

Judgeship Certification.pdf

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Supreme Court of Maryland

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Matthew J. Fader
Chief Justice

(410) 260-3725

December 14, 2023

The Honorable William C. Ferguson, IV
President
Maryland State Senate
H-107 State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
H-101 State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: Judgeship Needs for Fiscal Year 2025

Dear President Ferguson and Speaker Jones:

In accordance with the procedure established by the Judiciary to certify judgeships to the General Assembly, the Judiciary submits its annual certification of need for judgeships. While certifying the need for six additional judgeships for Fiscal Year 2025 based on our needs analysis, the Judiciary is requesting one trial court judgeship. The Judiciary is requesting this judgeship in the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, the location deemed to be in most critical need of additional judicial resources.

Additional need has been certified in the Circuit Court for Allegany County, the Circuit Court for Kent County and three District Court locations: Cecil, Washington, and Wicomico. However, mindful of budgetary considerations, existing space within those courthouses, and other factors, we are declining to request judgeships in those jurisdictions at this time. The study also shows that judicial resources in some courts exceed the need anticipated in Fiscal Year 2025. We do not think the analysis is necessarily reflective of long-term needs in those jurisdictions and, therefore, are not currently proposing any reduction in the number of judicial resources in those jurisdictions. Attached, for your convenience, is the report detailing the workload analysis conducted as the basis for this certification.

The underlying model for establishing judicial officer need was most recently updated by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) in November 2022, *State of Maryland Limited Scope Workload Adjustment for District and Circuit Court Judicial Officers*. As recommended by the NCSC, this model relies predominately on new case filings mostly unaffected by the COVID-19 pandemic: Fiscal Year 2018, Fiscal Year 2019, and Fiscal Year 2023. The experience with the COVID-19 pandemic has injected more uncertainty into this process than there has been in previous years. Although we have attempted to account for that, future trends may alter our analysis of future needs more suddenly than it has in the past. The Judiciary will continue to monitor filing trends for future certification periods.

The Honorable William C. Ferguson, IV
The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
December 14, 2023
Page 2

Included in the Maryland Judicial Conference legislative package is draft legislation requesting the additional judgeship position. The Judiciary has asked Chairs William Smith and Luke Clippinger for assistance in introducing the bill. I look forward to working with each of you this session.

Please contact our State Court Administrator, Judy Rupp, 410-260-1539, should you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



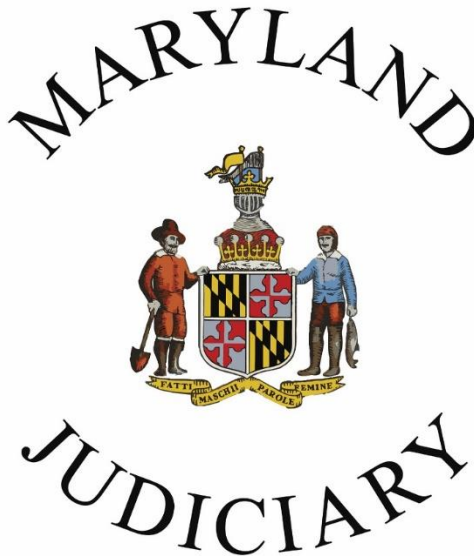
Matthew J. Fader

ENCLOSURE

- cc: Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
Honorable Sarah K. Elfreth, Chair, Public Safety, Transportation and Environment Subcommittee
Honorable Ben Barnes, Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair, House Judiciary Committee
Honorable Jazz M. Lewis, Chair, Public Safety and Administration Subcommittee
Honorable Greg Wells, Chief Judge, Appellate Court of Maryland
Honorable Audrey Carrión, Chair, Conference of Circuit Judges
Honorable John P. Morrissey, Chief Judge, District Court Circuit, County, and District Administrative Judges
Judy K. Rupp, State Court Administrator
Nancy Faulkner, Deputy State Court Administrator
Honorable Kathleen Duvall, Chair, Conference of Circuit Court Clerks
Kristin Grossnickle Wood, Chair, Conference of Circuit Court Administrators
Kelley O'Connor, Assistant State Court Administrator, Government Relations and Public Affairs
Natasha Dartigue, Public Defender
Steven Kroll, Executive Director, Maryland State's Attorneys' Association
Sally McMillan Robb, Chief of Staff, Senate President
Jeremy P. Baker, Chief of Staff, House Speaker
Kenneth Weaver, Budget Analyst
Jacob Pollicove, Budget Analyst
Holly Vandegrift, Policy Analyst
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Erika Schissler, Policy Analyst
Jeff Wulbrecht, Budget Analyst, Department of Budget and Management
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Analysis of Need for Additional Judgeships in the Judicial Branch

FY 2025



Administrative Office of the Courts

December 2023

Table of Contents

Executive Summary 1

Certifying Trial Court Judgeship Need 2

Trial Court Certification Process 4

Methodology 5

Table 1. Judgeships Requested in the Circuit Courts 9

Table 2. Judgeships Requested in the District Court 10

General Trends in the Circuit Courts 11

Table 3. Circuit Court Statewide Original Filings FY 2015 to FY 2023 11

General Trends in the District Court 14

Table 4. District Court Statewide Original Filings FY 2015 to FY 2023 15

Bail Review and Expungements 18

Interim Update and Next Steps 19

Appendix A: Circuit Courts – Judge Need by County/City 21

Appendix B: District Court – Judge Need by County/City 48

Executive Summary

This report summarizes the comprehensive evaluation of need for additional judgeships in Maryland for fiscal year 2025. The report details the history and current established process for determining need. Although Maryland has projected judicial need since 1979, this report benefits from its most current and comprehensive judgeship need evaluation using a national model in judgeship certifications.

Using national best practices developed by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), the Maryland Judiciary carefully evaluated predominant indicators of future judicial work and corresponding judgeship need. The determination of need for FY 2025 is based on the most recent recommendations established by the NCSC in November 2022, which seek to account for the extraordinary circumstances brought on by the outbreak of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. This model relies primarily on the average number and type of cases originally filed in the three most recent years least affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023. Through extensive research, the NCSC guided the Judiciary in determining the amount of judicial work generated on average per case filing within each distinct case type. A preliminary determination of need for each jurisdiction and within trial court level (District and circuit) was achieved by combining the projected number of filings with the average time a judge will spend on each case, from initiation through any post-judgment activity, to ensure proper administration of justice. After the projected need was established, each county and district administrative judge provided input on the most immediate need for additional judgeships in FY 2025.

Appendices A and B detail the projected filings and corresponding judicial work in the trial courts for FY 2025. Tables 1 and 2 identify the current judgeships, projected need, and requested additional positions for the circuit courts and the District Court, respectively.

For FY 2025, there is a projected increased need for judicial resources in six courts, including three circuit courts, and three jurisdictions in the District Court. These numbers are largely on par with the additional need identified in the FY 2024 report. Typically, differences from one year to another are a result of updated filings data and adjusted use of quasi-judicial resources to ensure judicial resources are fully utilized. The FY 2025 report benefits from the NCSC-recommended interim adjustments that were first put in place for the FY 2024 report. Mindful of the many budgetary considerations in Maryland, although certifying a need for additional resources in six courts for FY 2025, the Judiciary is requesting one judgeship for the Circuit Court for Prince George's County.

The report also identifies filing trends in the trial courts. Active monitoring of the judicial workload aids the Judiciary's continuous efforts to utilize existing judicial resources most efficiently. Continuing to monitor judgeship need will help ensure fair, effective, and efficient access to justice in all trial courts across the state.

Certifying Trial Court Judgeship Need

In 1979, the Maryland Judiciary began an annual process to certify to the General Assembly the need for additional judges in the trial courts. Over time, that process has been refined to ensure the Judiciary has the judicial resources to manage effectively and resolve court business without delay while delivering quality service to the public. From 2015 to 2017, the National Center for State Courts performed an intensive judicial needs assessment to equip Maryland with the most current and precise tools to calculate judicial need. The results of that comprehensive research and methodology for calculating judicial need are detailed in the *Maryland Judiciary Workload Assessment Final Report, December 2017*.¹ Beginning in 2021, the NCSC performed an interim model assessment, with the goal of

¹ Kleiman, M., & Lee, C. (December 2017). Maryland Judiciary Workload Assessment Final Report. National Center for State Courts.

updating any deficiencies in the 2017 model. This interim update sought to account for any changes in legislation, court practices, filings trends, and other relevant factors for projecting need. In addition, the NCSC sought to determine to what extent COVID-19 has impacted filings and court practices and how the model should account for that impact. This interim update was completed in November 2022 and is summarized in the *State of Maryland Limited Scope Workload Adjustment for District and Circuit Court Judicial Officers, November 2022*.² Since the weighted caseload model relies on new case filings to calculate workload, it is not designed to account for surges in backlogs due to extended times with limited court activity, such as what occurred during the pandemic. Based on the recommendation of the NCSC, judicial need for FY 2024 was calculated based on a three-year filings average from FY 2018 to FY 2020 to avoid having undue influence from historically low filings during FY 2021 and FY 2022 that were expected to rebound. As expected, filings increased in FY 2023 in both the circuit courts and the District Court. For Fiscal Year 2025 and beyond, the NCSC has recommended monitoring filings trends and case backlog to make the most accurate assessment of future workload. The NCSC specifically mentioned considering holding filings steady using the current three-year average, such as FY2018, FY2019, and FY2023. For Fiscal Year 2025, filings are projected based on the three-year average of FY2018, FY2019 and FY2023, consistent with the NCSC's recommendations.

The FY 2025 certification of need for additional judgeships is guided by three key factors: (1) analyzing court workload and current resources to quantify judicial officer need; (2) assessing the ability of local governments to provide financial support for judicial staff specifically in the circuit courts as well as considering magistrate resources as an alternative to judgeships; and (3) determining if available courthouse space exists to accommodate additional judges in both trial courts.

² Tallarico, S., Boyce, E., Bell, B., & Slayton, D. (November 2022). *State of Maryland Limited Scope Workload Adjustment for District and Circuit Court Judicial Officers*. National Center for State Courts.

Trial Court Certification Process

The annual process employed by the Judiciary affords the opportunity to present the need for judgeships based on a review of comprehensive quantitative and qualitative factors relating to the capacity with which the judicial system can adjudicate cases in a timely manner. Three different steps are involved in the Chief Justice’s certification process. The starting point, and the subject of this report, is an empirical analysis prepared by the Administrative Office of the Courts. In 2021, the Judiciary engaged the NCSC to develop an interim adjustment to the weighted caseload methodology, enhancing the last full model that was finalized in 2017, to determine judgeship needs. As with the previous model, this methodology objectively determines case weights based on judicial time by case type and provides a more informed and comprehensive reflection of a court’s capacity to address its workload than do other models that rely on filings alone. Three key enhancements developed by the NCSC through the 2022 interim adjustment were: (1) qualitative review of case weights to determine where adjustments were needed to fully account for current practices,³ (2) accounting for the significant impact of COVID-19 on new case filings and overall case processing beginning in March 2020 and continuing into FY 2021 and FY 2022, and (3) temporarily adjusting the lower limit threshold of the model to ensure sufficient resources are available as courts continue to navigate changes to case processing brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The second phase of the certification process involves the individual trial courts. At this point, circuit court administrative judges and administrative judges in the District Court are asked to provide

³ Based on a statewide sufficiency of time survey sent to all judges and magistrates, three focus groups, and final recommendations from the Judicial Needs Assessment Advisory Work Group, the NCSC recommended case weight adjustments in three District Court case types: Domestic Violence Protective Orders, Large Claims/Other Civil, and DUI/DWI. The NCSC recommended case weight adjustments in two case types in the circuit courts: Family Law and Domestic Violence Protective Orders. The details of the basis for those adjustments are outlined in the *State of Maryland Limited Scope Workload Adjustment for District and Circuit Court Judicial Officers (November 2022)*.

input on the need for additional judgeships. In preparation of this response, the administrative judge is advised to: (1) seek the views of judges from that jurisdiction; (2) solicit opinions from members of the local bar; and (3) in the case of the circuit courts, consult with the local government with respect to funding support for staff, as well as the availability of additional courthouse space, and to consider if using magistrates will address the resource need. Administrative judges are required to conduct a thorough review of local conditions, as well as other pertinent factors that may supplement the quantitative analysis, particularly if they could result in specific recommendations relating to the need for additional judicial resources.

- Circuit court administrative judges respond directly to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maryland with copies to the Administrative Office of the Courts.
- District Court administrative judges respond directly to the Chief Judge of the District Court, who prepares a final recommendation to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maryland.

The final phase of the certification process occurs when the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Maryland reviews the analysis from the Administrative Office of the Courts, any responses from circuit court county administrative judges, and the recommendation of the Chief Judge of the District Court and approves the certification and budgetary request.

Methodology

In brief, the weighted caseload model weights case filings to account for the varying degrees of complexity associated with specific case types and the amount of judicial time required to process the workload. Case weights represent the average bench and non-bench time (in minutes) required to reach a disposition in each case type. Different types of cases create different amounts of judicial work: for example, a felony case typically requires more judge time than a routine traffic case. Unlike methods of judicial resource allocation that are based on population or raw, unweighted caseloads, the weighted caseload method explicitly incorporates the differences in judicial workload associated with different

types of cases, producing a more accurate and nuanced profile of the need for judges in each court. The weighted caseload method calculates judicial need based on each court's total workload. The weighted caseload formula consists of three critical elements:

1. Case filings, or the number of new cases of each type projected to be opened each year.
2. Case weights, which represent the average amount of judicial officer time required to handle cases of each type over the life of the case.
3. The year value, or the amount of time each judicial officer has available for case-related work in one year.

Total annual workload is calculated by multiplying the projected filings for each case type by the corresponding case weight, then summing the workload across all case types. Per the NCSC, the weighted caseload methodology requires the periodic reassessment of the case weights to validate their accuracy in light of legislative actions and other case-related changes over which a court effectively has little or no control. Such changes may affect the time it takes a judge to properly adjudicate a matter. The work by the NCSC to develop preliminary case weights is detailed in the *Maryland Judiciary Workload Assessment Final Report, December 2017*.¹ The current case weights were originally established in 2017 through an intensive time study with significant judicial officer participation rates. All case weights went through a thorough quality adjustment process, initially in 2017 and most recently in 2022. This interim update was completed in November 2022 and is summarized in the *State of Maryland Limited Scope Workload Adjustment for District and Circuit Court Judicial Officers, November 2022*.²

After a court's total workload is established, it is then divided by the judge year value to determine the total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) judges needed to handle the workload.⁴ An additional level of analysis is required in the circuit courts where judicial work is performed by both judges and magistrates. Primary analysis is first conducted by subtracting the work handled by a circuit court's current complement of magistrates from the total workload, where each magistrate is assumed to work a full magistrate workload. The remaining workload is then divided by the current complement of judges to determine if the estimated per-judge workload falls within the acceptable range of 0.825 to 1.1 FTE.⁵ Jurisdictions that currently fall within the 0.825 to 1.1 FTE per-judge workload range are considered properly resourced. Where per-judge workload is greater than 1.1 FTE, the primary analysis indicates the need for additional resources. Where per-judge workload is below 0.825 FTE, the primary analysis indicates a decreased need for resources.

As prescribed by the NCSC, where the primary analysis shows a decreased need for resources, a secondary analysis should be employed in the circuit courts. Although the primary analysis is useful to determine whether a court has the correct number of resources, a secondary analysis is required to identify which type of resource, either magistrate or judge, should be adjusted to ensure the court is properly resourced. In accordance with the NCSC's guidance that the secondary analysis should also take into consideration the fact that magistrates are not authorized to perform the full range of judicial functions, the secondary analysis is conducted by first assigning work to existing judges, with each judge working

⁴ The judge year value is based on a rigorous analysis conducted in 2017 combining elements of the time study as well as an analysis of judge leave data. The year value was adjusted in 2022 based on the recognition of the Juneteenth National Independence Day as a Maryland state holiday.

⁵ The 2017 model update established an acceptable range of 0.9 FTE 1.1 FTE for judicial resources. In 2022, the NCSC recommended temporarily adjusting the lower limit of the threshold from 0.9 FTE to 0.8 FTE to account for the impact of the pandemic on both new case filings and existing case backlog. The NCSC recommended gradually increasing this lower threshold by 0.025 FTE each year until a return to 0.9 FTE is reached in FY 2028. Based on this recommendation, the proper lower threshold for FY 2025 is 0.825 FTE. The upper limit, 1.1 FTE, used to indicate a need for additional judgeships remains unchanged.

within the acceptable workload range developed by the NCSC. Next, the remaining work is assigned to magistrates to determine the resulting magistrate need rounded up to the nearest 0.25 FTE. See Table 1 and Appendix A for judgeship needs in each circuit court. See Table 2 and Appendix B for the District Court judgeship needs.

The overall statewide increase in judges needed reflects the application of the most recently developed case weights, incorporation into the model of current availability and use of magistrate resources and applying nationally regarded best practices for determining need on an individual judge workload basis. Filing trends in key case types support the increase of overall judge need in these counties. This projection is largely consistent with the previous FY 2024 report.

Total judgeship need in the District Court is projected to be 118 judges statewide. Judge need was determined using the most current weighted caseload methodology, applying nationally regarded best practices for determining need on an individual judge workload basis. From a jurisdiction-specific perspective, the model indicates a decreased need for judges in Baltimore City and Howard County and a need for additional judges across three different counties: Cecil, Washington, and Wicomico. These projections are largely consistent with the FY 2024 report.

Table 1. Judgeships Requested in the Circuit Courts

FY 2025 — Based on Weighted Caseload Methodology

Jurisdiction	FY 2024 Judges	FY 2024 Magistrates	FY25 Projected Need ⁶	Additional Judges Needed in FY 2025	FY 2025 Requested Judgeships	FY 2025 Requested Magistrates
Allegany ⁷	2	1.6	3	1	0	0
Anne Arundel	13	6	13	-	-	-
Baltimore City	35	14	35	-	-	-
Baltimore Co.	21	9	21	-	-	-
Calvert	3	1	3	-	-	-
Caroline	1	1	1	-	-	-
Carroll	4	2	4	-	-	-
Cecil	4	1	4	-	-	-
Charles	5	3	5	-	-	-
Dorchester	1.5	0.9	1.5	-	-	-
Frederick	6	2	6	-	-	-
Garrett	1	1	1	-	-	-
Harford	6	3	6	-	-	-
Howard	5	3	5	-	-	-
Kent ⁸	1	0	2	1	0	0
Montgomery	24	6	24	-	-	-
Prince George's	24	8	25	1	1	0
Queen Anne's	1	1	1	-	-	-
St. Mary's	3	1	3	-	-	-
Somerset	1	0.7	1	-	-	-
Talbot	1	1	1	-	-	-
Washington	6	1	6	-	-	-
Wicomico	3.5	1.4	3.5	-	-	-
Worcester	3	1	3	-	-	-
Statewide	175	69.6	178	3	1	0

⁶ Per the recommendation of the National Center for State Courts, where primary analysis predicts a decreased need for judicial resources, a secondary analysis is performed to analyze both current judge and magistrate resources to determine where resource adjustments should be made. The secondary analysis used requires first assigning work to existing judges until an average per-judge workload within the acceptable range is reached and then assigning remaining work to magistrates, rounding magistrate need up to the nearest 0.25 FTE. Based on this secondary analysis, magistrate need decreases in Worcester County (decrease from 1 magistrate to 0.5 magistrates), Garrett County (decrease from 1 magistrate to 0.75 magistrates), and Carroll County (decrease from 1 magistrate to 0.75 magistrates).

⁷ The FY 2025 per-judge workload in the Circuit Court for Allegany County is estimated to be 1.12 FTE, above the upper limit of 1.10 FTE. While the model certifies additional judgeship is certified, this need could be satisfied by the addition of a part-time magistrate.

⁸ The FY 2025 per-judge workload in the Circuit Court for Kent County is estimated to be 1.21 FTE, above the upper limit of 1.10 FTE. While the model certifies additional judgeship is certified, this need could be satisfied by the addition of a part-time magistrate.

Table 2. Judgeships Requested in the District Court

FY 2025 — Based on Weighted Caseload Methodology

Jurisdiction	FY 2024 Judges	FY 2025 Projected Need	Additional Judges Needed in FY 2025 ⁹	FY 2025 Requested Judgeships
Allegany	2	2	-	-
Anne Arundel	10	10	-	-
Baltimore City	28	21	-	-
Baltimore County	15	15	-	-
Calvert	2	2	-	-
Caroline	1	1	-	-
Carroll	2	2	-	-
Cecil	2	3	1	0
Charles	3	3	-	-
Dorchester	1	1	-	-
Frederick	3	3	-	-
Garrett	1	1	-	-
Harford	4	4	-	-
Howard	5	4	-	-
Kent	1	1	-	-
Montgomery	13	13	-	-
Prince George's	19	19	-	-
Queen Anne's	1	1	-	-
St. Mary's	2	2	-	-
Somerset	1	1	-	-
Talbot	1	1	-	-
Washington	2	3	1	0
Wicomico	2	3	1	0
Worcester	2	2	-	-
Statewide	123	118	3	0

⁹ Additional Judges Needed Statewide total shows sum of all counties where additional judges are needed. When including counties where the model suggests a decreased judge need, the statewide total need for FY 2025 is projected to be 118 judges.

General Trends in the Circuit Courts

Following a peak in FY 2015 in which circuit court original filings exceeded 182,000 statewide, original filings decreased every year from FY 2016 to FY 2021. This decrease was most extreme from FY 2019 to FY 2020, when annual filings decreased nearly 20%. This decrease in new filings coincided with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Prior to that time, the largest year-over-year change had been an 8.1% decrease from FY 2016 to FY 2017. Another significant decrease in new filings was seen in FY 2021, with case filings down nearly 12% from the previous year, a 29% from FY 2019. Case filings increased in FY 2022, up more than 10% from FY 2021. Case filings increased again in FY 2023, up nearly 8% from FY 2022 and nearly 19% from FY 2021. However, filings have not yet returned to pre-COVID-19 levels, with FY 2023 filings down nearly 16% from FY 2019. Table 3 presents the new case filings by case category from FY 2015 to FY 2023.¹⁰

Table 3. Circuit Court Statewide Original Filings FY 2015 to FY 2023

Fiscal Year	Criminal	Civil	Family	Juvenile	Total Filings	% Change From Previous Year
FY 2015	48,008	60,001	60,060	14,430	182,499	N/A
FY 2016	45,698	56,483	62,694	13,701	178,576	-2.1%
FY 2017	41,390	48,002	61,613	13,021	164,026	-8.1%
FY 2018	39,387	48,512	59,493	11,480	158,872	-3.1%
FY 2019	37,632	48,333	59,817	9,840	155,622	-2.0%
FY 2020	27,393	40,080	49,501	8,172	125,146	-19.6%
FY 2021	26,300	28,833	50,041	5,139	110,313	-11.9%
FY 2022	27,539	33,069	55,250	5,740	121,598	10.2%
FY 2023	29,186	39,442	55,974	6,282	130,884	7.6%

¹⁰ Circuit court case types and categories as defined in the NCSC report are as follows: 1) The Criminal case category includes: Criminal Indictments and Informations; Jury Trial Prayer and Criminal Appeals; Adult Drug Court; Other Problem-Solving Courts. (2) the Civil case category includes: Foreclosures; Contracts; Torts; Other Civil; and Civil Appeals. (3) the Juvenile case category includes: CINA; CINS/Other Juvenile; Delinquency; TPR and Guardianships; Juvenile Drug Court; and Truancy Reduction Program. (4) The Family case category includes: Domestic Violence Protective Orders; Family Law; Civil Adoptions; Paternity and Non-Support; and Other Guardianships.

The current analysis of the circuit courts reflects a comparison of case filings by case category from FY 2018 to FY 2023 with a focus on three single-year periods: (1) FY 2019, the most recent full year of data unaffected by COVID-19, (2) FY 2021, the year with the lowest number of new filings recorded, and (3) FY 2023, the most recent complete year of data. Total circuit court new filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 4% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a nearly 20% decrease in overall filings compared to FY 2019. The approximately 130,900 new filings in FY 2023 marked a nearly 8% increase from FY 2022, a nearly 19% increase from FY 2021, and a nearly 5% increase from FY 2020. New filings in FY 2023 remain below pre-COVID levels, down nearly 16% from FY 2019, with approximately 24,700 fewer new filings.

Changes in case filings from FY 2019 to FY 2023 varied by case category. Juvenile was the case category with the greatest percentage decrease in filings from FY 2019 to FY 2023 (36.2% decrease, approximately 3,600 fewer filings). The criminal case category saw the second-largest percentage decrease in filings from FY 2019 to FY 2023 (22.4% decrease, approximately 8,400 fewer filings). Civil was the case category with the greatest decrease in number of filings from FY 2019 to FY 2023 (nearly 8,900 fewer filings, an 18.4% decrease). The family case category saw the smallest percentage decline in filings (6.4% decrease, approximately 3,800 fewer filings). FY 2023 saw a 7.6% increase in overall filings compared to FY 2022, with increases seen in every case category. As detailed more fully below, there are indicators that the decrease in new case filings seen beginning in March 2020 and continuing into FY 2021 began to recover in FY 2022 and have continued to recover during FY 2023.

Criminal. Criminal case filings decreased 9.1% from FY 2017 to FY 2019. FY 2020 saw a 27% decrease compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 4% decrease in filings compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a nearly 5% increase in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 6% increase in filings compared

to FY 2022. The more than 29,000 criminal filings in FY 2023 were an 11% increase compared to FY 2021. This increase was driven in part by a 25% increase in the Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals case type and a 9% increase in the number of persons admitted to drug courts. The more than 16,000 new filings in the Criminal Indictments and Information case type marked a 9.6% increase from FY 2022 and a more than 21.6% increase from FY 2020.

Civil. Civil case filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 1% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 17% decrease compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw the lowest number of filings in the period, with 28,800 new filings marking a 28% decrease compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 15% increase in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 19.3% increase in filings compared to FY 2022. The more than 39,400 civil filings in FY 2023 were a 37% increase compared to FY 2021. This increase was driven in part by foreclosure filings which more than tripled from FY 2021 to FY 2023. In addition, increases were seen in contract filings (21% increase), other civil filings (15% increase), and civil appeals (8% increase).¹¹

Family. Across the COVID-19 period, the smallest decrease in case filings was in the family law case category, with overall only a 6.4% decrease in filings in FY 2023 compared to FY 2019. Family case filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 2.2% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 17.2% decrease compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 1.1% increase in filings compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 10.4% increase in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 1.3% increase in filings compared to FY 2022. The nearly

¹¹ As first detailed in the *FY 2021 Analysis of Need for Additional Judgeships in the Judicial Branch* report, using a weighted caseload model does not accurately depict judicial workload for asbestos cases based on filings. While the Circuit Court for Baltimore City continues to process the backlog of asbestos cases, the current model reserves two judges and one magistrate in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City specifically to handle asbestos matters. Therefore, asbestos filings have been removed from the overall count of civil case filings during these periods. This is consistent with the *FY 2024 Analysis of Need for Additional Judgeships in the Judicial Branch* report.

56,000 family filings in FY 2023 were a 12% increase compared to FY 2021. From FY 2021 to FY 2023 increases were seen across all case types within the family case category including a 29% increase in Paternity and Non-Support cases, a 20% increase in Domestic Violence Protective Orders, an 18% increase in Other Guardianships, an 8% increase in Family Law cases, and a 3% increase in Civil Adoptions.

Juvenile. Juvenile case filings saw a decrease of 24.4% from FY 2017 to FY 2019. FY 2020 saw a 17% decrease compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 37.1% decrease in filings compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw an 11.7% increase in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 9.4% increase in filings compared to FY 2022. The nearly 6,300 juvenile filings in FY 2023 were a 22% increase compared to FY 2021. This increase was driven in part by a 50% increase in Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) and Guardianships and a 38% increase in Delinquency filings.

General Trends in the District Court

Original filings in the District Court declined each year from FY 2011 to FY 2015, a nine percent decrease in statewide total filings over a five-year period. From FY 2015 to FY 2019, filings in the District Court showed signs of leveling off, with no single year in the time period experiencing a more than one percent variance from the five-year average of 1.66 million filings. The District Court experienced a nearly 15% decrease in filings from FY 2019 to FY 2020. This decrease in new filings coincided with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Prior to that time, the largest year-over-year change had been a 2.1% decrease from FY 2014 to FY 2015. An even more significant decrease in new filings was seen in FY 2021, with case filings down nearly 29% from the previous year and 39.6% from FY 2019. Filings decreased in FY 2022, down 0.5% from FY 2021. Filings increased nearly 13% from FY 2022 to FY 2023. The approximately 1,125,000 case filings in FY 2023 were a 12.3% increase

from FY 2021. Table 4 presents new case filings in the District Court by case category from FY 2015 to FY 2023.¹²

Table 4. District Court Statewide Original Filings FY 2015 to FY 2023

Fiscal Year	Civil	Landlord-Tenant	Traffic	Criminal	DVPO	Total Filings	% Change From Previous Year
FY 2015	255,214	623,464	530,422	194,911	44,821	1,648,832	N/A
FY 2016	280,442	647,714	502,879	191,652	47,444	1,670,131	1.3%
FY 2017	306,617	650,549	477,016	181,050	48,263	1,663,495	-0.4%
FY 2018	305,380	663,348	486,895	174,981	47,021	1,677,625	0.8%
FY 2019	297,547	674,162	479,629	158,589	47,135	1,657,062	-1.2%
FY 2020	314,608	514,856	399,958	132,548	47,621	1,409,591	-14.9%
FY 2021	197,528	327,995	313,674	110,667	51,428	1,001,292	-29.0%
FY 2022	228,074	320,646	295,541	110,996	41,355	996,612	-0.5%
FY 2023	240,130	412,153	306,235	115,295	50,921	1,124,734	12.9%

The current analysis of the District Court reflects a comparison of case filings by case category from FY 2017 to FY 2023 with a focus on three single-year periods: (1) FY 2019, the most recent full year of data unaffected by COVID-19, (2) FY 2021, first full year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and (3) FY 2023, the most recent complete year of data. Total new filings in the District Court remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 0.7% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 14.9% decrease compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 29.0% decrease compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 0.5% decrease in filings compared to FY 2021. Filings increased nearly 13% from FY 2022 to FY 2023. The approximately 1,125,000 case

¹² District Court case types and categories as defined in the NCSC report are as follows: 1) The Criminal case category includes: Other Criminal; Violations of Probation; Drug Court; Mental Health Court. (2) the Civil case category includes: Civil Infractions/Regulations; Small Claims; and Large Claims/Other Civil. (3) the Landlord-Tenant case category includes: Failure to Pay Rent; as well as Rent Escrow and Other Landlord-Tenant (4) The Traffic case category includes: Serious Traffic; Routine Traffic; and DUI/DWI. (5) The Domestic Violence Protective Orders (“DVPO”) category includes: Domestic Violence Protective Orders; and Peace Orders.

filings in FY 2023 marked a 12.3% increase from FY 2021, a 20.2% decrease from FY 2020, and a 32.1% decrease from FY 2019.

Landlord Tenant was the case category with the greatest percentage and numeric decrease in filings from FY 2019 to FY 2023 (38.9% decrease, approximately 262,000 fewer filings). Traffic was the case category with the second-largest percentage decrease in filings from FY 2019 to FY 2022 (36.2% decrease, approximately 173,400 fewer filings). The Civil case category saw the smallest percentage decline (19.3% decrease, approximately 57,400 fewer filings), followed by Criminal (27.3% decrease, approximately 43,300 fewer filings). The Domestic Violence Protective Order case category saw an increase in filings, up 8% (approximately 3,800 more filings in FY 2023 compared to FY 2019).

Civil. Civil case filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 2% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 5.7% increase compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 37.2% decrease compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 15.5% increase in filings compared to FY 2021, the only case category with a significant increase in filings between those two years. FY 2023 saw a 5.3% increase in civil filings compared to FY 2022. The more than 240,100 civil filings in FY 2023 were a 21.6% increase compared to FY 2021. This increase was driven predominately by a 126% increase in Civil Infractions/Regulations filed (approximately 93,700 in FY 2023 compared to approximately 41,400 in FY 2021). The number of Large Claims/Other Civil cases filed also increased 8.1% (approximately 4,000 more filings in FY 2023 compared to FY 2021).

Landlord-Tenant. Landlord-tenant case filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 2% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 23.6% decrease compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 36.3% decrease in filings compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 2.2% decrease in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 28.5% increase in landlord-tenant filings compared to FY 2022. The more than 412,100 landlord-tenant filings in FY

2023 were a 25.7% increase compared to FY 2021. Increases were seen in both landlord-tenant case types, with failure to pay rent case filings increasing 26.2% (approximately 83,800 more filings in FY 2023 than in FY 2021) and rent escrow and other landlord-tenant filings increasing 4.7%.

Traffic. Traffic case filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 2% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 16.6% decrease in case filings compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 21.6% decrease in case filings compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 5.8% decrease in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 3.6% increase in traffic filings compared to FY 2022. The more than 306,200 traffic filings in FY 2023 were a 2.4% decrease compared to FY 2021. Increases were seen in the serious traffic case type (up 14.1% in FY2023 compared to FY 2021), while decreases were seen in DUI/DWI filings (down 10.8%) and routine traffic filings (down 5.9%).

Criminal. Criminal case filings decreased by 12.4% from FY 2017 to FY 2019. FY 2020 saw a 16.4% decrease in criminal filings compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw a 16.5% decrease in criminal filings compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 0.3% increase in criminal filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 3.9% increase in criminal filings compared to FY 2022. The nearly 115,300 criminal filings in FY 2023 were a 4.2% increase compared to FY 2021. Increases were seen in all criminal case types, including a 24.1% increase in persons admitted to drug courts a 20.4% increase in violations of probations, and a 1.4% increase in other criminal filings.

Domestic Violence Protective Orders. Domestic Violence Protective Orders and Peace Orders (DVPO) filings remained relatively steady from FY 2017 to FY 2019, with no single year deviating more than 2% from the annual average during that time period. FY 2020 saw a 1.0% increase in DVPO filings compared to FY 2019. FY 2021 saw an 8.0% increase compared to FY 2020. FY 2022 saw a 19.6% decrease in filings compared to FY 2021. FY 2023 saw a 23.1% increase compared to FY 2022, the

second largest case category percentage increase during that time period. The nearly 51,000 filings in FY2023 represent a 1% decrease from FY 2021, a 6.9% increase from FY 2020, and an 8% increase from FY 2019. DVPO was the only case category that saw an increase in FY 2023 compared to FY 2019.

Bail Review and Expungements

Judicial case processing work on criminal and some traffic matters may not be declining at a rate commensurate with the decline in criminal filings. The original case weights in the current model were based on data collected on judge case processing work in 2016, coupled with case filing averages from FY 2013 to 2015. As noted previously, that work established the case weights, or average judge time per case type. As the NCSC identified in the *2017 Maryland Judiciary Workload Assessment Final Report*¹, interim adjustments to the workload formula that reflect changes in legislation and court practices should be implemented where appropriate. In February 2017, new laws were adopted to change the bail review process. This has led to a notable increase in the amount of time judges and commissioners spend reviewing and properly documenting bail for each case. In October 2017 and 2018, Maryland's expungement laws changed, expanding the list of criminal offenses eligible for expungement. This increased the expungement caseloads for judges hearing criminal and criminal traffic cases. In FY 2019, 74,508 expungements were addressed by the District Court, more than doubling the number handled in FY 2015 (32,726). While expungements decreased in FY 2020 (55,105), FY 2021 (39,061), and FY 2022 (32,874), FY 2023 saw an increase (38,563). The average from FY 2020 to FY 2023 (41,401) is still nearly 14% greater than the FY 2013 to FY 2015 average, the time period that the original case weights were based upon.

The number of bail review events in the District Court increased by nearly 9% from FY 2021 to FY 2022 and remained steady in FY 2023. During the 2022 model interim update evaluation, several judges noted bail review has become more complex compared to the last time-study period. While no bail

review or expungement-specific adjustments were made as part of the 2022 interim update, the NCSC advised the Judiciary to explicitly track bail review activity in the next weighted caseload study to determine whether, and by how much, these changes have impacted case processing times in criminal cases. The next full model update, slated for 2027 will seek to separately account for judge work associated with bail review and expungement activity.

Interim Update and Next Steps

For the FY 2024 budget year, the NCSC specifically recommended that the Judiciary use FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2020 filings to determine judicial staffing needs, since these are the most recent three years of data least affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. For the FY 2025 budget year, the NCSC provided broader guidance, instructing the Judiciary to monitor filing trends and case backlog to make the most accurate assessment of future workload. Based on the NCSC's recommendation this analysis might include (a) holding new filings steady at the current three-year average (such as FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023), (b) temporarily moving to a five-year case filing average, and/or (c) introducing a slight increase in workload estimates that could address the backlog associated with casework and trials that had to be postponed during the pandemic.

While the 2022 interim update resulted in case weight adjustments across a select few case types, judges did express concern about the increased complexity of additional case types such as criminal cases in the District Court and Jury Trial Prayer and Criminal Appeals in the circuit courts. The workgroup ultimately decided to wait until the next full model update to determine if those numbers need to be adjusted.

When determining judicial resource need levels, the NCSC recommends that the Judiciary temporarily decrease the lower limit that determines the threshold of appropriate resourcing levels. During the 2017 model update, a rounding convention for determining judge need was established in which the

average workload per-judge in each court should not exceed 1.1 FTE and where possible should not fall below 0.90 FTE. While this rounding convention is a useful tool to monitor workload across courts, the face of the current fluctuation in new case filings, in the *State of Maryland Limited Scope Workload Adjustment for District and Circuit Court Judicial Officers, November 2022*,² the NCSC recommended that the Judiciary temporarily reduce the lower end of the range from which to determine need from 0.90 FTE to 0.80 FTE for the FY 2024 budget year. The NCSC recommended that the Judiciary incrementally increase the lower range by 0.025 FTE for each subsequent projection year until a return to 0.90 FTE is achieved.¹³ The Judiciary will abide by this recommendation to ensure there are sufficient resources in each jurisdiction to serve people who come before the courts.

Despite the utility of the 2022 interim model update, the NCSC has recommended a full workload assessment study, with a full judicial officer time study to be conducted no later than 2027. Best practices indicate a workload assessment model be updated every seven to ten years, to ensure current practices are incorporated into the case weights that determine judicial workload. As the last model update featuring a statewide time study was completed in 2017, conducting a new full-scale model update no later than 2027 would meet the ten-year timeframe.

¹³ The NCSC recommended the following incremental increases in applying the lower range of workload to judicial officer need: FY 2024 budget = 0.80 FTE lower limit; FY 2025 budget = 0.825 FTE lower limit; FY 2026 budget = 0.85 FTE lower limit; FY 2027 budget = 0.875 FTE lower limit; FY 2028 budget and beyond = 0.9 FTE lower limit.

Appendix A: Circuit Courts – Judge Need by County/City

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

First Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Dorchester	Adult Drug Court	-	-	Current Judges
	CINA	9	4,212	1.5
	CINS/Other Juvenile	20	2,060	Current Magistrates
	Civil Adoptions	8	432	0.9
	Civil Appeals	27	1,080	
	Contract	12	1,248	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	134	24,522	
	Delinquency	115	12,420	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	59	4,425	
	Family Law	290	51,330	
	Foreclosure	139	1,251	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	205	8,200	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	137	14,385	
	Other Guardianships	17	850	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	141	5,499	
	Torts	21	2,331	
	TPR and Guardianships	3	690	
	Truancy Reduction Program	26	6,838	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	1,363	160,178	
		Total Work	Magistrate Work	Judge Work
		160,178	72,252	87,926
				Rounded Judge Need
				1.5

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

First Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Somerset	Adult Drug Court	7	3,808	Current Judges 1
	CINA	6	2,808	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	21	2,163	Current Magistrates 0.7
	Civil Adoptions	1	54	
	Civil Appeals	62	2,480	
	Contract	12	1,248	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	106	19,398	
	Delinquency	48	5,184	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	35	2,625	
	Family Law	178	31,506	
	Foreclosure	127	1,143	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	142	5,680	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	63	6,615	
	Other Guardianships	12	600	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	129	5,031	
	Torts	11	1,221	
	TPR and Guardianships	6	1,380	
	Truancy Reduction Program	23	6,049	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	989	117,398	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
117,398		56,196	61,202	1.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

First Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Wicomico	Adult Drug Court	17	9,248	Current Judges 3.5
	CINA	9	4,212	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	38	3,914	Current Magistrates 1.4
	Civil Adoptions	12	648	
	Civil Appeals	65	2,600	
	Contract	34	3,536	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	518	94,794	
	Delinquency	188	20,304	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	125	9,375	
	Family Law	821	145,317	
	Foreclosure	262	2,358	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	226	9,040	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	94	9,870	
	Other Guardianships	54	2,700	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	312	12,168	
	Torts	83	9,213	
	TPR and Guardianships	6	1,380	
	Truancy Reduction Program	38	9,994	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	2,902	369,076	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
369,076		112,392	256,684	3.5

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

First Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Worcester	Adult Drug Court	10	5,440	Current Judges 3
	CINA	28	13,104	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	35	3,605	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	6	324	
	Civil Appeals	38	1,520	
	Contract	40	4,160	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	276	50,508	
	Delinquency	90	9,720	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	25	1,875	
	Family Law	326	57,702	
	Foreclosure	165	1,485	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	143	5,720	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	90	9,450	
	Other Guardianships	18	900	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	129	5,031	
	Torts	56	6,216	
	TPR and Guardianships	12	2,760	
	Truancy Reduction Program	34	8,942	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	1,521	206,867	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
206,867		33,116	173,752	3.0

* Magistrate Work is shown in minutes based on the proposed number of magistrates needed given the current number of judges working within the per judge workload range established by the National Center for State Courts. Rounded up to the nearest 0.25 FTE, current magistrate need can be satisfied with 0.5 magistrates.

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Second Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Caroline	Adult Drug Court	8	4,352	Current Judges
	CINA	4	1,872	1
	CINS/Other Juvenile	2	206	Current Magistrates
	Civil Adoptions	7	378	1
	Civil Appeals	23	920	
	Contract	15	1,560	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	102	18,666	
	Delinquency	43	4,644	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	64	4,800	
	Family Law	303	53,631	
	Foreclosure	110	990	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	221	8,840	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	40	4,200	
	Other Guardianships	14	700	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	100	3,900	
	Torts	19	2,109	
	TPR and Guardianships	7	1,610	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>		<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405	
	Total	1,082	131,783	
		Total Work	Magistrate Work	Judge Work
		131,783	80,280	51,503
				Rounded Judge Need
				1.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Second Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Cecil	Adult Drug Court	47	25,568	Current Judges 4
	CINA	43	20,124	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	3	309	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	19	1,026	
	Civil Appeals	66	2,640	
	Contract	50	5,200	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	374	68,442	
	Delinquency	104	11,232	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	116	8,700	
	Family Law	745	131,865	
	Foreclosure	274	2,466	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	1,115	44,600	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	112	11,760	
	Other Guardianships	52	2,600	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	280	10,920	
	Torts	117	12,987	
	TPR and Guardianships	37	8,510	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
Total		3,554	387,354	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
387,354		80,280	307,074	4.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Second Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work				
Kent	Adult Drug Court	-	-	Current Judges			
	CINA	4	1,872	1			
	CINS/Other Juvenile	30	3,090	Current Magistrates			
	Civil Adoptions	1	54	0			
	Civil Appeals	10	400				
	Contract	13	1,352				
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	50	9,150				
	Delinquency	10	1,080				
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	31	2,325				
	Family Law	130	23,010				
	Foreclosure	67	603				
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	186	7,440				
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-				
	Other Civil	79	8,295				
	Other Guardianships	9	450				
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-				
	Paternity and Non-Support	37	1,443				
	Torts	9	999				
	TPR and Guardianships	-	-				
	Truancy Reduction Program	34	8,942				
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405					
Total	700	88,910					
Total Work		Magistrate Work		Judge Work		Rounded Judge Need	
88,910		0		88,910		2.0	

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Second Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Queen Anne's	Adult Drug Court	3	1,632	Current Judges 1
	CINA	3	1,404	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	-	-	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	6	324	
	Civil Appeals	23	920	
	Contract	19	1,976	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	105	19,215	
	Delinquency	23	2,484	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	35	2,625	
	Family Law	287	50,799	
	Foreclosure	139	1,251	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	532	21,280	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	151	15,855	
	Other Guardianships	13	650	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	43	1,677	
	Torts	38	4,218	
	TPR and Guardianships	3	690	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>		<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405	
	Total	1,423	145,405	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
145,405		80,280	65,125	1.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Second Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Talbot	Adult Drug Court	3	1,632	Current Judges 1
	CINA	4	1,872	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	1	103	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	2	108	
	Civil Appeals	24	960	
	Contract	19	1,976	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	134	24,522	
	Delinquency	33	3,564	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	27	2,025	
	Family Law	231	40,887	
	Foreclosure	79	711	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	140	5,600	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	45	4,725	
	Other Guardianships	11	550	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	6	1,956	
	Paternity and Non-Support	49	1,911	
	Torts	33	3,663	
	TPR and Guardianships	2	460	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405	
Total		843	115,630	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
115,630		80,280	35,350	1.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Third Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Baltimore	Adult Drug Court	5	2,720	Current Judges 21
	CINA	316	147,888	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	15	1,545	Current Magistrates 9
	Civil Adoptions	122	6,588	
	Civil Appeals	695	27,800	
	Contract	550	57,200	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	2,791	510,753	
	Delinquency	1,083	116,964	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	524	39,300	
	Family Law	5,330	943,410	
	Foreclosure	1,952	17,568	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	3,059	122,360	
	Juvenile Drug Court	13	3,471	
	Other Civil	1,582	166,110	
	Other Guardianships	458	22,900	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	15	4,890	
	Paternity and Non-Support	1,148	44,772	
	Torts	1,067	118,437	
	TPR and Guardianships	96	22,080	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	<i>36,810</i>		
Total		20,821	2,413,566	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
2,413,566		722,520	1,691,046	21.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Third Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Harford	Adult Drug Court	5	2,720	Current Judges 6
	CINA	112	52,416	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	16	1,648	Current Magistrates 3
	Civil Adoptions	57	3,078	
	Civil Appeals	141	5,640	
	Contract	105	10,920	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	479	87,657	
	Delinquency	201	21,708	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	277	20,775	
	Family Law	1,569	277,713	
	Foreclosure	560	5,040	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	971	38,840	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	319	33,495	
	Other Guardianships	80	4,000	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	14	4,564	
	Paternity and Non-Support	431	16,809	
	Torts	210	23,310	
	TPR and Guardianships	33	7,590	
	Truancy Reduction Program	11	2,893	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	5,591	639,221	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
639,221		240,840	398,381	6.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Fourth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Allegany	Adult Drug Court	20	10,880	Current Judges 2
	CINA	52	24,336	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	-	-	Current Magistrates 1.6
	Civil Adoptions	12	648	
	Civil Appeals	166	6,640	
	Contract	12	1,248	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	327	59,841	
	Delinquency	86	9,288	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	53	3,975	
	Family Law	519	91,863	
	Foreclosure	231	2,079	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	627	25,080	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	107	11,235	
	Other Guardianships	28	1,400	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	334	13,026	
	Torts	57	6,327	
	TPR and Guardianships	30	6,900	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	2,661	293,171	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
293,171		128,448	164,723	3.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Fourth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Garrett	Adult Drug Court	-	-	Current Judges
	CINA	40	18,720	1
	CINS/Other Juvenile	1	103	Current Magistrates
	Civil Adoptions	5	270	1
	Civil Appeals	14	560	
	Contract	14	1,456	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	67	12,261	
	Delinquency	21	2,268	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	8	600	
	Family Law	181	32,037	
	Foreclosure	73	657	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	69	2,760	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	46	4,830	
	Other Guardianships	3	150	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	105	4,095	
	Torts	18	1,998	
	TPR and Guardianships	20	4,600	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
Total	685	105,770		
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
105,770		80,280	25,490	1.0

* Magistrate Work is shown in minutes based on the proposed number of magistrates needed given the current number of judges working within the per judge workload range established by the National Center for State Courts. Rounded up to the nearest 0.25 FTE, current magistrate need can be satisfied with 0.75 magistrates.

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Fourth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Washington	Adult Drug Court	4	2,176	Current Judges 6
	CINA	65	30,420	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	3	309	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	20	1,080	
	Civil Appeals	122	4,880	
	Contract	53	5,512	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	541	99,003	
	Delinquency	219	23,652	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	143	10,725	
	Family Law	1,229	217,533	
	Foreclosure	326	2,934	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	331	13,240	
	Juvenile Drug Court	2	534	
	Other Civil	131	13,755	
	Other Guardianships	45	2,250	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	804	31,356	
	Torts	107	11,877	
	TPR and Guardianships	23	5,290	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	4,168	494,931	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
494,931		80,280	414,651	6.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Fifth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Anne Arundel	Adult Drug Court	59	32,096	Current Judges 13
	CINA	54	25,272	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	2	206	Current Magistrates 6
	Civil Adoptions	89	4,806	
	Civil Appeals	365	14,600	
	Contract	332	34,528	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	1,433	262,239	
	Delinquency	493	53,244	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	357	26,775	
	Family Law	3,806	673,662	
	Foreclosure	1,208	10,872	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	1,223	48,920	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	1,116	117,180	
	Other Guardianships	218	10,900	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	496	19,344	
	Torts	618	68,598	
	TPR and Guardianships	21	4,830	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	36,810		
Total		11,890	1,444,882	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
1,444,882		481,680	963,202	13.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Fifth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Carroll	Adult Drug Court	29	15,776	Current Judges 4
	CINA	32	14,976	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	2	206	Current Magistrates 2
	Civil Adoptions	26	1,404	
	Civil Appeals	106	4,240	
	Contract	70	7,280	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	156	28,548	
	Delinquency	68	7,344	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	183	13,725	
	Family Law	952	168,504	
	Foreclosure	276	2,484	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	695	27,800	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	126	13,230	
	Other Guardianships	67	3,350	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	165	6,435	
	Torts	110	12,210	
	TPR and Guardianships	10	2,300	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
Total		3,073	348,217	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
348,217		115,904	232,313	4.0

* Magistrate Work is shown in minutes based on the proposed number of magistrates needed given the current number of judges working within the per judge workload range established by the National Center for State Courts. Rounded up to the nearest 0.25 FTE, current magistrate need can be satisfied with 1.75 magistrates.

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Fifth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Howard	Adult Drug Court	-	-	Current Judges
	CINA	39	18,252	5
	CINS/Other Juvenile	1	103	Current Magistrates
	Civil Adoptions	27	1,458	3
	Civil Appeals	198	7,920	
	Contract	207	21,528	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	415	75,945	
	Delinquency	226	24,408	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	198	14,850	
	Family Law	1,756	310,812	
	Foreclosure	366	3,294	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	450	18,000	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	437	45,885	
	Other Guardianships	199	9,950	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	206	8,034	
	Torts	264	29,304	
	TPR and Guardianships	10	2,300	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	4,999	610,448	
		Total Work	Magistrate Work	Judge Work
		610,448	240,840	369,608
				Rounded Judge Need
				5.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Sixth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Frederick	Adult Drug Court	23	12,512	Current Judges 6
	CINA	29	13,572	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	2	206	Current Magistrates 2
	Civil Adoptions	40	2,160	
	Civil Appeals	128	5,120	
	Contract	104	10,816	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	441	80,703	
	Delinquency	180	19,440	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	275	20,625	
	Family Law	1,658	293,466	
	Foreclosure	429	3,861	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	824	32,960	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	174	18,270	
	Other Guardianships	83	4,150	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	388	15,132	
	Torts	176	19,536	
	TPR and Guardianships	31	7,130	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
Total		4,985	578,064	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
578,064		160,560	417,504	6.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Sixth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Montgomery	Adult Drug Court	32	17,408	Current Judges 24
	CINA	169	79,092	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	133	13,699	Current Magistrates 6
	Civil Adoptions	121	6,534	
	Civil Appeals	366	14,640	
	Contract	1,445	150,280	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	1,348	246,684	
	Delinquency	583	62,964	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	469	35,175	
	Family Law	6,299	1,114,923	
	Foreclosure	1,164	10,476	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	437	17,480	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	4,062	426,510	
	Other Guardianships	493	24,650	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	5	1,630	
	Paternity and Non-Support	957	37,323	
	Torts	964	107,004	
	TPR and Guardianships	40	9,200	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	<i>36,810</i>		
	Total	19,087	2,412,482	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
2,412,482		481,680	1,930,802	24.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Seventh Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Calvert	Adult Drug Court	36	19,584	Current Judges 3
	CINA	23	10,764	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	-	-	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	13	702	
	Civil Appeals	60	2,400	
	Contract	41	4,264	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	168	30,744	
	Delinquency	70	7,560	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	80	6,000	
	Family Law	543	96,111	
	Foreclosure	271	2,439	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	117	4,680	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	178	18,690	
	Other Guardianships	27	1,350	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	-	-	
	Paternity and Non-Support	135	5,265	
	Torts	99	10,989	
	TPR and Guardianships	9	2,070	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
	Total	1,870	242,017	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
242,017		66,231	175,786	3.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Seventh Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work		
Charles	Adult Drug Court	1	544	Current Judges 5	
	CINA	23	10,764		
	CINS/Other Juvenile	2	206	Current Magistrates 3	
	Civil Adoptions	23	1,242		
	Civil Appeals	129	5,160		
	Contract	86	8,944		
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	531	97,173		
	Delinquency	166	17,928		
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	287	21,525		
	Family Law	1,355	239,835		
	Foreclosure	587	5,283		
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	425	17,000		
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-		
	Other Civil	149	15,645		
	Other Guardianships	130	6,500		
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	14	4,564		
	Paternity and Non-Support	258	10,062		
	Torts	212	23,532		
	TPR and Guardianships	15	3,450		
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-		
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405			
	Total	4,393	507,762		
		Total Work	Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
		507,762	198,693	309,069	5.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Seventh Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Prince George's	Adult Drug Court	19	10,336	Current Judges 24
	CINA	215	100,620	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	10	1,030	Current Magistrates 8
	Civil Adoptions	56	3,024	
	Civil Appeals	526	21,040	
	Contract	630	65,520	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	2,152	393,816	
	Delinquency	537	57,996	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	797	59,775	
	Family Law	7,341	1,299,357	
	Foreclosure	3,105	27,945	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	2,235	89,400	
	Juvenile Drug Court	10	2,670	
	Other Civil	1,164	122,220	
	Other Guardianships	694	34,700	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	10	3,260	
	Paternity and Non-Support	1,556	60,684	
	Torts	1,751	194,361	
	TPR and Guardianships	32	7,360	
	Truancy Reduction Program	38	9,994	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	36,810		
Total		22,878	2,601,918	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
2,601,918		642,240	1,959,678	25.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Seventh Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
St. Mary's	Adult Drug Court	18	9,792	Current Judges 3
	CINA	23	10,764	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	-	-	Current Magistrates 1
	Civil Adoptions	18	972	
	Civil Appeals	45	1,800	
	Contract	25	2,600	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	299	54,717	
	Delinquency	77	8,316	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	131	9,825	
	Family Law	681	120,537	
	Foreclosure	248	2,232	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	135	5,400	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	164	17,220	
	Other Guardianships	37	1,850	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	8	2,608	
	Paternity and Non-Support	193	7,527	
	Torts	105	11,655	
	TPR and Guardianships	15	3,450	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	18,405		
Total		2,222	289,670	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
289,670		80,280	209,390	3.0

Judge Need By Court

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CIRCUITS

Eighth Circuit

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Baltimore City	Adult Drug Court	39	21,216	Current Judges 35
	CINA	821	384,228	
	CINS/Other Juvenile	177	18,231	Current Magistrates 14
	Civil Adoptions	31	1,674	
	Civil Appeals	685	27,400	
	Contract	385	40,040	
	Criminal Indictments and Informations	3,984	729,072	
	Delinquency	1,003	108,324	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	386	28,950	
	Family Law	3,781	669,237	
	Foreclosure	4,181	37,629	
	Jury Trial Prayer/Criminal Appeals	3,389	135,560	
	Juvenile Drug Court	-	-	
	Other Civil	2,127	223,335	
	Other Guardianships	434	21,700	
	Other Problem-Solving Courts	121	39,446	
	Paternity and Non-Support	1,117	43,563	
	Torts**	1,893	437,643	
	TPR and Guardianships	206	47,380	
	Truancy Reduction Program	-	-	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	36,810		
Total		24,760	3,051,438	
Total Work		Magistrate Work	Judge Work	Rounded Judge Need
3,051,438		927,234	2,124,204	35.0

** This analysis includes reserving two judges and one specially assigned magistrate to handle asbestos matters. The workload of those resources is included within the Torts case category. New asbestos case filings have been excluded from the FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 filings count.

Appendix B: District Court – Judge Need by County/City

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

First District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Baltimore City	DUI/DWI	716	12,888	Current Judges 28
	Other Criminal	21,534	279,942	
	Serious Traffic	8,434	75,906	
	Routine Traffic	11,485	9,188	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	32,912	65,824	
	Drug Court	55	22,825	
	Mental Health Court	131	26,855	
	Violations of Probation	2,568	20,544	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	5,180	196,840	
	Peace Orders	2,590	36,260	
	Failure to Pay Rent	112,547	45,019	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	3,177	95,320	
	Small Claims	16,607	83,035	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	9,635	192,700	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	33,743	
	Total	227,571	1,196,888	
			Total Work	Rounded Judge Need*
			1,196,888	21

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Second District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Dorchester	DUI/DWI	221	3,978	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	1,184	15,392	
	Serious Traffic	1,065	9,585	
	Routine Traffic	3,312	2,650	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	971	1,942	
	Drug Court	29	12,035	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	448	3,584	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	212	8,056	
	Peace Orders	150	2,100	
	Failure to Pay Rent	2,033	813	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	56	1,690	
	Small Claims	836	4,180	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	255	5,100	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
	Total	10,772	71,105	
			Total Work	Rounded Judge Need
			71,105	1

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Second District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Somerset	DUI/DWI	120	2,160	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	751	9,763	
	Serious Traffic	963	8,667	
	Routine Traffic	5,965	4,772	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	438	876	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	149	1,192	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	142	5,396	
	Peace Orders	103	1,442	
	Failure to Pay Rent	2,142	857	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	35	1,040	
	Small Claims	765	3,825	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	170	3,400	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		11,743	43,390	
			Total Work	Rounded Judge Need
			43,390	1

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Second District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Wicomico	DUI/DWI	468	8,424	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	3,023	39,299	
	Serious Traffic	2,163	19,467	
	Routine Traffic	8,346	6,677	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,024	2,048	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	962	7,696	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	594	22,572	
	Peace Orders	355	4,970	
	Failure to Pay Rent	9,492	3,797	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	128	3,840	
	Small Claims	5,870	29,350	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	866	17,320	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-		
Total		33,291	165,460	
			Total Work 165,460	Rounded Judge Need 3

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Second District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Worcester	DUI/DWI	911	16,398	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	2,945	38,285	
	Serious Traffic	2,062	18,558	
	Routine Traffic	14,453	11,562	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	2,118	4,236	
	Drug Court	10	4,150	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	261	2,088	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	206	7,828	
	Peace Orders	151	2,114	
	Failure to Pay Rent	810	324	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	57	1,700	
	Small Claims	1,540	7,700	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	343	6,860	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		25,867	138,675	
			Total Work 138,675	Rounded Judge Need 2

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Third District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Caroline	DUI/DWI	178	3,204	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	873	11,349	
	Serious Traffic	794	7,146	
	Routine Traffic	3,442	2,754	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	428	856	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	131	1,048	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	168	6,384	
	Peace Orders	115	1,610	
	Failure to Pay Rent	706	282	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	38	1,140	
	Small Claims	694	3,470	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	205	4,100	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		7,772	43,343	
			Total Work 43,343	Rounded Judge Need 1

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Third District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Cecil	DUI/DWI	421	7,578	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	3,341	43,433	
	Serious Traffic	2,528	22,752	
	Routine Traffic	13,316	10,653	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,199	2,398	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	400	3,200	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	611	23,218	
	Peace Orders	227	3,178	
	Failure to Pay Rent	4,468	1,787	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	128	3,850	
	Small Claims	1,911	9,555	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	640	12,800	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		29,190	161,273	
			Total Work 161,273	Rounded Judge Need 3

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Third District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Kent	DUI/DWI	82	1,476	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	392	5,096	
	Serious Traffic	408	3,672	
	Routine Traffic	1,717	1,374	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	269	538	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	93	744	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	62	2,356	
	Peace Orders	50	700	
	Failure to Pay Rent	237	95	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	19	580	
	Small Claims	320	1,600	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	98	1,960	
<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-		
Total		3,747	20,190	
			Total Work 20,190	Rounded Judge Need 1

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Third District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Queen Anne's	DUI/DWI	157	2,826	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	815	10,595	
	Serious Traffic	1,015	9,135	
	Routine Traffic	6,025	4,820	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	838	1,676	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	313	2,504	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	183	6,954	
	Peace Orders	105	1,470	
	Failure to Pay Rent	298	119	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	35	1,040	
	Small Claims	589	2,945	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	251	5,020	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		10,624	49,104	
			Total Work 49,104	Rounded Judge Need 1

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Third District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Talbot	DUI/DWI	228	4,104	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	968	12,584	
	Serious Traffic	908	8,172	
	Routine Traffic	5,607	4,486	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	885	1,770	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	188	1,504	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	160	6,080	
	Peace Orders	80	1,120	
	Failure to Pay Rent	507	203	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	34	1,020	
	Small Claims	701	3,505	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	213	4,260	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		10,479	48,807	
			Total Work 48,807	Rounded Judge Need 1

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Fourth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Calvert	DUI/DWI	566	10,188	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	2,123	27,599	
	Serious Traffic	1,476	13,284	
	Routine Traffic	6,856	5,485	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,003	2,006	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	610	4,880	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	434	16,492	
	Peace Orders	326	4,564	
	Failure to Pay Rent	907	363	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	65	1,950	
	Small Claims	1,444	7,220	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	463	9,260	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		16,273	103,291	
			Total Work 103,291	Rounded Judge Need 2

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Fourth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Charles	DUI/DWI	566	10,188	Current Judges 3
	Other Criminal	3,714	48,282	
	Serious Traffic	3,489	31,401	
	Routine Traffic	13,148	10,518	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,516	3,032	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	357	2,856	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	1,043	39,634	
	Peace Orders	693	9,702	
	Failure to Pay Rent	7,130	2,852	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	209	6,270	
	Small Claims	4,156	20,780	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	1,623	32,460	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		37,644	217,975	
			Total Work 217,975	Rounded Judge Need 3

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Fourth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
St. Mary's	DUI/DWI	443	7,974	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	2,279	29,627	
	Serious Traffic	1,826	16,434	
	Routine Traffic	8,437	6,750	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	977	1,954	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	551	4,408	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	701	26,638	
	Peace Orders	387	5,418	
	Failure to Pay Rent	3,954	1,582	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	117	3,500	
	Small Claims	1,865	9,325	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	677	13,540	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		22,214	144,021	
			Total Work 144,021	Rounded Judge Need 2

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Fifth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Prince George's	DUI/DWI	2,056	37,008	Current Judges 19
	Other Criminal	16,748	217,724	
	Serious Traffic	15,827	142,443	
	Routine Traffic	44,549	35,639	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	22,825	45,650	
	Drug Court	22	9,130	
	Mental Health Court	108	22,140	
	Violations of Probation	517	4,136	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	6,675	253,650	
	Peace Orders	3,578	50,092	
	Failure to Pay Rent	145,162	58,065	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	1,999	59,960	
	Small Claims	22,063	110,315	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	12,711	254,220	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	33,743	
	Total	294,840	1,333,915	
			Total Work 1,333,915	Rounded Judge Need 19

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Sixth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Montgomery	DUI/DWI	2,607	46,926	Current Judges 13
	Other Criminal	12,026	156,338	
	Serious Traffic	7,028	63,252	
	Routine Traffic	34,484	27,587	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	19,972	39,944	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	30	6,150	
	Violations of Probation	5,803	46,424	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	3,158	120,004	
	Peace Orders	2,256	31,584	
	Failure to Pay Rent	44,347	17,739	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	1,023	30,700	
	Small Claims	11,256	56,280	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	6,726	134,520	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	33,743	
	Total	150,716	811,190	
			Total Work	Rounded Judge Need
			811,190	13

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Seventh District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Anne Arundel	DUI/DWI	1,871	33,678	Current Judges 10
	Other Criminal	13,022	169,286	
	Serious Traffic	11,363	102,267	
	Routine Traffic	26,501	21,201	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	4,184	8,368	
	Drug Court	105	43,575	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	2,604	20,832	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	2,443	92,834	
	Peace Orders	1,684	23,576	
	Failure to Pay Rent	36,723	14,689	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	486	14,580	
	Small Claims	8,747	43,735	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	4,034	80,680	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	33,743	
Total		113,767	703,044	
			Total Work 703,044	Rounded Judge Need 10

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Eighth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Baltimore County	DUI/DWI	2,014	36,252	Current Judges 15
	Other Criminal	12,958	168,454	
	Serious Traffic	12,426	111,834	
	Routine Traffic	32,978	26,382	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	7,670	15,340	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	1	205	
	Violations of Probation	7,509	60,072	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	3,801	144,438	
	Peace Orders	2,396	33,544	
	Failure to Pay Rent	149,030	59,612	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	1,207	36,220	
	Small Claims	23,530	117,650	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	9,549	190,980	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.50 FTE</i>	33,743	
	Total	265,069	1,034,726	
			Total Work	Rounded Judge Need
			1,034,726	15

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Ninth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Harford	DUI/DWI	749	13,482	Current Judges 4
	Other Criminal	4,138	53,794	
	Serious Traffic	2,461	22,149	
	Routine Traffic	16,704	13,363	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,169	2,338	
	Drug Court	15	6,225	
	Mental Health Court	7	1,435	
	Violations of Probation	1,642	13,136	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	934	35,492	
	Peace Orders	603	8,442	
	Failure to Pay Rent	14,179	5,671	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	286	8,590	
	Small Claims	4,406	22,030	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	1,806	36,120	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		49,099	259,139	
			Total Work 259,139	Rounded Judge Need 4

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Tenth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Carroll	DUI/DWI	522	9,396	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	2,175	28,275	
	Serious Traffic	1,389	12,501	
	Routine Traffic	10,243	8,194	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	491	982	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	724	5,792	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	471	17,898	
	Peace Orders	412	5,768	
	Failure to Pay Rent	1,802	721	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	95	2,850	
	Small Claims	2,170	10,850	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	724	14,480	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		21,218	117,707	
			Total Work 117,707	Rounded Judge Need 2

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Tenth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Howard	DUI/DWI	788	14,184	Current Judges 5
	Other Criminal	2,650	34,450	
	Serious Traffic	2,801	25,209	
	Routine Traffic	19,997	15,998	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,162	2,324	
	Drug Court	24	9,960	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	419	3,352	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	751	28,538	
	Peace Orders	423	5,922	
	Failure to Pay Rent	19,505	7,802	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	242	7,250	
	Small Claims	3,669	18,345	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	1,808	36,160	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		54,239	226,365	
			Total Work 226,365	Rounded Judge Need* 4

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Eleventh District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Frederick	DUI/DWI	783	14,094	Current Judges 3
	Other Criminal	4,083	53,079	
	Serious Traffic	2,723	24,507	
	Routine Traffic	14,138	11,310	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	1,395	2,790	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	1	205	
	Violations of Probation	1,295	10,360	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	736	27,968	
	Peace Orders	564	7,896	
	Failure to Pay Rent	6,982	2,793	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	167	5,020	
	Small Claims	3,159	15,795	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	1,429	28,580	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		37,455	221,268	
			Total Work 221,268	Rounded Judge Need 3

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Eleventh District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Washington	DUI/DWI	408	7,344	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	3,442	44,746	
	Serious Traffic	1,893	17,037	
	Routine Traffic	8,328	6,662	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	663	1,326	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	926	7,408	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	1,138	43,244	
	Peace Orders	548	7,672	
	Failure to Pay Rent	8,963	3,585	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	293	8,800	
	Small Claims	2,746	13,730	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	967	19,340	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		30,315	180,894	
			Total Work 180,894	Rounded Judge Need 3

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Twelfth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Allegany	DUI/DWI	238	4,284	Current Judges 2
	Other Criminal	2,517	32,721	
	Serious Traffic	921	8,289	
	Routine Traffic	6,269	5,015	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	550	1,100	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	1,852	14,816	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	350	13,300	
	Peace Orders	218	3,052	
	Failure to Pay Rent	1,082	433	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	75	2,240	
	Small Claims	951	4,755	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	296	5,920	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	<i>0.25 FTE</i>	16,871	
Total		15,319	112,796	
			Total Work 112,796	Rounded Judge Need 2

Judgeship Need by County

DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Twelfth District

County	Case type	FY 2018, FY 2019, and FY 2023 Average Filings	Minutes of Work	
Garrett	DUI/DWI	100	1,800	Current Judges 1
	Other Criminal	644	8,372	
	Serious Traffic	254	2,286	
	Routine Traffic	4,522	3,618	
	Civil Infractions/ Regulations	467	934	
	Drug Court	-	-	
	Mental Health Court	-	-	
	Violations of Probation	418	3,344	
	Domestic Violence Protective Orders	139	5,282	
	Peace Orders	52	728	
	Failure to Pay Rent	213	85	
	Rent Escrow and Other Landlord Tenant	34	1,010	
	Small Claims	300	1,500	
	Large Claims/ Other Civil	111	2,220	
	<i>Administrative Adjustment</i>	-	-	
Total		7,254	31,179	
			Total Work 31,179	Rounded Judge Need 1

SB0688 - MSBA Support Letter (2024.02.19).pdf

Uploaded by: Shaoli Katana

Position: FAV



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To: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
From: Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA)
Subject: SB 688 – Prince George’s County – Judgeships – Circuit Courts
Date: February 19, 2024
Position: **Support**

The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) supports **Senate Bill 688 - Prince George’s County – Judgeships – Circuit Courts**. SB 688 alters the number of resident judges of the circuit courts by adding one additional judgeship in Prince George's County.

MSBA represents more attorneys and judges than any other organization across the state in all practice areas. Through its advocacy committees and various practice-specific sections, MSBA monitors and takes positions on legislation that protects the legal profession, preserves the integrity of the judicial system, and ensures access to justice for Marylanders.

The request for additional judgeships follows a thorough analysis by the Maryland Judiciary, taking into account several variables including actual and projected filings, the number of pending cases per judge, the ratio of attorneys to judges, the time required from the filing of the case through its disposition (divided by criminal, civil and juvenile), and the population per judge for each jurisdiction.

SB 688 will help to address the high-volume dockets in Prince George’s County Circuit Court, increase service to vulnerable populations, more equitably distribute judicial workloads, and allow judges to more effectively dispense justice. Circuit Court matters involve Maryland residents and businesses in major civil and criminal cases, including juvenile and family matters, domestic violence cases, District Court appeals, orphans’ court matters, and more. These courts deserve swift and appropriate resources to reduce delays in case timelines and any related increase in expenses for litigants. An additional judgeship for the Circuit Court in Prince George’s County will ensure the strength and integrity of our Maryland courts and the judicial process.

For these reasons, MSBA respectfully urges a **favorable report on Senate Bill 688**.

Contact: Shaoli Katana, Advocacy Director (shaoli@msba.org, 410-387-5606)