

Commissioner John O'Grady • **Commissioner** Paula Brooks • **Commissioner** Marilyn Brown President

January 21, 2016

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:

We are happy to support the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations Division and Juvenile Branch's proposal to obtain two new judgeships. Based upon several factors – the population growth in Franklin County, the projected continued growth, the increase in the number of pro se litigants and the increase in juvenile custody filings – we believe that adequately serving the families of Franklin County requires these proposed additional judgeships.

The creation of two new judgeships will not only require additional courthouse space but an increase in your Court's budget related to furnishing the new facilities and providing the necessary support staff. If the proposal is recommended by the Ohio Supreme Court and the appropriate legislation is passed by the Ohio State Legislature, both the additional court house space and necessary additional budgetary funds related to this proposal will be made available by the Board of Commissioners.

As is evidenced by letters of support from the Columbus Bar Association, The Franklin County Prosecutor, The Franklin County Public Defender, Franklin County Children Services, Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency and Capital University Law School, additional judgeships are needed to serve Franklin County's widely diverse and enlarging population.

Sincerely,

John O'Grady

President

Paula Brooks

Commissioner

Marilyn Brown

Commissioner