



December 7, 2015

Administrative Judge Kim A. Browne
Franklin County Court of Common Pleas
Division of Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch
373 S. High Street, 6th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Judge Browne:

On behalf of the Columbus Bar Association Board of Governors, I want to offer this letter of support for the Court's proposal to increase the number of Judges on the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch. As you know, we work in close partnership with your court with both the Family Law and Juvenile Law Committees.

The Columbus Bar is all too familiar with the exponential growth in the number of pro se litigants appearing before the Domestic and Juvenile courts in particular. We receive numerous calls on a daily basis from individuals seeking representation or looking for resources to assist their own self-representation. This, coupled with population growth, and the increased number of juvenile custody filings in recent years has created an immense demand on our local judiciary and inevitably slows the process for all involved. These circumstances exacerbate an already difficult and time-consuming situation.

Franklin County serves a widely diverse population including urban and suburban demographics, as well as a large English as a second language population, further burdening our courts. We know that additional judgeships would fill a need for the population we all serve. Please let me know if there is anything further the Columbus Bar can do to support you in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Michael', written over a series of overlapping loops.

Jay Michael, President
Board of Governors

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