best! According to the article, “The proposal would effectively eliminate districts where magistrates Gary Havelka and Joshua Kanalis are currently serving...” There is *nothing* effective about this move! Perhaps a better word choice might be affective! This change will affect the people of the Burgettstown Area in a most detrimental way. Why, again, are the affluent rewarded and those in more of a need cast to the side? Take a look at those who need and utilize this magisterial District Office; it is an integral part of the Burgettstown Area! I grew up here; my husband grew up here. We know the people and can relate to their needs. I was a teacher in the Burgettstown Area School District for 35 years. My husband has been involved in his car dealership with his father, and now by himself, for 50 years. I assure you we know the area and know how important it is for these folks to have access to legal assistance!

Gary Havelka has served his constituents with integrity for 30+ years. His presence in the area and in his office provided needed benefits to residents, who often times struggle to make ends meet! Let’s take these citizens into consideration.

The article also states that change and realignment have been needed for a long time and yet there’s newly elected John Bruner and newly elected Lou McQuillan! Why? I really need to know why Judge Havelka is one of the two selected to be eliminated! I don’t think you have looked closely enough at the total picture; please note that I have not mentioned politics, but I can’t help but think it’s there somewhere!

Please revisit your decision. Let equity be a major factor.

Respectfully,

Frank and Loraine Dellaria



Borough of Burgettstown

Office of the Mayor

1509 S. Main St.

Burgettstown PA, 15021

Dear Ms. Tarr,

I am writing to ask you to please reconsider the current plan to realign the magisterial districts. The ability to utilize and access the local court system is a fundamental benefit of being an American. Because the citizens of Burgettstown Borough and surrounding townships do not have access to public transportation and a large portion of the population are near or below poverty level, I'm certain the geographic challenges created by the proposed alignment will unfairly impact our community. Additionally, eliminating our local courts will place an unnecessary burden on the Burgettstown Area School District since this court routinely handles disciplinary and truancy issues. If you would like to discuss this issue I can be reached at 724-947-2011.

Sincerely,


Luke Snatchko

Mayor of Burgettstown

Honorable John F. DiSalle
President Judge

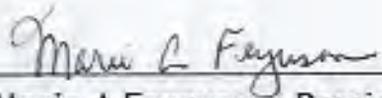
The Executive Board and Members of the Burgettstown Area Senior Citizens Center located at 200 Senior Way, Burgettstown, PA. in Washington County are opposed to the closure of the Magisterial District Court 27-3-07 of the Honorable Judge Gary Havelka.

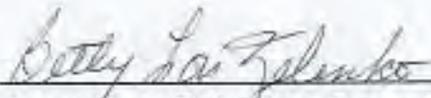
Our opposition as we see it would have an adverse effect on the senior communities we serve since it would impact all seniors and police officers assigned to their care. With limited protection available to our senior residents in all surrounding communities, travel time to court would be a burden for our officers and leave our residents unprotected during this time.

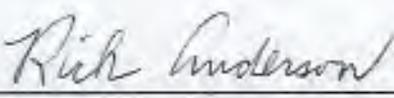
The closure of Judge Havelka's office would cause hardship and added cost to all communities and residents in this much needed jurisdiction.

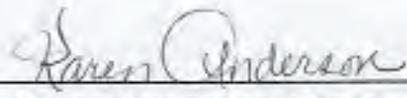
Respectfully, this Board is asking you to reconsider the closure of Magisterial District Court 27-3-07 due to the impact it would have on our area.

Sincerely,


Marie A Ferguson, President


Betty Lou Zelenko, Secretary


Rich Anderson, Vice-President


Karen Anderson, Treasurer

Kathy Tarr

From: Chief LaRue <chiefiarue@smithtownship.org>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 8:42 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Havelka office



Chief Winford LaRue
Smith Township Police Department
1848 Smith Township State Road
PO Box 94
Slovan PA, 15078
Office: (724) 947-5069
Fax: (724) 947-5278

Whom It May Concern,

My name is Winford LaRue, and I have held the position of Chief of Police for the Smith Township Police Department for a total of fourteen years. This letter is to express my concerns with the article entitled, "District Court System Realignment Would Eliminate Two Magistrates In Washington County" that was published in the Observer-Reporter newspaper on 21st January 2022. After reading the article, I found out that the proposal would eliminate the Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka's Office. Eliminating Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka's Office will have a big impact on the residents as well as the Smith Township Police Department and other Police Departments that are included within his district.

With the elimination of Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka's Office it would create a substantial impact on the residents who reside in Smith Township. The Smith Township Police Department currently serves a population total of approximately 4,600 residents, most of the residents being elderly with no means of transportation. It is to be noted that in Smith Township we do not have the access to public transit, so it is not uncommon for many of the residents to walk to Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka's Office to request information or to file legal paperwork. In addition, eliminating Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka's Office will also have a substantial impact on the Officers which comprise my department. Currently, my department has one Officer on duty for each shift and with this proposed elimination it would cause the Officers to travel out of Smith Township, leaving Smith Township to rely on mutual aid for any emergency calls through Washington County 911 since most Officers attend their court hearings while on duty.

In conclusion, this proposed elimination of Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka's Office would cause more of an inconvenience not only to my department but to the residents that are included within his district.

Sincerely,

Winford LaRue
Chief of Police, Smith Township Police Department



CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY

O F P E N N S Y L V A N I A

To: Honorable John F. DiSalle, President Judge

From: Dr. Christopher Wydra, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice at California University of Pennsylvania

RE: 2022 Magisterial District Judges Reestablishment/Realignment Plan

February 11, 2022

I am writing in reference to the Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan. As a Washington County resident and professor at California University of Pennsylvania, I am very concerned about the proposed elimination of Magisterial District Office 27-3-03. The location of Magisterial District Office 27-3-03 is very convenient for California Borough residence and students at California University of Pennsylvania. There is a large number of students the live on campus at Cal U or in housing that is near campus within the borough of California or in Coal Center. The location of Magisterial District Office 27-3-03 provides Cal U students access to justice in a location that is near campus or the college residence. Without a local magisterial office, students will have a difficult time having easy access to justice in the area. Additionally, if Magisterial District Office 27-3-03 closes, there is not public transportation that would be available to the new location of the proposed realignment of the magisterial district offices. This would be a disservice to the residence and employees of the area but what I am really concerned about is the elimination of access to justice for the thousands of college students at Cal U.

Additionally, I would like to make some remarks regarding the “guidelines” for the proposed 2022 Magisterial District Judges Reestablishment/Realignment Plan. I have reviewed the plan and guidelines and the plan does not appear to align with the guidelines that are being used for the realignment plan. Specifically, as stated in the guidelines, proposed changes can be dependent upon retirement. It is known that Magisterial District Office 27-3-02 will have an upcoming retirement yet will remain open but it is proposed that Magisterial District Office 27-3-03 should close. Additionally, and even more concerning is that Magisterial District Office 27-3-02 ranks near the lowest in case filings and workload in Washington County, so these two factors should indicate that the more reasonable closure should be Magisterial District Office 27-3-02, not Magisterial District Office 27-3-03. Another fact is that Magisterial District Office 27-3-03 does fall within the guidelines of 15% higher or lower workloads compared to other judicial districts in Washington County, while other fall considerably lower than 15%, even double and triple than the allowable –

15% workload. Yet, another indication that the proposed realignment is not even following its own guidelines for realignment which is quite confusing to a concerned resident of Washington County.

I would strongly encourage at least another review of the guidelines and a fair and impartial decision to leave Magisterial District Office 27-3-03, especially considering the facts of case filing, workloads, and the guidelines that prescribe the realignment plan.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Christopher Wydra

Dr. Christopher Wydra
Associate Professor of Criminal Justice
California University of Pennsylvania
wydra@calu.edu

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP

20 Parkview Road
Avella, PA 15312
Phone: 724-345-3333
Fax: 724-345-8115

02/14/2022

Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Attn: Kathy A. Tarr

To Whom It May Concern:

Please let this letter serve as formal notice that the Board of Supervisors of Hopewell Township, Washington County Pennsylvania are opposed to the elimination and/or reduction of individual magisterial districts in Washington County. It is the opinion of this Board that any such elimination and/or reduction would have a negative impact on the Township's Code Enforcement Office. An elimination and/or reduction of individual magisterial districts in this area would create even more delays and effect the timeliness of code enforcement activity in Hopewell Township.

Sincerely,

Hopewell Township
Board of Supervisors

Mary Rush, Chairperson
Donald Kearns, Vice Chairman
John Miller, Supervisor

210 Monroe Avenue
West Brownsville, PA 15417

January 28, 2022

To: Honorable John F. DiSalle, President Judge

Patrick Grimm, Esq., Court Administrator

I am writing in reference to the Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan. As a long time resident of West Brownsville borough and a former borough elected official, I am very concerned about the elimination of Magisterial District Office 27-3-03.

In the documentation provided by the courts, the above mentioned office saw an increase of 1.48% in caseloads. Also, the office deviation from the judicial district average is -8.95%, as compared to -42.47% of the office that will remain. The AOPC guidelines requires +/-15%, which finds the district office in compliance of the guidelines.

The area which is covered by this office has a university and the largest retail chain in the nation. PA Route 43 Expressway is the major highway located in the community. With adding a .5 position to the office, as compared to one or two positions, will be cost-efficient; enabling the plan to maintain the proposed number of 35 staff members, or less.

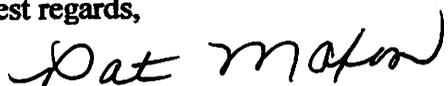
Magisterial District Judge Joshua Kanalis brings integrity and honesty to the position. He is respected, not only as a district justice, but for the person he is. As a public official, I dealt with Joshua in a serious criminal matter. He applied the necessary bond, within the requirements of the law. The offender not only served jail time, but was required to pay restitution to the borough.

As a taxpayer and a former county employee, I appreciate your efforts to streamline the offices, and to distribute caseloads fairly. However, the plan to eliminate Magisterial Office 27-3-03, in 2026, is not the answer. I am sure, in the next few years, the office will continue to experience an increase in caseloads.

As long as I can remember, a magisterial office was located in our area. How sad it will be to eliminate the office, which is viable and employs a proven district justice and staff? I realize that we are not located in the hub of the county, but we are a part of the County.

I have always been proud of the Washington County court system, and the people who work there. I respectfully request, and hope that this matter will be re-evaluated.

Best regards,



Pat Maxon

1/30/2022

Ms. Kathy Tarr
1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

Dear Ms. Tarr:

I am writing in response to the article that appeared in the Washington Observer on January 21, 2022 regarding the realignment of the district court system in Washington County. As a life-long resident of the Burgettstown Area, a past council member in the borough of Burgettstown, an active member in many local organizations in the area, I feel that the proposed realignment has ignored one important factor in the decision-making process, the involvement of affected members of the community.

Obviously as a local politician during the time the study was being conducted, I was not aware that the Burgettstown Area was once again losing services without being provided an opportunity to offer input. Although I am no longer on the council, I am involved in the community enough to realize that eliminating the local district magistrate's office in the immediate area will provide one more additional hardship on perhaps our most vulnerable constituents.

By looking at the proposed boundaries, one has to question if proximity to a district office was even considered when the proposal was formulated.

I'm sure a caseload is a factor, and I'm sure finances are a consideration, but when you consider that a large number of cases in more rural areas are related to property issues, school attendance issues, driving citation issues, etc., you are dealing with a population that often is of limited means and that are already struggling. Forcing these very individuals to miss a day of work to travel to a hearing simply adds an additional burden.

Taxpayers in Northwest and Southwest Washington County are accustomed to being short-changed when it comes to County services, so we should not be surprised to see another cut in services being proposed. I certainly hope that area and proximity to district offices becomes a serious consideration before any plan is finalized.

Respectfully,

Phillip S. Esno

Kathy Tarr

From: Patrick Grimm
Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 2:44 PM
To: chieflarue@smithtownship.org
Cc: Kathy Tarr
Subject: RE: Havelka office

Chief LaRue:

Thank you for taking the time to review the proposal and comment. I appreciate the concerns that you have raised below. The proposed plan does reduce the overall number of magisterial districts, and it partly accomplishes this by combining two magisterial districts in the northwest section of the County, those districts being 27-3-06 (MDJ McQuillan) and 27-3-07 (MDJ Havelka). The resulting proposed district is comprised of all of the municipalities of 27-3-07 plus McDonald, Robinson, and Mt. Pleasant townships. Burgettstown and Smith Townships are still in the center of the newly proposed district.

It is important to note that the proposal does not discuss, or otherwise require, the office of the magisterial district court to move from its current location in Smith Township. In other words, there are no plans within the reestablishment proposal to move the office. Therefore, the anticipated impacts you note below may not occur if the proposal is approved. Again, I sincerely thank you for taking the time to respond to the Court's proposal.

Best,

Patrick R. Grimm, Esquire
District Court Administrator
27th Judicial District of Pennsylvania
Court of Common Pleas of Washington County
1 South Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301
Tel. 724.228.6797
Fax. 724.228.6938
patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us
www.washingtoncourts.us

From: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 8:45 AM
To: Patrick Grimm <patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: FW: Havelka office

From: Chief LaRue <chieflarue@smithtownship.org>
Sent: Friday, January 28, 2022 8:42 AM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Havelka office

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2022 10:06 AM
To: Andrea White
Subject: RE: Hopewell Township, Washington County - Opposition to elimination/reduction of magisterial districts

Hi Andrea,

Thank you so much for taking the time to speak with me about the Hopewell Township Board of Supervisors' concerns regarding the proposed Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan. To confirm our conversation, Hopewell Township is currently located in MDJ John Bruner's magisterial district and would remain in MDJ Bruner's district under the proposed plan. Specifically, Hopewell Township would not be affected by any of the changes outlined in the proposal.

If I can provide additional information or clarification, please let me know.

Thanks,

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Andrea White <parkview20avella@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 3:41 PM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Hopewell Township, Washington County - Opposition to elimination/reduction of magisterial districts

Please see attached a letter from the Board of Supervisors of Hopewell Township regarding the Board's opposition to any elimination an/or reduction of individual magisterial districts in Washington County. We apologize for the delay in getting this letter to your office; however, the Board's regular business meeting was just held on February 14, 2022, where discussion was able to be held regarding this issue. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Thank You,
Andrea White
Secretary/Treasurer
Hopewell Township
Phone: 724-345-3333
Fax: 724-345-8115

Confidential and Privileged: The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other

use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender, destroy all copies and delete the material from any computer. Hopewell Township and/or its employees shall not be liable for the incorrect, incomplete or delay in transmission of this e-mail. CONFIDENTIAL- This E-mail message including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information based on law and HIPAA. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies.

TOWNSHIP OF SMITH

1848 SMITH TOWNSHIP STATE ROAD PO BOX 94

SLOVAN PA 15078 PHONE 724-947-9456 FAX 724-947-2715

**ROBERT C. CASSIDY, CHAIRMAN, TIMOTHY J. GREEN, VICE-CHAIRMAN,
MARIE A. FERGUSON, SECRETARY secretary@smithtownship.org**

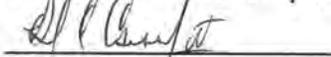
We, the Supervisors of Smith Township in Washington County, PA are opposed to the closure of the Magisterial District Court 27-3-07 of the Honorable Judge Gary Havelka, due to the fact that it would impact our Police Department and the Residents of Smith Township. We have only one officer on duty at a time and to Travel for court would be a burden for our officers and leave our residents unprotected during this time.

Also, the Pavilion at Starlake in Burgettstown for the last two years has not been Open due to the Covid-19. This year, the season is booked, so that will bring many Citations for the 2022 season and future years ahead. The closure of Judge Havelka's office would cause hardship to not only our township and our residents, But to all the townships and residents in Judge Havelka's jurisdiction.

Smith Township is asking you to reconsider the closure of Magiserial District Court 27-3-07 due to the impact it would have on our area.

Sincerely,

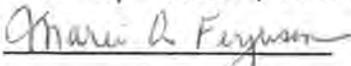
The Smith Township Supervisors



Robert C. Cassidy, Chairman



Timothy J. Green, Vice-Chairman



Marie A. Ferguson, Secretary

PROPOSAL II - FAVORABLE

Kathy Tarr

From: Todd Pappasergi <todd.pappasergi@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:42 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Revised MDJ Alignment - Comment

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Ms. Tarr,

Please accept the following as a comment in favor of the proposed MDJ realignment. As indicated in the report/study following the census and latest statistics for Washington County, the status quo clearly cannot be maintained. Washington County has the highest number of MDJs for 4th class counties, while at the same time having the 4th lowest caseload for the applicable time period. Indeed, Monroe County, with a caseload of approximately 700 cases higher than Washington County, has a stable of only nine MDJs. Even if Washington County would have increased population to classify as a 3rd class county, 11 MDJs still would not be warranted with the current caseload.

Judicial budgets, both at the county and state level, have been under increasing scrutiny and tightening over the past twenty years, and this is a trend that will likely continue. I applaud Court Administration and the Board of Judges for developing a plan that takes that budget constraining into account, while simultaneously evenly distributing caseloads and geographic populations.

Finally, as a resident of Cecil Township, I am wholly supportive of the portion of the realignment that has District 27-3-06 comprised of Peters Township, McDonald Borough, and Cecil Township. Given the high vehicle traffic volumes of Route 19, having three magisterial districts handle this corridor seems to be a wise distribution of the caseload. Second, while much has been made about the potential travel difficulties of Peters Township officers and officials traveling to Cecil Township for hearings, I make two observations:

1. The location of the District 27-3-06 location does not need to remain in Cecil Township;
2. When looking at efficiency of police travel, the Monongahela City Police Department, which provides police services to Finleyville and Union Township, must currently travel 25 miles round trip from its police station to the current Peters Township MDJ location, while also handling matters at District 27-1-02. Bringing all of that department's jurisdiction into District 27-1-02 will save considerable resources for a much smaller department than the Peters Township police department. At the same time, even if District 27-3-06 would remain at the same location, the more robust Peters Township department will travel 16 miles round trip, considerably less than what Monongahela must endure currently.

Sincerely,

Todd Pappasergi, Esq.

*** Attorney Pappasergi is an officer of the Washington County Bar Association; however, this statement is given by him as an individual and does not reflect the views of the WCBA or its Board of Directors.**

Kathy Tarr

From: Carole Ortenzo <caroleortenzo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:27 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Support for the District Court Realignment Plan

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Dear Ms. Tarr,

I am emailing to express my support for the District Court Realignment Plan for Washington County that would reduce the number of magistrates for the county from 11 to 9. My understanding is, over the next 10 years, this plan would save the county taxpayers approximately \$2.5 million annually.

I am a resident of Peters Township. The fact that Peters will be combined with Cecil Township according to the realignment plan makes sense because the data shows an 18% decrease in case load for Peters between 2012 and 2022.

I am told the PT Council is opposing this plan because it will be inconvenient for PT police and residents to travel to the court office in Cecil. However, because the plan does not mandate that the remaining district offices stay in their current locations, it is possible that the office will be moved to a more centralized location. Moreover, even if the Cecil office is not moved, the drive to that location from Peters is not overly burdensome.

So, overall, the annual savings to tax payers is worth having to drive a little further to a magistrates office.

Thank you.
Carole

Carole Ortenzo
Peters Township resident
Zip code 15317

Kathy Tarr

From: John Egers <johnegers@julianlawfirm.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 10:35 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Cc: John Egers
Subject: MDJ realignment

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Dear Ms. Tarr,

A review of the revised plan for realignment of MDJs in Washington County addresses the case number disparity and lack of need for all of the current offices. Elimination of the two offices under this plan provides for the continuation of all current MDJs in office. It also addresses disparity in case filings increasing all of the offices workloads except MDJ Manfredi. This county cannot continue to justify 11 MDJ offices. It also provides some relief to Magistrate Stewart's office who has the highest caseload. It also increases staffing at all offices except MDJ Manfredi who will see the only staffing reduction but he is also seeing a decrease in workload. The districts contain contiguous municipalities. The failure to address shifts in population in the past are addressed with the redistricting. Obviously, some locations of MDJ offices will have to be reconsidered and moved to best serve the population. But unlike court of common pleas that are housed at the county seat permanently, MDJ offices are subject to decennial changes. MDJs in our county must all serve multiple municipalities, not just one. The current plan is beneficial as it keeps the current members of the minor judiciary while aligning their districts to save costs to the county and state and ultimately the taxpayers in the long run.

John E. Egers, Jr., Esq.

Julian Law Firm
Attorneys at Law
71 North Main Street
Washington, PA 15301
724-228-1860
Fax 724-225-9643
Toll Free 1-855-730-4834

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Kathy Tarr

From: Dee Abbruzzese <abbruzzesedee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 8:45 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Magisterial District Proposal

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

I am writing to indicate my support for the magisterial district proposal eliminating Districts 27-3-02 and 27-3-01. I have reviewed the proposal combining the current 11 districts into 9 and, as a senior citizen, I appreciate that someone is finally thinking of the taxpayers of Washington County. This is truly refreshing, especially in the current economic environment where so many people are having a tough time making ends meet and politicians don't seem to care as long as their agendas are met.

As a taxpayer, especially as one who was in the work force for over 45 years, I am APPALLED to see how little the magistrates in Washington County work compared to other magistrates across the State. I do not understand how they can take a full-time salary for what is clearly a part-time position, at least in our County. This should be completely unacceptable to every single resident of Washington County and those magistrates should be embarrassed to take a paycheck they didn't earn. Voters should take heed of this as well.

Please share this email indicating my support for the proposal to Judge John DiSalle and Court Administrator Patrick Grimm. I applaud their decision to take a stand for the taxpayers of Washington County and to streamline the courts in the process.

Dee Abbruzzese
Muse, Pennsylvania
Cecil Township

To Whom It May Concern:

A retired employee and resident of North Franklin Township, I agree with the redistricting proposal of the Magisterial Districts. When I first started working for the County, I felt that 13 offices were a lot considering the financial costs associated with said offices. Rent, utilities, employee payroll, and constable fees are just some of the costs needed to make the offices run their day to day operations. Over the years we have eliminated two more offices and currently have 11 Magisterial Districts. With Magisterial District Just Curtis Thompson's (27-3-02) retirement, it would be the perfect time to redistrict that office to Magisterial District Judge Joshua Kanalis. As far as the vacant Magisterial District (27-3-01) in Peters Township, I feel it would be a worthy move to Magisterial District Judge Louis McQuillian (27-3-06). The distance between the 2 offices would not be that far for an individual to travel for an outstanding ticket or warrant. I feel that the judicial process would be streamlined with the elimination of the two offices. I would like to commend Judge DiSalle for keeping the taxpayers in mind when making a really tough decision in respect to the Magisterial Districts.

Nancy Weaver

North Franklin Township

Kathy Tarr

From: Mike Fagella <fagella@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:02 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Magistrate realignment

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I am in support of president judge DiSalle and the court administrators efforts at actually trying to effectively run the county judicial system . Which is a needed but thankless job Sincerely
Michael j Fagella, Esq and former magistrate district judge

Kathy Tarr

From: Ann Shaner <jackjez1234@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2022 11:32 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: District Court Realignment

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Good Morning,

Please be advised that I am in support of the District Court Realignment as proposed by President Judge, John DiSalle. I have reviewed the data and the proposal and find the recommendations in the best interest of the people of Washington County.

Sincerely,

Ann K. Shaner
123 Robinhood Ln.
McMurray, PA 15317

Kathy Tarr

From: L M <scherefolkart8@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 9:50 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: I support realignment plan for magisterial court

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Dear Court administrator,

I am writing to show my support of the realignment plan for the magisterial districts.

Lisa Scherer
Marianna, Pa 15345
724-751-2205

Kathy Tarr

From: Evelyn Harris <egharris1@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 5:54 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: DISTRICT COURT REALIGNMENT

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Dear Ms. Tarr,

I am writing to express my support of district court realignment. Our tax dollars are being wasted on magisterial courts which are underused.

Evelyn Harris

147 Canterbury Lane

McMurray, PA 15217

Kathy Tarr

From: Robert Kapp <bob@kappcreativegroup.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2022 2:18 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Cc: Robert Kapp
Subject: Support of the realignment plan

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Ms. Tarr,

I am writing to express my support of the realignment plan for the magisterial districts.

Thank you,

Bob Kapp
Kapp Creative Group
412.721.7137
bob@kappcreativegroup.com

Kathy Tarr

From: Marie Ferguson <rubbrman@windstream.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 8:08 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Cc: Ferg
Subject: District Court Proposed Realignment

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I am in support of the proposed district court realignment.

Marie A Ferguson
2 Verner Avenue
Bulger, PA 15019

Kathy Tarr

From: joan charlson <joancharlson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 3:02 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Redistricting of Magistrates

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I am a resident of McMurray. I fully support the combining of the Peters and Cecil Magisterial offices.

Thank you.

Joan Charlson
204 Waterside Drive
15317

Sent from my iPhone
Joan Granowitz Charlson

Kathy Tarr

From: David Finder
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 11:47 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Fwd: Magistrate reapportionment

From: Fredric Bender <fgb1947@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2022 11:29:44 AM
To: David Finder <david.finder@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Magistrate reapportionment

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Mr Finder, Please be assured that I and my wife do support the proposal to condense some of the local magistrate's offices that is proposed. Please relay this email to Mr Grimm.

Regards, Fred and Susan Bender, 1026 Waterford Ct East, Canonsburg, Pa 15317

PROPOSAL II - UNFAVORABLE

Kathy Tarr

From: Ben Slagle <slagle81@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 7, 2022 8:28 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Removing the peters township magistrate

My name is Benjamin Slagle. I live at 110 Scenery Circle McMurray PA 15317. It has recently been brought to our attention that you want to get rid of our magistrate and merge it with Cecil. That's unacceptable and it better not happen. It's obviously a political ploy and it's not acceptable. Find something better to do with your time than punish conservatives!

Sent from my iPhone

Kathy Tarr

From: Brooke Blackman <beb2590@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 4:09 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Public Comment on the Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Name: Brooke Blackman

Address: 345 Snowberry Circle, Venetia, PA 15367

Public Comment: I strongly oppose this proposed reestablishment plan for the 27th Judicial District for the very reason that it eliminates the current magisterial district that encompasses Peters Township: 27-3-01. I am a Peters Township resident and have been one since 1996.

First, eliminating this district does not make any sense based on the numbers that were provided in the plan. 27-3-01 ranks neither at the top or bottom of a list in terms of caseload, workload, working days without a case event, or any other category of data presented in the plan, meaning that there is no justification for eliminating 27-3-01 by saying that it has the smallest caseload or the greatest deviation in workload or the greatest number of working days without a case event - none of that is true for 27-3-01, and other districts fit those criteria for elimination better than 27-3-01. Specifically, as you are aware, I can personally attest to the fact that the caseload and workload for 27-3-01 has not dropped significantly enough to justify elimination, and that is because of the overwhelming number of summary trial cases that come out of Peters Township. Peters Township Police Department brings the greatest number of traffic and non-traffic summary cases before the MDJ, other than Cecil Township Police Department, especially of those that are further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas.

Second, eliminating 27-3-01 would create a substantial burden on Peters Township residents and the Peters Township Police Department. The current office for 27-3-01 is located on Valleybrook Road in a very accessible part of Peters Township. It's a one minute drive for the Peters Township police and a five minute drive for me. Eliminating this district would mean that everyone would have to travel to the Cecil Township office of 27-3-06 on Millers Run Road - at least a twenty minute drive for Peters Township residents and police through windy, backroad farmland, I might add. I understand that this plan does not necessarily discuss or impact office locations, but this is still a major factor in my opposition to this plan, especially if the current office for 27-3-06 remains the same.

Third, and this is simply my personal opinion, this is a personal attack on Peters Township relative to the rest of Washington County. I can't speak to the opinions of the residents of Union and Nottingham Townships or Finleyville Borough, but I can say that we the people of Peters Township have felt underrepresented by our county commissioners and ignored by our judiciary for far too long. Having a magisterial district office in the heart of Peters Township at least ensured that we maintained some kind of voice within the county's judiciary. Eliminating that office along with 27-3-01 would silence that voice altogether. We are not going to tolerate that. The proposed plan is merely a pretext for destroying the opportunity for anyone to run for office to fill the currently vacant seat (which, by the way, was vacated at way too convenient a time as this year), especially by

someone who may disrupt the status quo of the state of the judiciary. I expressed my intentions of running for this office and becoming the next magisterial district judge of 27-3-01, and my intentions are public and common knowledge throughout the county, the judiciary, the bar association, and Peters Township. I find it personally insulting that my district would be eliminated before I even had the chance to announce my candidacy and circulate petitions.

Finally, the original proposed plan makes more sense and is much more agreeable than this version, as it merely redrew the district lines of 27-3-01 to encompass Peters Township, North Strabane Township, and a part of another township (whose name I can't remember), rather than needlessly eliminating this district. I strongly suggest scrapping this revised plan and reverting to the original proposed plan. Alternatively, I strongly suggest scrapping this plan and creating a new proposed plan that doesn't eliminate 27-3-01. I understand that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ultimately must approve the proposed plan, but unless this plan is scrapped and replaced with a better one, I hope that the Supreme Court rejects it and orders the 27th Judicial District to create a new plan. If it is approved, however, don't be surprised if Peters Township residents react negatively - they may, for example, even vote by referendum to make Peters Township its own county and judicial district as a result.

Thank you for acknowledging and considering my comments.

Signed,

Brooke "The Next Magisterial District Judge of 27-3-01 and Peters Township" Blackman, Esq.

Kathy Tarr

From: Ron Boocks <x4plus1@verizon.net>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 2:30 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Magistrate re-districting plan

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

I oppose the current magistrate re-districting plan: .

Peters Township has twice the population (25 thousand) vs Cicil Township (12 thousand) Most, if not all, Peters residents live within a 3-mile radius of the current (unoccupied) Magistrate's office.
The Cicil Township Magistrates' office is at least 10 miles away. from Peters Township.

I suspect that the number of Peters Township residents, given the demographics, visiting the Peters Township Magistrate is twice the number of Cicil Township residents visiting the Cicil Township Magistrate.

Given the above, it is apparent that twice the number of Peters residents would have to make 20 mile round trips to a Cicil Magistrate as opposed to half the number of Cicil residents making that same trip to a Peters Magistrate! **Thats a lot of miles and a lot of time**, given 40 minute travel time for each visit.(20 mile round trip)

Perhaps it's time to think out of the box. Has anyone considered a **Mobile Courtroom?** Circuit Judges have a long history in this country. Not only could the County save money,(not having to rent multiple office spaces and employing multiple office staffers), but it would make visiting the Magistrate's office more coinvent for residents

I am Ron Boocks and can be reached at (724) 941-8755 or thru my e-mail address..

Kathy Tarr

From: Holtkamp, Mike <mike.holtkamp@siemens.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 2:08 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Magistrate Realignment

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Ms. Tarr,

Please do not move forward with the plan to combine Peters Township magisterial offices with those of Cecil. I'm sure you have heard all of the reasons, so I will refrain from repeating them here. There is simply no support for this ill conceived measure which leads me to believe that there is some nefarious or corrupt reason to even consider such a nonsensical idea. Both Cecil and Peters Township continue a trajectory of rapid growth, so combining these two districts is downright absurdity. Can we kindly get the County and judiciary to focus on the more important challenges facing the county?

Put an end to this craziness!

"When something is important enough, you do it even if the odds are not in your favor." Elon Musk

Mike Holtkamp

SIEMENS

Enterprise Account Executive

Siemens Certified Sales Professional

108 Bremen Lane

McMurray, PA 15317

Tel: +1 (412) 580-6054

mike.holtkamp@siemens.com

www.siemens.com <<http://www.siemens.com/>>

♻️ Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

FORTUNE
WORLD'S MOST
ADMIRED
COMPANIES 2022

June 6, 2022

John F. Disalle, President Judge
1 S Main Street
Suite 2002
Washington, PA 15301

RE: Dissolving the Peters Township Magistrate Court

Dear Judge Disalle,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the decision to dissolve the Peters Township Magistrate Court and move the entirety of the Court's docket to Cecil Township. Such a move will result in negative consequences for the residents of both townships and their respective police forces, creating irreparable harm.

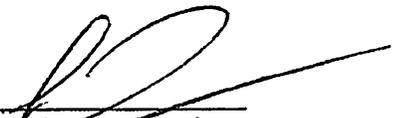
First, Peters Township residents would be burdened by an increased travel time of upwards of 30 minutes to appear in the Cecil Township Magistrate Court. This would not only be an inconvenience for Peters Township residents, but also a financial burden in terms of travel expenses and a denial of access to justice. The same consequences would be true for police officers when they need to appear in court, making it likely that this would cause a significant increase in overtime and other expenses.

Second, the plan does not make sense because Peters Township is the largest township in Washington County and should be the last municipality that should be deprived of a local court. The Census Bureau estimates that Peters Township has a population that is larger than that of Cecil Township by almost ten thousand people; it does not make sense to send a heavily populated county to a rural community's court.

Ultimately, this move is illogical and harmful for the residents of both Cecil and Peters Township.

(Attached please find the change.org petition signed by those in opposition to the decision closure of the Peters Township Magistrate.)

Sincerely,



Sean Logue, Esquire
27 W. Main Street
Carnegie, PA 15106

Petition details Comments Updates

Stop the elimination of the Peters Township Magistrate.



 Sean Logue started this petition

The Washington County Court Administrator has proposed a plan to eliminate the Peters Township Magistrate Court and shift the case load to Cecil Township. This makes no sense as Peters is a large population center, whereas Cecil is rural. Worse of all, there is no easy way to get from Peters to Cecil so it will be a terrible inconvenience for residents and costly to the Township because of overtime and maintenance costs.

Take a stand for the residents of Peters Township today. Please share this petition.

280 have signed. Let's get to 500!



 At 500 signatures, this petition is more likely to be featured in recommendations!

Carnegie, 15106
United States



Display my name and comment on this petition

 Sign this petition

By signing this petition, you agree that you are not a member of Change.org, you are not a paid member, and you are not a paid member of Change.org. You are not a paid member of Change.org. You are not a paid member of Change.org.

Reasons for signing

See why other supporters are signing, why this petition is important to them, and share your reason for signing (this will mean a lot to the starter of the petition).



Gail MacPherson

3 weeks ago

It doesn't make sense. Why not move Cecil Magistrate Court? That's a no brainer.



[Report](#)



Michele Grimpe

2 weeks ago

I live in Peters Twp. And don't feel we would be best served by traveling to Cecil.



[Report](#)



Stephen Renz

2 weeks ago

The peter's magistrates office is busier than the Cecil office. Why should we all have to drive to Cecil. This is pure politics. Keep the magistrate at peters!



[Report](#)



Christina Romano

2 weeks ago

It makes absolutely no sense to eliminate one of the busiest magistrates and aside from being a major inconvenience to citizens, it would add an unnecessary strain on our resources. Instead of putting citizens first and doing what is best for the communities involved, this decision reeks of... [Read more](#)



[Report](#)



Daranne Ceccarelli

2 weeks ago

We need to continue to have our own magisterial district here in Peters Township.



[Report](#)



Susie Semonian

3 weeks ago

It makes absolutely no sense to eliminate it.

♡ 2

[Report](#)



Dominic Battista

3 weeks ago

There is no reason our officers should have to commute to Cecil for their hearings. This will take time and resources away from our police department and add extra expenses. Peters also has a larger caseload than Cecil. I

♡ 5

[Report](#)



Greg Sulc

3 weeks ago

The people of Washington need to stop the powers to be, namely Diana Irey from destroying our county and stealing from the people!

♡ 1

[Report](#)

Name	City	State	Postal Code	Country	Signed On
Sean Logue	Detroit	MI		US	5/24/2022
Tina Whited	Pittsburgh	PA	15210	US	5/24/2022
Sean Boggio	Washington	PA	15301	US	5/24/2022
Mary Ellen Kania	Washington	PA	15301	US	5/24/2022
Greg Sulc	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/24/2022
Laura Hough	Daisytown	PA	15427	US	5/25/2022
Christina Romano	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Carie Lemley	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Thomas Dugan	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
M C	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Brad Hilliard	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Jamie Perlmutter	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Alannah Taylor	Pittsburgh		15221	US	5/25/2022
Amy Larson	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Jeffrey Haines	Finleyville	PA	15332	US	5/25/2022
Susan Nicklos	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Michael Miziniak	Pittsburgh	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Dana Esper	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Scott Burrows	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Dominic Battista	Pittsburgh	PA		US	5/25/2022
Matthew Kulikowski	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Darryl Ritter	Mcmurray	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Scott Morrow	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Matt Pasquinelli	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Susie Semonian	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Arielle Battista	Washington	PA	15301	US	5/25/2022
Erica Chauvet	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Julie Renz	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Kim Mitchell	Pittsburgh	PA	15241	US	5/25/2022
Nathan Renz	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
James Dickey	Indianapolis	IN	46201	US	5/25/2022
Melissa Sobieralski	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
David Huntley	Peters Tow	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Jeff Such	Washington	DC	20009	US	5/25/2022
Bryan Johnson	Homestead	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Eric Smiga	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Doranne Ceccarelli	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Julie Dixon	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Seth Hoyt	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Christine Renz	Washington	DC	20001	US	5/25/2022
Ria Kartsonas	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Bernice Fink	Canonsburg	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Donald M. Holtkamp	McMurray	PA	15317	US	5/25/2022
Derek Hensley	Venetia	PA	15367	US	5/25/2022
Lauren DeFelice	Mount Leb	PA	15228	US	5/25/2022
Derek Defelice	Pittsburgh	PA	15214	US	5/25/2022

Amy Anderson	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
William Shields	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Becky Burkholder	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Olivia Del Re	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Stephen Renz	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Lindsay O'Brien	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Katie Cehelsky	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Anthony Ricci	Finleyville PA	15332 US	5/25/2022
Meredith Hoskins	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Greg Pirker	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Jamie Schweinberg	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Katie Latore	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Marcella Dickey	Mc Murray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Jon Dixon	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Michelle Fellin	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Bret Plante	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Dawn Bench	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Bronwyn Fackrell	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Michael Meucci	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Lori Shue	Carnegie PA	15106 US	5/25/2022
EMMANUEL Anthon	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Paul Guzan	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Kimberly Sarniak	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
John Hauser	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Dana Plummer	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Charity Glenn	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Angela Ray	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Heidi Niesen	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Rachelle Dellana	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Doug Niesen	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Layne Ciminel	Mcmurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Denise DeFelice	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Lesia Parker	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Christine McCoy	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Patricia Medlen	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Anthony Medlen	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Jenny Greiff	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Darlene Albert	McMurray PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Clinton Gastgeb	Mchenry	21541 US	5/25/2022
Sue Leipold	Pittsburgh PA	15340 US	5/25/2022
Debbie Jordan	Washingto PA	15301 US	5/25/2022
Emily Tee	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Paula Davey	Pittsburgh PA	15226 US	5/25/2022
Carrie Perrell	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Becky Redell	Canonsbuη PA	15317 US	5/25/2022
Shelby Fedzen	Venetia PA	15367 US	5/25/2022
Crystal Caccamo	Pittsburgh PA	15301 US	5/25/2022

Chartiers Township

"Working together for the betterment of our community"

June 17, 2022

VIA US Mail and Email

Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts
1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301
Kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

Re: Revised Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

Dear Ms. Tarr:

On behalf of the Chartiers Township Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express Chartiers Township's concerns regarding the Revised Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District dated May 20, 2022.

We have several concerns regarding the proposed revised plan. First, while the location of Judge Manfredi's office in the realigned district has yet to be determined, it will like lead to increased travel times and costs vs. our current District Judge's office. While the time and costs of possibly more than tripling our travel time from three (3) miles and nine (9) minutes to a potential of 12+ miles and 20-30 minutes are of concern, the larger apprehension is that such distance inhibits our emergency response to our residents. With one officer so far away at the District Judge's office, it leaves the other on-duty officer with significantly delayed backup. It would be diminished response time from locations from either South Strabane or North Franklin for any of our officers over how quickly they can respond today. This inhibits the safety of our residents and our officers.

Secondly, this realignment will cost the Township tax payers more in both fuel and overtime costs at these greater distances. Our officers are paid two hours overtime for court. Time beyond that will cause additional overtime costs to be incurred. When the officer is traveling one (1) hour round trip, that increases the need for overtime anytime the officer is there for more than one (1) hour.

We would be remiss, if we did not recognize the disenfranchisement of Chartiers Township voters, who did not vote for Judge Manfredi, but will now be served by him. Additionally, such distances make it more difficult attending hearings more difficult and places an increased burden on our residents to do so.

*2 Buccaneer Drive
Houston, Pennsylvania 15342
Phone: (724) 745-3415 Fax: (724) 745-1744*

Finally, we would like to urge you to consider more than purely caseload distribution when determining the realignment. Factors such as logistics and operational impacts on the municipalities need to be factored into any revision plan.

In lieu of the revised plan dated May 20, 2022, Chartiers Township would like to express our support for the original revised plan that was submitted January of 2022. That plan, which placed North Franklin Twp. in Judge Bruner's District, and made East Washington part of Judge Stewart's, while dividing Judge Thompson's District by Judge Porter and Judge Kanalis seemed to have better functionality from our perspective. We feel that is the best plan to even caseload, and prepare for growth in the county, and it is also the least disruptive to everyone involved, including but not limited to Judges, their staff, police departments, boroughs, townships and most importantly the residents that we commonly serve.

Therefore, Chartiers Township respectfully requests that the County consider our comments regarding the current Revised Realignment Plan and the former Proposed Realignment Plan as they weigh alternatives and what functions the most effectively and efficiently for all involved. We thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of our concerns.

CHARTIERS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Jodi L. Noble
Township Manager

CC: Chartiers Township Board of Supervisors
Steven M. Horvath, Chief of Police
File



Washington County

DIANA IREY VAUGHAN
Chair

95 WEST BEAU STREET, SUITE 605
WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA 15301

(724) 228-6721

June 2, 2022

Ms. Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts
1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA. 15301

Re: Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan

Dear Ms. Tarr:

After receiving a significant number of inquiries about the Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan, I have spent considerable time reviewing the data and supporting documentation used to derive the newly proposed plan.

The Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan caseload comparison chart provides statistical data on other counties. Considering the counties with the most similar population to Washington County at 209,349 are Lackawanna County with 215,896 residents, and Butler County with 188,498 residents. With the current caseload of 4,151 for Washington County, we currently boast a higher caseload than both Lackawanna County at 4,026 and Butler County at 4,022, despite the 10.38% decrease in caseload. If two Magisterial District Courts were eliminated it would take Washington County's average caseload to 5,073.

The reduction of the number of Magisterial District Courts in Washington County would place a much greater burden on our Magisterial District Courts, which could result in a slower administration of justice than in other counties of similar size. I respectfully encourage the court to reconsider its recommendation of reducing the number of Magisterial District Courts in Washington County.

In service,

Diana Irey Vaughan, Chair
Washington County Board of Commissioners

cc: President Judge John DiSalle
Court Administrator Patrick Grimm

PETERS TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION NO. 06-01-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF PETERS TOWNSHIP,
WASHINGTON COUNTY, OBJECTING TO THE MAGISTERIAL
DISTRICT COURT REESTABLISHMENT PLAN FOR THE 27TH
JUDICIAL DISTRICT, AS REVISED AND REISSUED FOR
COMMENT ON MAY 20, 2022.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article V, § 7 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Constitution and 42 Pa. Consolidated Statutes § 1503, following the decennial United State Census the Court of Common Pleas is required to evaluate and reestablish, realign, and/or eliminate the individual magisterial district courts of the County; and

WHEREAS, under the reestablishment process for 2022, the President Judge of a judicial district is required to submit a proposal for review by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania by February 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Washington County (the 27th Judicial District) has eleven (11) magisterial district courts, and its reestablishment plan proposes to eliminate two (2) magisterial district courts, and to realign each of the remaining nine (9) district courts; and

WHEREAS, Peters Township is the most populous and fastest growing municipality in Washington County; and

WHEREAS, a Reestablishment Plan put forth by the President Judge of the Washington County Court of Common Pleas on January 11, 2022 showed Peters Township merging with North Strabane Township into a new magisterial district; and

WHEREAS, this initial Reestablishment Plan would have had minimal impact to Township residents and staff in their dealings with the magisterial district court; and

WHEREAS, Peters Township Council and its residents understand the importance of the reestablishment process, and support this initial Reestablishment Plan as developed by the President Judge; and

WHEREAS, a revised Reestablishment Plan was reissued on May 20, 2022, merging Peters Township with Cecil Township and McDonald Borough in Magisterial District 27-3-06; and

WHEREAS, Peters Township Council believes this revised Reestablishment Plan will negatively impact Peters Township residents and staff in potential dealings with the magisterial district court, forcing them to travel longer distances and increasing costs to both residents and the Township during magisterial hearings; and

WHEREAS, written comments on the revised reestablishment plan are to be issued to the Deputy Administrator for Special Courts of Washington County by June 21, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Peters Township Council wishes to provide written comments objecting to the revised reestablishment plan, and expressing its support for a reestablishment plan that creates a Magisterial which includes Peters Township, North Strabane Township and Houston Borough

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Council of Peters Township hereby formally objects to the revised Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan, as reissued on May 20, 2022, and expresses its support for a Magisterial District that is comprised of Peters Township, North Strabane Township and Houston Borough with a new District Court office located along Route 19.

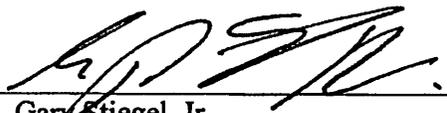
RESOLVED by the Council of the Peters Township this 13th day of June, 2022.

ATTEST:

PETERS TOWNSHIP



Paul F. Lauer
Township Manager

By: 

Gary Stiegel, Jr.
Chairman of Council



Washington County

95 WEST BEAU STREET, SUITE 605
WASHINGTON, PA 15301

(724) 228-6965

NICK SHERMAN,
COMMISSIONER

President Judge Disalle
1 South Main Street, Room 2001
Washington, PA 15301

Dear Judge DiSalle,

I'm writing regarding the proposed Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan in the 27th Judicial District, Washington County. After each census, the Court of Common Pleas is required to evaluate and reestablish, realign, and/or eliminate, the individual magisterial courts of the County. I have concerns about the proposed elimination of two (2) magisterial districts and their proposed realignment with the remaining nine (9) district courts.

With all due respect, I realize as Commissioner I have no standing with the decision of the President Judge in the reestablishment plan. The purpose of this letter is to express my views to the decision-makers, the county President Judge, and the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

I overwhelmingly do not support any effort that would result in Peters Township losing a magisterial judge and, as a result, their office in the community.

Peters Township is a 19.8-mile sprawling and growing area that borders Allegheny County. The new high school and new/proposed community recreation projects are one barometer of the growing need for increased resident services in the township. Now is not a time to remove a critical service such as a magisterial district from this bustling community.

Many township residents and officials have expressed concerns to me regarding the potential elimination of the magisterial office. For example, township officials have pointed to how the travel will lead to higher costs for police when they need to appear in court.

Again, I appreciate the work and careful consideration the court has carried out in the reestablishment plan. However, as you move forward in the process, I remain steadfast in my request that a magisterial district and office remain in Peters Township for the good of the community and its residents.

Sincerely,

Nick Sherman
Commissioner



McDONALD POLICE DEPARTMENT

151 School Street
McDonald, PA 15057

Phone 724-926-2105
Emergency 911
dahlborn@mcdonaldboro.com
Fax 724-926-3657

Established 1889

Dennis L. Ahlborn, Chief of Police

Attn: Kathy Tarr, Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 S. Main Street, Ste. 1003
Washington, PA 15301
VIA EMAIL: kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

June 16, 2022

Dear Ms. Tarr,

My name is Dennis L. Ahlborn and I'm the Chief for McDonald Police Department. McDonald Police Department supplies police services to six different communities: McDonald Borough, Robinson Township, Burgettstown Borough, Midway Borough, Independence Township and West Middletown Borough.

I am writing you concerning the recent proposed redistricting of Magisterial District Court 27-3-06 office of Magisterial District Judge Louis McQuillan, which currently encompasses the following areas: Cecil, Half of Imperial, Hickory, Lawrence, McDonald, Mount Pleasant, Muse, Robinson, Southview, Venice, Westland.

The proposed redistricting will move Magisterial District Court 27-3-06 out of its current location and into Peters Township. This will add to the travel time of officers from McDonald Borough that will attend hearings during their shift. The current travel time for officers is under 10 minutes, with these proposed changes officers will have to travel to hearings 30 minutes outside their jurisdiction. This added time leaves the communities without police protection. A small police department like McDonald is limited on staffing and will have difficulty maintaining police coverage during hearings, unlike large departments like Peters Township and Cecil Township that have multiple officers on a shift. The added distance also puts a strain on the police departments small budget. The department will have increases in spending because officers will be in court longer and the added distance will cost more in fuel. This added distance also will add to the time an officer has to be on a criminal arrest or warrant service, because officers will now have to travel a longer distance to the magistrate's office.

The proposed redistricting would move Robinson Township out of Magisterial District Court 27-3-06 and into Magisterial District Court 27-3-07. Robinson Township and McDonald Borough share a large geographical border and work together on many projects, besides just police issues. McDonald Police Department has had numerous cases of offenses that occurred within both jurisdictional boundaries. The elimination of Robinson Township from the existing Magisterial

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Serving McDonald, Robinson, Burgettstown, Midway, Independence and West Middletown

Court District will now cause the police department to have to split their court filings between two different magisterial courts, which will not be beneficial to all party's involved.

McDonald Borough has a large senior population, in which a majority do not drive. The borough also has a large group of residence who are on a fixed income. There is no public transportation, and for the ones who do drive, their travel time will increase from 10 minutes to over 30 minutes. There is no direct route to Peters Township, so McDonald residents will have a difficult time navigating the roads to get to their hearings. Officers have a difficult time getting victims and witnesses to attend hearings at the current location and this added distance will just increase the likely hood that victims and witnesses will not appear for hearings.

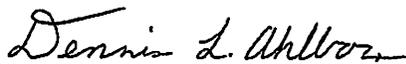
The elimination of MT. Pleasant Township from Magisterial District 27-3-06 will also split the Fort Cherry School District, in which McDonald Borough is a part of. McDonald Police Department works with Fort Cherry School Police through out the school year on cases that extended from the school into McDonald Borough. The court cases stemming from those investigations are held in front of Magisterial District Judge Louis McQuillan. The current plan would have Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka hearing the filings from Fort Cherry Police and Magisterial District Judge Lou McQuillan hearing filings from McDonald Police. This separation will cause defendants and officers to possible attend two separate hearings in two separate locations.

Magisterial District Judge McQuillan was elected by the residence to be their Magisterial District Judge. The proposed changes will have Robinson Township and MT Pleasant residences going to Magisterial District Judge Gary Havelka, which they did not elect. Magisterial District Judge McQuillan will be presiding over Peters Township hearings and was not elected by their residence.

Magisterial District Judge McQuillan's office will have two large communities Cecil Township and Peters Township voting on Magisterial elections, which will eliminate any chance of McDonald Borough's small population getting an official elected. The current Magisterial map has McDonald Borough, Cecil Township, MT. Pleasant Township and Robinson Township which have much in common demographically and geographically.

In closing, this proposed change in the Magisterial Districts is not beneficial to any of the jurisdictions involved. The proposed changes will create travel issues, safety and financial burdens on the municipalities and the school district. McDonald Police Department is opposed to the closing and/ or redistricting of any of the Magisterial District court offices in Washington County, especially to any changes to the existing area of the Magisterial District Office 27-3-06 located in Cecil Township.

Sincerely,



Dennis L. Ahlborn
Chief of Police

C:171022



Mt. Pleasant Twp. Police Department

31 McCarrell Road, Hickory, PA 15340 724-356-7917 724-356-2639FAX

Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts
1 S. Main Street,
Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

In regard to: Magisterial District Redistricting Plan

This letter is to state my disappointment of the reestablishment plan recently shared by the 27th District (Washington County Courts). I am the Chief of Police for Mt Pleasant Township Police Department. My agency currently consists of 5 full-time officers, 1 part-time officer, and myself. We have a smaller operating budget that many of the full-time agencies around me surpass significantly. Though the currently proposed plan adds just 1 mile to my officer's travel time, it certainly adds up over a possible 10 plus year time frame. When a budget operates as tightly as mine, I need each dollar of it to serve my residents. Fuel costs continue to increase, vehicle upkeep, and contract obligations also increase each year.

Though technology has in some cases helped with those costs over the years, our county is still not able to eliminate the need for physical proceedings at court proceedings making this decision irresponsible. We deal with each of the Magisterial District Judges and appreciate their diligence and efforts to serve their constituents daily. Our county has added Commonwealth Judges but now wants to eliminate positions when with unpredictable events such as the COVID-19 pandemic have already caused additional delays in court proceedings. With less Magisterial District Judges I worry another situation or new COVID-19 surge would delay proceedings further creating further hardship on my department. In my humble opinion with no disrespect intended this is not the time to make changes with a current unpredictable future pertaining to COVID-19.

In regard to laws that police departments deal with on a daily basis, there is simply no way to predict filings each year accurately. Our township has a strong likelihood of increasing population with the completion of the turnpike recently. Our township is also actively pursuing a sewage treatment system which also statistically increases population. These topics also cause me to be confused on why we would lose our current Magisterial District Judge. Each of the geographical areas has established a professional relationship with their Magisterial District Judges. This relationship ensures what expectations are expected for multiple legal processes that take place.

Our current Magisterial District Judge has a 20 plus year knowledge base of the area he was elected in. This is extremely valuable for the residents, businesses, school district, and my department. We often assist another small agency within the Magisterial District Judges district. That agency is Fort Cherry School Police. Moving our Magisterial District Judge removes his knowledge of students that attend Fort Cherry School District. It also divides the school district over multiple Magisterial District Judges.

In closing I wanted to show my opposition to this plan as my fear with the elimination of any Magisterial District Judge will create further backlog of proceedings. I ultimately have great concern this backlog will cause court proceedings to take longer than they already do removing my officers from my township for extended periods of time. My department often only has 1 officer on duty for the times of the court proceedings. Removing that officer for further delay leaves my residents open to even more of a risk. When they call for help it will be further delayed in getting the help to them. That is unacceptable and this plan was never discussed with my department or township. I ask respectfully to reconsider these changes. Please consider the impact these changes can have on each of our local communities. The current plan that has been utilized to my knowledge has worked well for each of us.



Matthew S Tharp
Chief of Police
June 14th, 2022

Peters Township School District



Mr. Thomas McMurray, Peters Township School Board, President
Mrs. Rebecca Bowman, Peters Township School Board, Vice President
Mr. Brad Rau, Board Secretary

June 15, 2022

Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts
1 S. Main Street
Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

Re: Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan

Dear Ms. Tarr

Please accept this letter as the Peters Township School District's comment regarding the revised Magisterial District Court Reestablishment Plan issued on May 20, 2022. The District is opposed to the current proposed plan merging Peters Township with Cecil Township and McDonald Borough in Magisterial District 27-3-06. We believe that this revised plan will negatively impact the District and Township residents due to longer travel distances and increased costs related to time and travel increases.

The District respectfully expresses support for a Magisterial District that is comprised of Peters Township, North Strabane Township and Houston Borough with a new District Court office located along Route 19.

Respectfully,

Thomas McMurray, President
Board of School Directors

Jeannine L. French, Ph.D.
Superintendent

SUPERVISORS

Gary Farmer, Chairman
George Rice, Vice-Chairman
Shane Maga, Supervisor

MANAGER

Darla Protch

Mount Pleasant Township



SOLICITOR

Tom McDermott

Washington County, Pennsylvania
31 McCarrell Road
Hickory, PA 15340
724-356-7974

June 6, 2022

Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator
for Special Courts
1 S. Main Street
Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

Re: Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan

Dear Ms. Tarr:

The Supervisors of Mount Pleasant Township are fervently opposed to the closing and/or redistricting of our local Magisterial District Court Office. Just a little over five months ago our residents elected Judge Louis McQuillan to the position of District Magistrate and with this proposal are basically being told that their vote DID NOT COUNT.

Listed below are several important points that we would like to share concerning this redistricting:

- There is no financial benefit under this proposed plan for Mt. Pleasant Township. We have a small police department and our resources are already stretched thin. Changing the court location will cause our officers to travel slightly further to attend hearings. This may seem minor, but with gas prices soaring and the cost of vehicle maintenance increasing, the burden of the additional costs will be solely on Mt. Pleasant Township and its residents.
- Fort Cherry School District is within our municipality. The tragedy in Texas has shown that seconds count in saving our children's lives. If our officers are in court and bordering municipalities may not be able to respond to a school emergency quickly as they could be over 30 minutes away in Peters Township for hearings, who protects our children.
- This redistricting plan eliminates "community" justice as someone from our area will no longer be hearing our cases.

These are just a few of our concerns with this redistricting plan. We hope that the county will take our concerns seriously when finalizing this plan. In the past 2 weeks this district has had 2 shootings, a bomb threat and other very serious incidents and having a local office has greatly benefited the township, its residents, and our police department.

Sincerely yours,



Gary Farmer
Chairman, Board of Supervisors



George Rice,
Vice-Chairman, Board of Supervisors



Shane Maga
Supervisor



Darla Protch
Township Manager



June 14, 2022

Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts
1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

Dear Miss Tarr,

We are writing to offer our comments regarding the Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District.

Over the next decade, Washington County is poised for substantial population growth. North Strabane, Cecil and Peters townships have already been among the fastest growing municipalities in all of western Pennsylvania in the last decade. Matching two of these three municipalities into one district in the preliminary plan, which have two of the largest police forces in the county, could lead to a higher-than-expected increase in caseload. In addition to their current growth rates, other municipalities will be seeing gains in population and commercial development.

We are respectfully asking that future population growth be considered along with other criteria already used in the preliminary map. Ignoring this could lead to a wide discrepancy in cases among the consolidated nine districts represented in the preliminary proposal. While we are happy to see the court save millions of taxpayer dollars under this plan, we also want to ensure the services provided remain adequate for the people of Washington County.

Sincerely,


Jason Ortitay
State Representative
46th Legislative District


Natalie Mihalek
State Representative
40th Legislative District

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 2:20 PM
To: Brianne Eiler
Subject: RE: L. McQuillan - Keep in FCSD

Ms. Eiler,

Thank you for taking the time to review the proposal and share your comments. Public comments are a very important part of this process.

Best,

Kathy

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us

From: Brianne Eiler <beiler@fortcherry.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2022 11:36 AM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us>
Subject: L. McQuillan - Keep in FCSD

Good morning,

I wanted to reach out and share my concerns with the Reestablishment Plan. I work for the Fort Cherry School District and have already begun to establish a great working relationship with Lou McQuillan. Our common goal is to develop an effective truancy plan that reduces absenteeism in our schools. He sees the importance of children attending school regularly and wants to collaborate with local schools to make his verdicts meaningful and successful. I greatly appreciate his commitment to this and request that he remain the Magistrate serving the Fort Cherry School District.

Respectfully,
Brianne Eiler

--

Brianne K. Eiler
Fort Cherry Elementary Center
Student Service Coordinator
p: 724.796.1551 x2003
f: 724.356.2770

The children are our focus...working together is our method.

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 9:51 AM
To: 'David Cooper'
Subject: RE: letter of opposition to the Magistrate District Court offices in Washington County

Mayor Cooper,

Thank you for taking the time to review the proposal and for sharing your comments. Addressing office location is not within the reestablishment guidelines, but as Mr. Grimm stated in the Observer-Reporter, the goal would be to find a central location. I hope this helps to alleviate your concerns about the office location and travel distance.

Again, thank you for your comments. Public comment is an important part of this process.

Best,

Kathy Tarr

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us

From: David Cooper <dcooper@grsm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 7:13 PM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us>
Cc: David Cooper <dcooper@grsm.com>
Subject: letter of opposition to the Magistrate District Court offices in Washington County

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Hi Kathy:

Please find my letter of opposition to the Magistrate District Court offices in Washington County attached.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my opinion on this matter.

Also, please let me know that you received this letter.

Have a great day!



Established 1889
David Cooper, Mayor

McDONALD POLICE DEPARTMENT

151 School Street
McDonald, PA 15057

Phone 412-8745547
Emergency 911
dave.cooper15211@gmail.com

06/15/2022

Dear Judge Disalle and Washington County Court Administration:

I'm writing today to express my opposition to the redistricting of the Magistrate District Judge in the 27-3-06 area. This new proposal will create safety, travel and financial burdens to the McDonald Borough and the nearly 80 square miles that we patrol each day.

McDonald Borough has a large elderly population with transportation challenges. Based on Mr. Grimm's comments in the Observer Reporter regarding moving the office to Peters Township, how are my residents going to have fair access to justice? There is no public transportation, and their travel time will increase from 10 minutes to 30 minutes or more.

The increased travel time will create a financial burden for the residents as well as the police. With gas prices at \$5 a gallon, residents may just not even bother to travel for justice. The police will have to attend the hearings and that will greatly affect the borough's budget because of fuel, vehicle maintenance and possible overtime pay, leaving the council no choice but to raise taxes and further burden our residents. With the police department being so far away for court hearings, it will leave the borough without protection and increase response time from assisting agencies.

If merged with Peters Township, the residents of McDonald will never have their votes counted in the Magistrate District Judge ever again. This office is for "community" justice, our area will never have someone from community hearing these types of cases again. How is that fair to McDonald, Cecil, Mt Pleasant and Robinson?

I am strongly opposed to the closing and/or redistricting of any Magisterial District Court offices in Washington County, but especially opposed to any changes to the existing areas of the 27-3-06 office located in Cecil Township. I respectfully ask that you reconsider this change that will have enormous negative impacts on the residents of McDonald Borough, Midway Borough, Robinson Township, Burgettstown, West Middletown and Independence Township.

Best Regards:

David Cooper, Mayor
412-874-5547



**ROBINSON
TOWNSHIP**
of Washington County PA

Attn: Kathy Tarr, Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 S. Main Street, Ste. 1003
Washington, PA 15301
VIA EMAIL: Kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

June 3, 2022

Dear Ms. Tarr,

Please take this letter as indication of opposition from the Robinson Township Board of Supervisors to the proposed Reestablishment of Municipal Magisterial Court Districts in Washington County, Pa.

The board believes wholeheartedly in the electoral process and stands by the clear wish of the voters of Robinson Township in placing the current MDJ, Lou McQuillan in his present office, and we oppose any change resulting from redistricting.

We believe the change may place logistical hardships on our residents, compelling excessive transportation challenges to attend court. The change could also likely burden the McDonald Police Department, with whom we contract. By necessity, the McDonald Police Department would be required to travel a great distance, further strain their personnel and potentially compromise safety of our residents.

Please add this letter of **opposition** of the redistricting / reestablishment of magisterial districts to the public comment received on this matter.

Respectfully,

Crystal Brown, Manager

Robinson Township, Washington County

CC: Robinson Township Supervisors

Gretchen Moore & Alan Shuckrow, Solicitors

JOSHUA D. KAIL, MEMBER
15TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

HARRISBURG OFFICE:
Room B-12, Main Capitol
P.O. Box 202015
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2015
Phone: 717-260-6144
Fax: 717-782-2919

www.RepKail.com



House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

DISTRICT OFFICES:
3468 Brodhead Road, Suite 9
Monaca, PA 15061
Phone: 724-728-7655
Fax: 724-773-7802

Independence Township Municipal Building
34 Campbell St., P.O. Box 14
Avella, PA 15312
Phone: 724-587-3095
Fax: 724-587-3096

June 8, 2022

Judge John F. DiSalle
President Judge, Washington County Courts
1 S Main St.
Suite 2002
Washington, PA 15301

Dear Judge DiSalle:

Washington County is on the precipice of growth and success. With the burgeoning energy industry, developments in manufacturing, and new technologies such as carbon capture and blue hydrogen, we are poised to see growth in population over the course of the next ten years. We should recognize this growth potential when it comes to considering district lines for our magisterial districts.

Eliminating districts in Bentleyville and Peters Township will create a poor and cumbersome environment for our constituents in Washington County. It will lead to overuse in every magisterial district across the county. But even more concerning is over the course of the next ten years, as Washington County experiences the growth that will come, our magistrate districts will be dramatically overused and the services to our constituents will be severely hindered because of the decision you are making regarding the districts today. This state money should stay in Washington County and not be distributed across the state.

We ask you to please reconsider and think not only of the current state of affairs, but also consider the growth potential of Washington County over the next ten years. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Joshua D. Kail.

Rep. Joshua D. Kail
15th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Bud Cook.

Rep. Bud Cook
49th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Timothy O'Neal.

Rep. Timothy O'Neal
48th Legislative District

Handwritten signature of Michael Puskaric.

Rep. Michael Puskaric
39th Legislative District

cc: Chief Justice, Max Baer – Pennsylvania Supreme Court
Justice Debra Todd – Pennsylvania Supreme Court
Justice Christine Donohue – Pennsylvania Supreme Court
Justice Kevin Dougherty – Pennsylvania Supreme Court
Justice David Wecht – Pennsylvania Supreme Court
Justice Sallie Mundy – Pennsylvania Supreme Court
Justice P. Kevin Brobson – Pennsylvania Supreme Court

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 10:03 AM
To: 'Don Gennuso'
Subject: RE: Magistrate Office

Mr. Gennuso,

Thank you and the Board for taking the time to review the proposal and for sharing your comments. Addressing office location is not a guideline of the reestablishment process; the goal is to create workload (which differs from caseload) parity among the magisterial districts within the County. Although office location is not specifically addressed, the goal would be to find a central location for the office. I hope this alleviates some of your concerns.

Again, thank you for your comments. Public comment is an important part of this process.

Best,

Kathy Tarr

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

From: Don Gennuso <dgennuso@ceciltownship.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2022 9:52 AM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Magistrate Office

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Ms. Tarr,
Please find attached a letter from the Cecil Township Board of Supervisors. A hard copy has also been sent via US MAIL.

Donald A. Gennuso
Cecil Township Manager
W: 724-745-2227
F: 724-745-2905

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Board Members & Officers

Chairperson

CINDY FISHER

Vice-Chairman

FRANK A. EGIZIO

Board Members

THOMAS A. CASCIOLA

RONALD A. FLEEHER

DARLENE BARNI



Cecil Township

Washington County - Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3599 Millers Run Road, Suite 101, Cecil, PA 15321

www.ceciltownship-pa.gov

Township Manager
DONALD A. GENNUSO

(724) 745-2227

(724) 745-2905

June 15, 2022

VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL Kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

Kathy Tarr

Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts

1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003

Washington, Pa 15301

Dear Ms. Tarr,

On behalf of Cecil Township, please consider this letter as formal opposition from the Cecil Township Board of Supervisors to the proposed Reestablishment of Municipal Magisterial Court Districts in Washington County, Pennsylvania. The combination of Peters Township and Cecil Township into one magisterial district will fundamentally change the composition of the local Magisterial District Justice (MDJ) experience for our residents and those who serve Cecil Township. Combining the largest Township (Peters) with the fastest growing Township (Cecil) will create a cumbersome local court experience. Our local magisterial district will be overburdened and services to Cecil's constituents will be hindered by this decision.

As the redistricting analysis reveals, combining Cecil Township with Peters increases filings and workload. With this redistricting decision comes the likely potential of an office move from Cecil Township to Peters Township. That change will place logistical and financial hardships on our residents, compelling excessive travel (and corresponding costs) to attend court and receive local resolution of their disputes. This proposed change will also burden the Cecil Township Police Department, whose officers spend a significant amount of time at the local MDJ office. Those officers will soon likely be required to travel a great distance to attend court, straining their personnel and staffing and potentially comprising the safety of our residents. [School Resources Officers who need to travel further for hearings leave the children at the Canon McMillan School District unprotected.]

Please add this letter of opposition to the redistricting/reestablishment of magisterial districts to the public comment received on this matter.

Sincerely,

Cindy Fisher

Cindy Fisher

Chair, Cecil Township Board of Supervisors

cc: Cecil Township Board of Supervisors
Cecil Township Manager

Kathy Tarr

From: Mike and Megan Apple <mapple10@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 4:00 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Against magistrate realignment

To whom it may concern,
My husband and I are very much against the magistrate realignment of Peters Twp. Having a magistrate within our district has served as a major benefit to our community. Our magistrate always knows people and families personally making it more personal and accountable to our community members.

Thank you
Megan Apple

Sent from my iPhone

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:51 PM
To: John Zilich
Subject: RE: Robinson Township redistricting

Mr. Zilich,

Thank you for your comments and for taking the time to review the proposal. Input from the public is an important part of this process.

Best,

Kathy Tarr

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us

From: John Zilich <john.zilich@mcdonaldfire.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 12:04 PM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us>
Subject: Robinson Township redistricting

As a resident of Robinson Township I would like to show my displeasure with the idea of redistricting the township. We all voted for Lou McQuillan and feel he is best suited for our townships needs as he lives a stones throw from the township. We already lost our state rep Jason Orbitay now Robinson Township will lose another great asset to us if you go through with your plan.

So in closing myself and my family are against this plan of action.

Thank you
John Zilich
509 4th Street
McDonald Pa 15057
724-350-1765

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 3:55 PM
To: Dawn Fiori
Subject: RE: redistricting

Ms. Fiori,

Thank you for taking the time to review the proposal and sharing your comments. Public comments are an important part of the reestablishment process.

Best,

Kathy Tarr

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

From: Dawn Fiori <dawnfioriposh@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 9:20 AM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: redistricting

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

Good morning,

I read the article about the redistricting of the magisterial courts and I am of the impression that the magistrate in Cecil will no longer represent my district. I find this confusing, as a taxpayer and voter I was given the choice to vote for the magistrate to represent me and this is no longer the case? Having worked with the magisterial courts through my employment, I feel that the system works fine as it is. As the saying goes, if it isn't broken, why fix it? Redistricting makes no sense, in my humble opinion.

Thank you,
Dawn Fiori
191 Walnut Road
McDonald, PA 15057

Kathy Tarr

From: Phil & Renee STINELLI <stinelli@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 3:52 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: Magistrate Re alignment

Greetings

I am reaching out regarding the realignment proposal for Peter's Township. With another portion of the population elderly in Peter's them traveling to Cecil for any type of issues is a problem. They stay here primarily as the township is encompassing of all their needs. In addition Peter's continues to grow with its population so why would we be the ones to lose our magisterial offices. Traffic along that area is awful as well to navigate. Each area should continue to have its own

Renee Stinelli
Peter's Township resident 1988-1998
2006-2022
Sent from my iPhone

June 9, 2022

Dear Judge DiSalle and Washington County Court Administration,

My Name is Tom McQuillan and I am a duly elected council member of the Borough of McDonald. I wanted to reach out about this recent proposed redistricting of our Magisterial District Judge in the 27-3-06 area. This proposal takes away two areas from the district and adds Peters Township. Patrick Grimm indicated in a newspaper article that the office will move from its current location, which will then probably be in or very close to Peters Township.

I am greatly OPPOSED to this plan! It makes absolutely NO sense at all and will bankrupt our small borough paying for the police to travel to Peters Township and at the very minimum will cause financial hardship to the borough and residents. Gas is \$5 a gallon and who is going to pay for the extra travel time for our police? The same goes for paying the police officers overtime to travel over 30 minutes to Peters Township! We discussed this at our regular meeting on June 6, 2022 and all agreed this is a huge hardship for our borough. We cannot afford these additional costs and will have no choice but to pass these costs on to our residents, most of whom are on a fixed income. Also at our meeting, a visitor informed us that besides the quote from Mr. Grimm, Washington County Commissioner Nick Sherman has said the judges' office will be moved to Peters Township so this hardship is a reality.

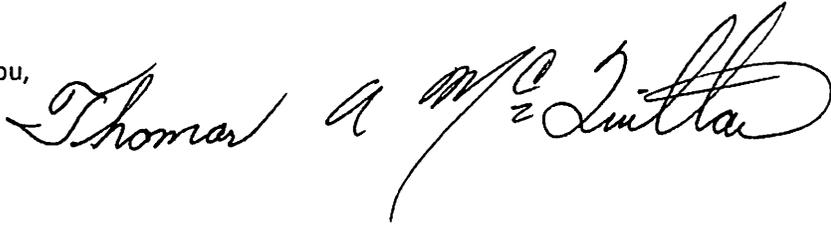
Speaking of travelling to Peters Township, what about our elderly Population? Some can find a ride ten minutes away to Millers Run Road in Cecil, but what happens when it is a more than 30 minute drive to Peters Township? No one will want to go out of their way for them and there are no buses or other public transportation that can take them there. I can't imagine what a taxi would cost, and most older people don't know how to use an Uber. So with no public transportation, this portion of McDonald's population is denied access to local justice.

There will also be a great dis-service to the Fort Cherry School District. Judge McQuillan has a long history of working in and with that school district. He knows and understands what is needed there and what the families are up against. I know for a fact that he has made a positive impact already there and even presented a program about a magistrate does to the sixth graders. Why would you eliminate local community interaction like that? As a graduate of Fort Cherry and a high school athlete, I can tell you that the Fort Cherry/Burgettstown rivalry still greatly exists and whether perceived or real, every Fort Cherry student and parent that has to go to Burgettstown for court will think they won't get a fair hearing. Won't this result in appeals or cases being moved anyhow? There is no disrespect intended towards the judge in Burgettstown, but I just know how deep and long this rivalry is!

In the interest of transparency, I will point out that Judge Lou McQuillan is my son. He worked very hard to win the election in 2021 to represent the existing district of McDonald, Cecil, Mt Pleasant and Robinson. To take two of those areas away is like taking away Mt Pleasant and Robinson's votes. He ran a good and clean campaign and did it on his own with his family by his side. This so disrespectful to him, me and all those that supported and voted for him.

In conclusion, I would like to once again state that I am 100% AGAINST this proposal and hope that you reconsider it and agree to leave all of our local courts open and alone, especially the 27-3-06 office.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas A. McQuillan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T" and "M".

Thomas McQuillan
210 Fifth Street
McDonald, PA 15057
724-747-7440

1007 Valley Street
McDonald, PA 15057
June 7, 2022

Kathy Tarr
Department Court Administrator for Special Court
1 South Main Street
Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

Dear Ms. Tarr,

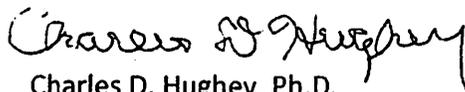
This letter serves as a strong letter of opposition to a proposed plan to redistrict and/or eliminate our local district judge's offices that has the potential to dramatically impact Robinson Twp., Mt. Pleasant Twp. and especially the students who attend the Ft. Cherry School District.

My concerns are founded on the fact that I am a lifelong resident of this area and am also a retired School Superintendent. Thus, I personally and professionally understand the potential impact that this move may have on our local school community. Due to my background, I have appreciated how well our local police departments and school officials have worked together with our local magistrate to best serve the interests of the students in the Ft. Cherry School District. They have effectively developed important early intervention programs that include school infraction reduction methods, truancy prevention, child abuse detection, split family dispute intervention and drug prevention. They have also jointly developed important in service programs for school personnel in such critical areas as school security and school law interpretations. However, there is little doubt in my mind that such initiatives could not have been achieved among police officers, school officials and the magistrate if the magistrate's offices were located in Peters Twp.

In summary, for the reasons that I have already stated, I again wish to express my strong opposition to the elimination of the district judge's offices in our community.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Charles D. Hughey, Ph.D.
hugheycd@gmail.com
(412) 719-0010

Kathy Tarr

From: Peter Glasser <pglasser100@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 11:10 AM
To: Kathy Tarr
Cc: Paul F. Lauer
Subject: District Magistrate's Office

Ms. Tarr,

Please pass these comments on to the Court Administrator and President Judge.

I am a 43 year resident of Peters Township. My wife and I reside at 143 Longvue Drive. I served on the Town Council for a few years in the late 1990s and early 2000s. I am writing to ask that the Court keep the district magistrate's office in Peters Township, preferably at its current central location within a few hundred yards of the Peters Police Department.

In 2021, Peters Township issued over 1000 traffic citations. In years past, that number has ranged as high as 2000 or more. Sending Peters Township officers out of the township each time a traffic offense is contested by the driver would result in an increase in cost to local taxpayers and a reduction of police available to protect the community, and the dollar impact and impact on public safety would likely be far greater to Peters residents than Cecil residents, if Cecil officers had to travel to Peters for traffic hearings.

The population of Peters in the 2020 Census was almost 23,000. It is by far the largest municipality in the county. The population of Cecil in that census was less than 15,000. It is likely that there will be far more minor civil matters brought before the magistrate by residents of Peters than Cecil over the coming years. It is more reasonable to ask Cecil residents to come to Peters for such litigation than to ask residents of the much larger community to travel.

Regardless of what physical area the new configuration of the magistrate's office takes, if it includes most or all of Peters, it makes the most sense to keep the office itself within the main area of Peters Township, either in the town center or somewhere along Route 19.

Thank you for your consideration of this opinion.

Respectfully,

Peter and Terry Glasser
June 2, 2022

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 2:44 PM
To: STEPHANIE ROSSI
Subject: RE: Revised Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

Ms. Rossi,

Thank you for your comments. To clarify a few points, the current boundaries of the district include Peters, Nottingham, and Union Townships. Under the proposed plan, the new boundaries would include Peters and Cecil Townships, with Nottingham and Union Townships combining into Magisterial District 27-1-02. Office location is not addressed in the reestablishment process, but ideally the office would be centralized within the new boundaries. Although Peters Township is more populous than Cecil Township, Cecil Township carries a 28% larger caseload and 24% higher workload than Peters Township.

Again, thank you for taking the time to review and comment on the proposal. Public comments are an important part of this process.

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

From: STEPHANIE ROSSI <rrro@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 2:08 PM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Revised Magisterial District Reestablishment Plan for the 27th Judicial District

Dear Ms. Tarr:

It is my understanding that the Washington County Court Administrator has proposed a plan to eliminate the Peters Township Magistrate Court and shift the case load to Cecil Township.

This makes no sense as Peters is a large population center, whereas Cecil is rural. Worst of all, there is no easy way to get from Peters to Cecil so it will be a terrible inconvenience for residents and costly to the Township because of overtime and maintenance costs.

The purpose of this email is to express my view that I strongly oppose the notion of eliminating the Peters Township magisterial court.

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 10:25 AM
To: Barbara Wehn
Subject: RE: Magisterial District Courts

Ms. Wehn,

Thank you for your comments. I would like to clarify a few points if I may. Magisterial District 27-3-06 is not vacant; Lou McQuillan is currently the elected Magisterial District Judge in that district. While the proposal does eliminate Magisterial District 27-3-01, that does not mean that Peters Township would be without a magisterial district judge. Our goal would be to locate the office in a central location within the new district boundaries.

I hope this alleviates some of your concerns.

Again, I thank you for your comments and taking the time to review the proposal. Public comment is an important part of this process.

Thanks,

Kathy

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us

From: Barbara Wehn <wehn1@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 9:03 AM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtontcourts.us>
Subject: Magisterial District Courts

Kathy:

I am writing to advise that I oppose the elimination of the Peters Township Magisterial District as part of the proposed reduction in Washington County. This would place an undue burden on the residents of Peters Township in terms of travel time for citizens and police.

District 27-3-06 is vacant and could be served through our office in Peters Twp.

My Best-

Barbara Wehn
111 Bremen Lane
McMurray, PA 15317

Kathy Tarr

From: Vincent Ripepi <vripepi@advancedorthopaedics.net>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 9:52 AM
To: Patrick Grimm
Cc: Kathy Tarr
Subject: RE: Peters Township Magistrate

I understand the numbers
I also know the import role that our magistrate has played in our community in the past
I feel how I feel and did what our council asked if we felt the way I feel about it
I'm sure it'll all get worked out and we'll all live with the decision
Thank you for taking the time to reply
Vince

From: Patrick Grimm <patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 9:41 AM
To: Vincent Ripepi <vripepi@advancedorthopaedics.net>
Cc: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: RE: Peters Township Magistrate

Mr. Ripepi:

Thank you for your comments. I understand your concerns regarding the magisterial district reestablishment proposal. You can find further information on the reestablishment plan at this link: [Magisterial District Judges | Washington County Courts, PA \(washingtoncourts.us\)](https://www.washingtoncourts.us/magisterial-district-judges), including an explanatory report that contains the caseload and workload numbers for the magisterial district courts within the County. I have copied the Deputy Court Administrator, Kathy Tarr, so that she can submit your email below as a public comment to the plan.

I would also like to take this opportunity to attempt to address your concerns. The current boundaries of the district include Peters Township, Finleyville Borough, Nottingham Township, and Union Township. Peters Township will continue to be served by a magisterial district court; the Court's reestablishment does not leave any resident without access to a magisterial district court. Rather, the proposal redraws the boundaries for all magisterial district courts throughout the County, which would result in Peters Township being part of a new and different district. Finleyville, Nottingham, and Union would be realigned as part of a different district that also utilizes the Monongahela police department for emergency services.

Ultimately, the proposal is required to balance the workload among the magisterial district courts. You are correct to point out that Peters Township has a large population relative to other municipalities within the County; however, the current magisterial district court that includes Peters Township is the third smallest district court in the County based on judicial workload. If comparing just Peters Township to Cecil Township, the latter has a 28% larger average caseload and a 24% higher average judicial workload. The reestablishment plan as a whole proposes to reduce the overall number of the magisterial district courts by two, and to realign the boundaries for all of the courts. The two districts identified for reduction are the second and third smallest overall by workload over the past decade.

Again, thank you for taking the time to review and comment on the proposal. Public comments are an important part of this process.

Sincerely,

Patrick R. Grimm, Esquire
District Court Administrator
27th Judicial District of Pennsylvania
Court of Common Pleas of Washington County
1 South Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301
Tel. 724.228.6797
Fax. 724.228.6938
patrick.grimm@washingtontcourts.us
www.washingtontcourts.us

From: Irey Vaughan, Diana <IreyDL@co.washington.pa.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 8:30 AM
To: Vincent Ripepi <vripepi@advancedorthopaedics.net>
Cc: Patrick Grimm <patrick.grimm@washingtontcourts.us>; Sherman, Nick <nick.sherman@co.washington.pa.us>; Maggi, Larry <MaggiL@co.washington.pa.us>; Trossman, Marie <trossmanm@co.washington.pa.us>
Subject: Re: Peters Township Magistrate

We understand. Thanks Vince. It's a shame you received false information generated by Sean Logue. It's a disservice to the citizens and legal community.

Diana Irey Vaughan, Chair
Washington County Board of Commissioners
724-228-6721

On May 25, 2022, at 6:47 AM, Vincent Ripepi <vripepi@advancedorthopaedics.net> wrote:

It is helpful
The emails I used were given at Council meeting
I wasn't trying to single anyone out
Thanks and have a good day

From: Irey Vaughan, Diana [<mailto:IreyDL@co.washington.pa.us>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 4:38 AM
To: Vincent Ripepi <vripepi@advancedorthopaedics.net>
Cc: Patrick Grimm <patrick.grimm@washingtontcourts.us>; Sherman, Nick <nick.sherman@co.washington.pa.us>; Maggi, Larry <MaggiL@co.washington.pa.us>
Subject: Re: Peters Township Magistrate

Vince,

Thank you for sharing your opinion with us. This issue is not under the authority of the Board of Commissioners. The BOC was not aware of the plans to consolidate offices until I received a call Monday evening after the Peters Township Council meeting.

Below is the link to the Magisterial District Court Reestablishment plan along with public comment information.

<https://www.washingtoncourts.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=14>

I hope this is helpful.
Diana Irey Vaughan, Chair
Washington County Board of Commissioners
724-228-6721

On May 24, 2022, at 9:20 PM, Vincent Ripepi <vrypepi@advancedorthopaedics.net> wrote:

Our Council has asked, if we agree, to reach out and try to stop the "no magistrate in PT" non-sense.

It would be ridiculous.

As per usual I'm sure it's self-serving to someone (which everyone eventually finds out) but it's ridiculous.

I read where number of cases were counted and I'm sure that's correct. But again as per usual those numbers weren't given, just a statement to make sheep think they were counted for an actual reason and thus a rational decision made on the numbers and why to eliminate the position.

It's not rational.

Our township is too big with too many people (unfortunately) going in front of the Magistrate.

Ask Judge Pettit. He's definitely NOT self-serving and will give an honest answer.

Just my opinion,

Vince Ripepi

Kathy Tarr

From: David Finder
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2022 9:16 AM
To: 'anthonyricci.3656@gmail.com'
Cc: Kathy Tarr
Subject: RE: Peters Township Magisterial Court

Mr. Ricci,

Thank you for reaching out. I understand your concerns regarding the magisterial district reestablishment.

You can find further information on the reestablishment plan and information about making a public comment [HERE](#). Public Comments are to be submitted to the Deputy Court Administrator/Special Courts Administrator, Kathy Tarr. I will forward your message on to Mrs. Tarr so that you do not need to provide further comment unless you choose.

I would also like to take this opportunity to try and address your concerns. Peters Township will always be served by a magisterial district court; the Court's reestablishment plan is not transferring Peters Township cases to Cecil Township's existing magisterial district court; it is redrawing the borders of all the magisterial district courts throughout the county, which will result in Peters being part of a new and different district. The reestablishment proposal does not change the location of the current offices for magisterial districts, but instead readjusts the borders. Locations of the offices in the reestablished districts is a decision that takes place after (and separate from) the reestablishment. For all the district courts, the goal is to have the district office in a location that is centrally located or is suited for the needs of the district.

The current district for Peters Township includes Nottingham, Finleyville, and Union Townships - there is no current requirement that offices be set up in those townships and that Peters residents be required to go there. Similarly, with the newly proposed district, there is no requirement or guarantee that the Cecil township office would be utilized. Ultimately, the districts are being changed so that they will all have similar workloads and so that any one office will not have more, or less, than another, ensuring that cases will not be delayed. For example, just like Peters Township's existing district, the current Cecil Township district includes municipalities that will no longer be present in the reestablished district. This will balance the workload in the new district. You can find further information on this in the PDF file containing the new maps and data located at the link above.

Thank you,

David J. Finder, Esq.
Deputy Court Administrator
(724) 228-6798

-----Original Message-----

From: Anthony Ricci <anthonyricci.3656@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 1:00 PM
To: David Finder <david.finder@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Peters Township Magisterial Court

Good Afternoon Mr Finder,

I am a resident of Peters Township.

I have just learned that the Washington County Court Administrator has a plan to eliminate Peters Township Magisterial Court and transfer all Peters Township cases to Cecil Township.

I am completely against this plan.

It makes no sense to have adults, students and police officers of Peters Township drive a half an hour away to another township.

This change will waste time and money while overloading the Cecil Township magistrate -which will further delay hearings and rulings; delay justice.

Please provide me with a link or directions as to where I can make a public comment under the 30 day public comment period.

Thank You,

Anthony N Ricci

Kathy Tarr

From: Kathy Tarr
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 11:26 AM
To: Dr. Joseph Ancosky
Subject: RE: Reestablishment Plan - Peters Township

Dr. Ancosky,

Thank you for taking the time to review the proposal and share your comments. The current magisterial district includes the Borough of Finleyville and Nottingham, Peters, and Union Townships. Under the proposal, the boundaries would shift to form a magisterial district that includes the Borough of McDonald and Peters and Cecil Townships. Finleyville, Nottingham, and Union Townships would then shift to a neighboring magisterial district. Residents of Peters Township would not lose access to a magisterial district judge, and while office location is not included in redistricting guidelines, the goal would be for each district to have an office in a central location. I hope this alleviates some of your concerns.

Thank you again for your comments. Public comment is an important part of this process.

Best,

Kathy Tarr

Kathy A. Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator – Special Courts
1 South Main St., Suite 1003
Washington PA 15301
Phone: 724-228-6936
Fax: 724-228-6938
kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us

From: Dr. Joseph Ancosky <jancosky@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2022 10:17 AM
To: Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Reestablishment Plan - Peters Township

"CAUTION: This email originated from outside of this organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize or expect an email from the sender and know the content is safe."

404 Greyhawk Circle
Venetia, PA 15367

Ms. Kathy Tarr
Deputy Court Administrator for Special Courts

1 S. Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301

Ms. Tarr,

I'm writing to request your help in maintaining our Peters Township magisterial district office. As a resident of Peters Township for the last 15 years, I'm requesting that the office in Peters remain open, especially for our older residents. Traveling to Washington could prove to be difficult for them. As a resident, what else can we do to request the office remain open? We appreciate your assistance in keeping our office open.

Thank you,
Joseph Ancosky, PhD

Kathy Tarr

From: JOE MCLAUGHLIN <joemclaughlin1956@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 2:32 PM
To: Kathy Tarr
Subject: PETERS TOWNSHIP LOOSING IT OFFICE FOR MAGISTRATE

I think the new system will put a stress on the twp. staff as well as police department.
I believe Peters Township should keep the office they have in our community and service the everyday needs of our population.
please consider, one main concern is violators wont always have the police department showing up for hearings and then the violation could be dismissed.

THANK YOU

Joseph J. McLaughlin
McLaughlin Builders LLC
Direct 412-951-3335
Fax: 724-260-0599

Kathy Tarr

From: Patrick Grimm
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 9:10 AM
To: alopus@clarkhill.com
Cc: Kathy Tarr
Subject: RE: Proposed Magisterial Court changes

Mr. Lopus:

Thank you for your comments. I understand your concerns regarding the magisterial district reestablishment proposal. You can find further information on the reestablishment plan at this link: [Magisterial District Judges | Washington County Courts, PA \(washingtoncourts.us\)](https://www.washingtoncourts.us). I have copied the Deputy Court Administrator, Kathy Tarr, so that she can submit your email below as a public comment to the plan.

I would also like to take this opportunity to attempt to address your concerns. The current boundaries of the district include Peters, Nottingham, and Union townships. Peters Township will continue to be served by a magisterial district court; the Court's reestablishment plan is not "shifting" all cases to Cecil Township. Rather, the proposal redraws the boundaries for all magisterial district courts throughout the County, which would result in Peters Township being part of a new and different district. The physical location of an office is not addressed in the proposal as it is not a criteria for reestablishment (office locations are a county-level decision). That said, the office in any district is, ideally, always placed in a central or otherwise convenient location.

Ultimately, the proposal is required to balance the workload among the magisterial district courts. You are correct to point out that Peters Township has a large population relative to other municipalities within the County; however, the current magisterial district court that includes Peters Township is the third smallest district court in the County. If comparing just Peters Township to Cecil Township, the latter has a 28% larger average caseload and a 24% higher average judicial workload. The reestablishment plan as a whole proposes to reduce the overall number of the magisterial district courts by two, and to realign the boundaries for each court. The two districts identified for reduction are the second and third smallest overall by workload over the past decade.

Again, thank you for taking the time to review and comment on the proposal. Public comments are an important part of this process.

Best,

Pat

Patrick R. Grimm, Esquire
District Court Administrator
27th Judicial District of Pennsylvania
Court of Common Pleas of Washington County
1 South Main Street, Suite 1003
Washington, PA 15301
Tel. 724.228.6797
Fax. 724.228.6938
patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us
www.washingtoncourts.us

From: Irey Vaughan, Diana <IreyDL@co.washington.pa.us>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 10:35 AM
To: Lopus, Allen M. <alopus@clarkhill.com>
Cc: Trossman, Marie <trossmanm@co.washington.pa.us>; Patrick Grimm <patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us>
Subject: Re: Proposed Magisterial Court changes

Allen,

Thank you for your email. The authority to make changes is with the Court, not the Board of Commissioners. The BOC was not consulted or notified of this proposed change. I am forwarding your email to Court Administrator Patrick Grimm for response.

Sincerely,
Diana Irey Vaughan, Chair
Washington County Board of Commissioners
724-228-6721

On May 24, 2022, at 10:28 AM, Lopus, Allen M. <alopus@clarkhill.com> wrote:

Dear Commissioner Irey,
I have reviewed the proposal that would result in Peters Township losing its magisterial court and requiring all cases in the Township to be shifted to Cecil. I cannot imagine that this would be a favorable (or popular) development for Peters Township residents. Requiring Peters police officers to travel to Cecil for hearings would be onerous and time-consuming. I also think Peters is large enough geographically and populations-wise that it should have its own magistrate. I can't pretend to know what the motive is for the proposed change, but I certainly am opposed to it, and I think you will see overwhelming opposition to the proposal from Peters Township residents.

Thanks for all you've done for Washington County, and thanks for considering my email.

Al Lopus

Allen M. Lopus

Attorney at Law

Clark Hill

One Oxford Centre, 301 Grant Street, 14th floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

+1 412.394.7713 (office) | +1 412.996.7228 (cell) | +1 412.394.2555 (fax)

alopus@clarkhill.com | www.clarkhill.com

ATTACHMENT “H”

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



COUNTY OF WASHINGTON

We, the MDJ's of Washington County, unanimously support the Reestablishment proposal. We are hereby submitting to President Judge John DiSalle for review.

Sincerely,

Washington County MDJ's

(Print) JOHN BRUNER

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) GABRI HAVELKA

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) Joshua Kanalis

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) MICHAEL MANFREDI

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) Louis J. McQuilka

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) ERIC PORTER

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) JAMES SAIDIA JR.

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) Kelly J. Stewart

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) CURTIS THOMPSON

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

(Print) MARK WILSON

(Signature) [Handwritten Signature]

From: Washington County Magisterial District Judges Association

To: President Judge John DiSalle and Patrick R. Grimm, Esq., Court Administrator:

Subj.: Proposed Reestablishment/Realignment for Magisterial District Courts

Date: February 23, 2022

The Washington County Magisterial District Judges met on Monday, February 21, 2022, and worked together to draft a reestablishment plan that satisfied all 10 Magisterial District Judges. This reestablishment plan calls for the elimination of one Magisterial District Court through retirement. At present, Washington County is comprised of 11 Magisterial District Courts and one of those, District 27-3-01, is currently vacant.

The Magisterial Districts affected by this proposal are as follows:

1. Magisterial District 27-3-10 will see the addition of North Franklin Township to its current district from Magisterial District 27-1-01.
2. Magisterial District 27-1-01 will add East Washington from Magisterial District 27-3-05.
3. The realignment of these Magisterial Districts will provide caseload equity for both of these Courts.
4. Magisterial District 27-3-02 would be eliminated upon the retirement of Magisterial District Judge Curtis Thompson or at the end of his term on January 2, 2028. Judge Thompson has served for 30 years and at the end of this term he will have served for 36 years.
5. Magisterial District 27-3-02 shall be divided among Magisterial Districts 27-1-03 and 27-3-03. Magisterial District 27-1-03 will add Bentleyville Borough. Magisterial District 27-3-03 will add the remaining 9 boroughs and townships from district 27-3-02.
6. Our proposal calls for no other changes for the remaining Magisterial District Courts in Washington County. These Magisterial District Judges would be able to run for re-election in their current magisterial districts.
7. We are equally opposed to any Judge having to seek re-election in a strange, new district without the benefit of allowing the constituents who elected that judge to their office to continue to vote for their candidate.
8. We are opposed to the closing of Magisterial District Court 27-3-07 for the following reasons:
 - Geographical challenges: District Court 27-3-07 is currently the 2nd largest district per square miles in Washington County. Combining Magisterial District Court 27-3-07 with the additional municipalities of Magisterial District 27-3-06 creates an even bigger district per square miles. The combination of the above 2 Magisterial Districts along with Magisterial District 27-3-10 will encompass close to half of Washington County in total area.

- Court Access: Creating such a large Magisterial District limits the access to courts for the citizens of the District, especially those of low income and the elderly
- Public Transportation: Constituents in this proposed district have no access to public transportation creating a burden on those individuals incapable of driving, or driving longer distances. There are greater obstacles of traveling in times of winter or other bad weather.
- There would also be problems for the police departments and the municipalities with increased travel distances for access to the courts and the appearances in court. Victims and witnesses would also have to travel further distances as well as other stakeholders in the court system.
- This district court maintains an average current workload of 33,931 and yields a Deviation from the Judicial District average of -0.78% which easily falls within the reestablishment guidelines for keeping a district court.

The Minor Judiciary and the District Courts were established to create equal opportunity and access to courts and thus justice for all citizens of Washington County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Washington County is a 4th class county and has the largest population of any 4th class counties. Washington County is approximately 650 people from being classified as a 3rd class county. As of this writing, there are no third-class counties in Pennsylvania with less than 10 Magisterial District Courts. Taking into consideration the growth of Washington County and the fact that we are nearly in the 3rd class county category, why would we want to take our county below 10 District Courts? Furthermore, of all the 3rd class counties in Pennsylvania, Washington County's population is most similar with that of Lackawanna County. Lackawanna County boasts 10 Magisterial District Courts with an average caseload of 4,026 per office. Washington County currently sits with 11 Magisterial District Courts and averages 4,151 cases per office. Our 4th class county caseload already exceeds that of Lackawanna County and they have less Magisterial District Judges!

According to Reestablishment data from the AOPC, Washington County averages approximately 45,661 cases per year. By reducing our number of Magisterial District Judges from 11 to 10, our county caseload average swells to 4,566 cases per office putting us in the top 3 average caseloads for 4th class counties and 6th place of the 11 counties of the 3rd class.

2022 Magisterial District Judges Reestablishment/Realignment Plan

The proposed realignment/reestablishment of Washington County's current magisterial district courts includes abolishing Magisterial District 27-3-03. Consideration for the abolishment of Magisterial District Court 27-3-02 is herein being requested, as an alternative.

On January 6, 2022, Magisterial District Judge Curtis Thompson, of Magisterial District Court 27-3-02, announced his plan to retire at the conclusion of his term. The vacancy created by Judge Thompson's retirement provides a unique opportunity for Washington County to efficiently consolidate its districts by way of natural attrition. Judge Thompson's current term concludes in 2028; this represents the latest this proposed plan could become effective. However, if Judge Thompson decides to retire before the conclusion of his term, Washington County can petition the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to immediately enact this proposed plan upon receipt of Judge Thompson's retirement letter.

As it stands today, Magisterial District Court 27-3-03 cannot be abolished until 2026. In the event Judge Thompson completes the totality of his term, only a two-year benefit would be realized under the current reestablishment plan. In contrast, the proposed plan laid out here today, realizes a benefit into the foreseeable future. Additionally, in the event Judge Thompson decides to retire early, the framework for a path forward is already present, and ready to be enacted. This proposed plan provides for both seamless and efficient transition, as well as consistency and longevity of the Magisterial District Court system.

Finally, under the AOPC's 2021-2022 reestablishment plan, District Courts 27-3-02, 27-3-03 and 27-1-03 are to be consolidated into just two districts. As District Court 27-3-02 consistently ranks at or near the bottom of the list in both case-filings and workload, its abolishment would present the least burden on the remaining consolidated district courts.

According to the AOPC, this new proposed plan meets the guidelines for reestablishment. Specifically, guideline number **4e**: ***"Proposed changes do not have to be effective immediately but can take place years in the future if a proposed change is dependent upon a retirement or term ending which will occur years hence."***

Washington County Magisterial District Judges

1-12-2022

Kathy Tarr

From: John F. DiSalle
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 7:08 PM
To: Gary Havelka; Joshua Kanalis
Cc: Curtis Thompson; Mark Wilson; Eric Porter; James Saieva; Michael Manfredi; Kelly J. Stewart; John P. Bruner; Louis J. McQuillan; Patrick Grimm; Kathy Tarr
Subject: FW: MDJ Proposal
Attachments: RAscan0002.pdf

Judges Havelka and Kanalis:

I have received and reviewed the MDJ counter-proposal that you had emailed to me this afternoon. I have the following concerns:

- 1) In your letter, you begin by stating that “we” are submitting a counter-proposal. Are all of the MDJs in favor of this counter-proposal?
- 2) You begin by acknowledging that your proposal is based on a division of the caseload, and not taking into account the work load endured by each of the MDJs. The Reestablishment mandate tasks us with re-distributing the work load more equitably among all of the MDJs.
- 3) Regardless of how the caseload is distributed, the data does not support having 11 or even 10 magisterial districts in Washington County, when measured against other comparable Fourth Class counties or Third Class counties.
- 4) You acknowledge that magisterial districts 27-3-03 and 27-3-02 should be combined, thereby conceding that those two districts cannot be justified in their current alignment, but you do not address the other under-utilized districts in the County, including 27-3-07 or 27-1-02 or any of the other districts.
- 5) Ordering the State Police and the Parking Authority to re-direct the filing of their citations may or may not be met with objections by those entities, but in any case will only re-distribute the caseload of those magisterial districts, thereby not addressing the disparity of the work load of the affected MDJs.

Please address these concerns as soon as possible so that we can determine an appropriate course of action. As you know, the public comment period for the Reestablishment plan published for Washington County ended at the close of business today, February 14th, and the final plan must be submitted in short order, for consideration by the AOPC and the Supreme Court. It is regrettable that this counter-proposal could not have been circulated sooner, considering that we began this discussion on September 17th, 2021, and reviewed the published plan in significant detail when we met on January 6th and January 18, 2022. (We had planned to meet again on January 12th, but you asked that the meeting be postponed until the 18th). The original plan was published on January 13th. On January 21st, we submitted an alternate proposal, which would have allowed for timely advertising and submission, but was summarily rejected by the overwhelming majority of the MDJs, and the two of you offered no comment to the alternate proposal.

John F. DiSalle
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From: Kristi A Wyke <Kristi.Wyke@mdjs.pacourts.us>

Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 2:12 PM

To: John F. DiSalle <john.disalle@washingtoncourts.us>; Patrick Grimm <patrick.grimm@washingtoncourts.us>; Kathy Tarr <kathy.tarr@washingtoncourts.us>

Subject: MDJ Proposal

We are forwarding the proposal for Judge Kanalis he was having issues sending it.

GHH