

**As Reported by the House Government Oversight Committee**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**Sub. S. B. No. 158**

**Senator Cirino**

**Cosponsors: Senators Brenner, Hackett, Johnson, Lang, O'Brien, Rulli, Schaffer,  
Wilson**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 of  
the Revised Code to add a judge to the Adams  
County Court of Common Pleas, who shall be  
elected in 2026, and designated as the judge of  
the court's Probate and Juvenile Division on  
February 9, 2029.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 of  
the Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 2151.07.** The juvenile court is a court of record  
within the court of common pleas. The juvenile court has and  
shall exercise the powers and jurisdiction conferred in Chapters  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code.

Whenever the juvenile judge of the juvenile court is sick,  
is absent from the county, or is unable to attend court, or the  
volume of cases pending in court necessitates it, upon the  
request of the administrative juvenile judge, the presiding  
judge of the court of common pleas pursuant to division ~~(GG)~~

(HH) of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code shall assign a judge 18  
of any division of the court of common pleas of the county to 19  
act in the juvenile judge's place or in conjunction with the 20  
juvenile judge. If no judge of the court of common pleas is 21  
available for that purpose, the chief justice of the supreme 22  
court shall assign a judge of the court of common pleas, a 23  
juvenile judge, or a probate judge from a different county to 24  
act in the place of that juvenile judge or in conjunction with 25  
that juvenile judge. The assigned judge shall receive the 26  
compensation and expenses for so serving that is provided by law 27  
for judges assigned to hold court in courts of common pleas. 28

**Sec. 2301.02.** The number of judges of the court of common 29  
pleas for each county, the time for the next election of the 30  
judges in the several counties, and the beginning of their terms 31  
shall be as follows: 32

(A) In ~~Adams,~~ Ashland, Fayette, and Pike counties, one 33  
judge, elected in 1956, term to begin February 9, 1957; 34

In Brown, Crawford, Defiance, Highland, Holmes, Morgan, 35  
Ottawa, and Union counties, one judge, to be elected in 1954, 36  
term to begin February 9, 1955; 37

In Auglaize county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term 38  
to begin January 9, 1957; 39

In Coshocton, Darke, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, ~~Hardin,~~ 40  
Jackson, Knox, Madison, Mercer, Monroe, Paulding, Vinton, and 41  
Wyandot counties, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to 42  
begin January 1, 1957; 43

In Morrow county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 44  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2006, 45  
term to begin January 1, 2007; 46

In Logan county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,	47
term to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004,	48
term to begin January 2, 2005;	49
In Carroll, Clinton, Hocking, Meigs, Pickaway, Preble,	50
Shelby, Van Wert, and Williams counties, one judge, to be	51
elected in 1952, term to begin January 1, 1953;	52
In Champaign county, two judges, one to be elected in	53
1952, term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in	54
2008, term to begin February 10, 2009;	55
In Harrison and Noble counties, one judge, to be elected	56
in 1954, term to begin April 18, 1955;	57
In Henry county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,	58
term to begin May 9, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, term	59
to begin January 1, 2005;	60
In Putnam county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term	61
to begin May 9, 1957;	62
In Huron county, one judge, to be elected in 1952, term to	63
begin May 14, 1953;	64
In Perry county, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term to	65
begin July 6, 1956;	66
In Sandusky county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	67
term to begin February 10, 1955, and one to be elected in 1978,	68
term to begin January 1, 1979;	69
In Hardin County, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,	70
term to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2026,	71
term to begin February 9, 2027;	72
<u>In Adams county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,</u>	73

<u>term to begin February 9, 1957, and one to be elected in 2026,</u>	74
<u>term to begin February 9, 2027.</u>	75
(B) In Allen county, three judges, one to be elected in	76
1956, term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected	77
in 1958, term to begin January 1, 1959, and the third to be	78
elected in 1992, term to begin January 1, 1993;	79
In Ashtabula county, three judges, one to be elected in	80
1954, term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1960,	81
term to begin January 1, 1961, and one to be elected in 1978,	82
term to begin January 2, 1979;	83
In Athens county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	84
term to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1990,	85
term to begin July 1, 1991;	86
In Erie county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956,	87
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1970,	88
term to begin January 2, 1971, the third to be elected in 2004,	89
term to begin January 2, 2005, and the fourth to be elected in	90
2008, term to begin February 9, 2009;	91
In Fairfield county, three judges, one to be elected in	92
1954, term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected	93
in 1970, term to begin January 1, 1971, and the third to be	94
elected in 1994, term to begin January 2, 1995;	95
In Geauga county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,	96
term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in	97
1976, term to begin January 6, 1977;	98
In Greene county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956,	99
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in	100
1960, term to begin January 1, 1961, the third to be elected in	101
1978, term to begin January 2, 1979, and the fourth to be	102

elected in 1994, term to begin January 1, 1995;	103
In Hancock county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952,	104
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in	105
1978, term to begin January 1, 1979;	106
In Lawrence county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	107
term to begin February 9, 1955, and the second to be elected in	108
1976, term to begin January 1, 1977;	109
In Marion county, three judges, one to be elected in 1952,	110
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1976,	111
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the third to be elected in	112
1998, term to begin February 9, 1999;	113
In Medina county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956,	114
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1966,	115
term to begin January 1, 1967, and the third to be elected in	116
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995;	117
In Miami county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	118
term to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1970,	119
term to begin on January 1, 1971;	120
In Muskingum county, three judges, one to be elected in	121
1968, term to begin August 9, 1969, one to be elected in 1978,	122
term to begin January 1, 1979, and one to be elected in 2002,	123
term to begin January 2, 2003;	124
In Portage county, three judges, one to be elected in	125
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in	126
1960, term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected	127
in 1986, term to begin January 2, 1987;	128
In Ross county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,	129
term to begin February 9, 1957, and the second to be elected in	130

1976, term to begin January 1, 1977;	131
In Scioto county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954,	132
term to begin February 10, 1955, the second to be elected in	133
1960, term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected	134
in 1994, term to begin January 2, 1995;	135
In Seneca county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,	136
term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in	137
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987;	138
In Warren county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954,	139
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in	140
1970, term to begin January 1, 1971, the third to be elected in	141
1986, term to begin January 1, 1987, and the fourth to be	142
elected in 2004, term to begin January 2, 2005;	143
In Washington county, two judges, one to be elected in	144
1952, term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in	145
1986, term to begin January 1, 1987;	146
In Wood county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968,	147
term beginning January 1, 1969, the second to be elected in	148
1970, term to begin January 2, 1971, and the third to be elected	149
in 1990, term to begin January 1, 1991;	150
In Belmont and Jefferson counties, two judges, to be	151
elected in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9,	152
1955, respectively;	153
In Clark county, four judges, one to be elected in 1952,	154
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1956,	155
term to begin January 2, 1957, the third to be elected in 1986,	156
term to begin January 3, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in	157
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995;	158

In Clermont county, five judges, one to be elected in 159  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 160  
1964, term to begin January 1, 1965, the third to be elected in 161  
1982, term to begin January 2, 1983, the fourth to be elected in 162  
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987, and the fifth to be elected 163  
in 2006, term to begin January 3, 2007; 164

In Columbiana county, two judges, one to be elected in 165  
1952, term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be 166  
elected in 1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; 167

In Delaware county, three judges, one to be elected in 168  
1990, term to begin February 9, 1991, the second to be elected 169  
in 1994, term to begin January 1, 1995, and the third to be 170  
elected in 2016, term to begin January 1, 2017; 171

In Lake county, six judges, one to be elected in 1958, 172  
term to begin January 1, 1959, the second to be elected in 1960, 173  
term to begin January 2, 1961, the third to be elected in 1964, 174  
term to begin January 3, 1965, the fourth and fifth to be 175  
elected in 1978, terms to begin January 4, 1979, and January 5, 176  
1979, respectively, and the sixth to be elected in 2000, term to 177  
begin January 6, 2001; 178

In Licking county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954, 179  
term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1964, term 180  
to begin January 1, 1965, one to be elected in 1990, term to 181  
begin January 1, 1991, and one to be elected in 2004, term to 182  
begin January 1, 2005; 183

In Lorain county, nine judges, two to be elected in 1952, 184  
terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, 185  
respectively, one to be elected in 1958, term to begin January 186  
3, 1959, one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 1, 187

1969, two to be elected in 1988, terms to begin January 4, 1989, 188  
and January 5, 1989, respectively, two to be elected in 1998, 189  
terms to begin January 2, 1999, and January 3, 1999, 190  
respectively; and one to be elected in 2006, term to begin 191  
January 6, 2007; 192

In Butler county, eleven judges, one to be elected in 193  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; two to be elected in 1954, 194  
terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 195  
respectively; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 196  
2, 1969; one to be elected in 1986, term to begin January 3, 197  
1987; two to be elected in 1988, terms to begin January 1, 1989, 198  
and January 2, 1989, respectively; one to be elected in 1992, 199  
term to begin January 4, 1993; two to be elected in 2002, terms 200  
to begin January 2, 2003, and January 3, 2003, respectively; and 201  
one to be elected in 2006, term to begin January 3, 2007; 202

In Richland county, four judges, one to be elected in 203  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 204  
1960, term to begin February 9, 1961, the third to be elected in 205  
1968, term to begin January 2, 1969, and the fourth to be 206  
elected in 2004, term to begin January 3, 2005; 207

In Tuscarawas county, two judges, one to be elected in 208  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be 209  
elected in 1960, term to begin January 2, 1961; 210

In Wayne county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 211  
term beginning January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 1968, 212  
term to begin January 2, 1969; 213

In Trumbull county, six judges, one to be elected in 1952, 214  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1954, 215  
term to begin January 1, 1955, the third to be elected in 1956, 216



term to begin January 1, 1957, the fourth to be elected in 1964, 217  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the fifth to be elected in 1976, 218  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the sixth to be elected in 219  
1994, term to begin January 3, 1995; 220

(C) In Cuyahoga county, thirty-nine judges; eight to be 221  
elected in 1954, terms to begin on successive days beginning 222  
from January 1, 1955, to January 7, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 223  
respectively; eight to be elected in 1956, terms to begin on 224  
successive days beginning from January 1, 1957, to January 8, 225  
1957; three to be elected in 1952, terms to begin from January 226  
1, 1953, to January 3, 1953; two to be elected in 1960, terms to 227  
begin on January 8, 1961, and January 9, 1961, respectively; two 228  
to be elected in 1964, terms to begin January 4, 1965, and 229  
January 5, 1965, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term 230  
to begin on January 10, 1967; four to be elected in 1968, terms 231  
to begin on successive days beginning from January 9, 1969, to 232  
January 12, 1969; two to be elected in 1974, terms to begin on 233  
January 18, 1975, and January 19, 1975, respectively; five to be 234  
elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning 235  
January 6, 1977, to January 10, 1977; two to be elected in 1982, 236  
terms to begin January 11, 1983, and January 12, 1983, 237  
respectively; and two to be elected in 1986, terms to begin 238  
January 13, 1987, and January 14, 1987, respectively; 239

In Franklin county, twenty-four judges; two to be elected 240  
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 241  
respectively; four to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 242  
1, 1957, to January 4, 1957; four to be elected in 1958, terms 243  
to begin January 1, 1959, to January 4, 1959; three to be 244  
elected in 1968, terms to begin January 5, 1969, to January 7, 245  
1969; three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive 246  
days beginning January 5, 1977, to January 7, 1977; one to be 247

elected in 1982, term to begin January 8, 1983; one to be 248  
elected in 1986, term to begin January 9, 1987; two to be 249  
elected in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, 250  
respectively; one to be elected in 1996, term to begin January 251  
2, 1997; one to be elected in 2004, term to begin July 1, 2005; 252  
one to be elected in 2018, term to begin January 9, 2019; and 253  
one to be elected in 2020, term to begin January 3, 2021; 254

In Hamilton county, twenty-one judges; eight to be elected 255  
in 1966, terms to begin January 1, 1967, January 2, 1967, and 256  
from February 9, 1967, to February 14, 1967, respectively; five 257  
to be elected in 1956, terms to begin from January 1, 1957, to 258  
January 5, 1957; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin 259  
January 1, 1965; one to be elected in 1974, term to begin 260  
January 15, 1975; one to be elected in 1980, term to begin 261  
January 16, 1981; two to be elected at large in the general 262  
election in 1982, terms to begin April 1, 1983; one to be 263  
elected in 1990, term to begin July 1, 1991; and two to be 264  
elected in 1996, terms to begin January 3, 1997, and January 4, 265  
1997, respectively; 266

In Lucas county, fourteen judges; two to be elected in 267  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 268  
respectively; two to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 269  
1, 1957, and October 29, 1957, respectively; two to be elected 270  
in 1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, 271  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 272  
3, 1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 4, 273  
1969; two to be elected in 1976, terms to begin January 4, 1977, 274  
and January 5, 1977, respectively; one to be elected in 1982, 275  
term to begin January 6, 1983; one to be elected in 1988, term 276  
to begin January 7, 1989; one to be elected in 1990, term to 277  
begin January 2, 1991; and one to be elected in 1992, term to 278

begin January 2, 1993;	279
In Mahoning county, seven judges; three to be elected in	280
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and	281
February 9, 1955, respectively; one to be elected in 1956, term	282
to begin January 1, 1957; one to be elected in 1952, term to	283
begin January 1, 1953; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin	284
January 2, 1969; and one to be elected in 1990, term to begin	285
July 1, 1991;	286
In Montgomery county, fifteen judges; three to be elected	287
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and	288
January 3, 1955, respectively; four to be elected in 1952, terms	289
to begin January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, July 1, 1953, and	290
July 2, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to	291
begin January 3, 1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin	292
January 3, 1969; three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on	293
successive days beginning January 4, 1977, to January 6, 1977;	294
two to be elected in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July	295
2, 1991, respectively; and one to be elected in 1992, term to	296
begin January 1, 1993;	297
In Stark county, eight judges; one to be elected in 1958,	298
term to begin on January 2, 1959; two to be elected in 1954,	299
terms to begin on January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955,	300
respectively; two to be elected in 1952, terms to begin January	301
1, 1953, and April 16, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in	302
1966, term to begin on January 4, 1967; and two to be elected in	303
1992, terms to begin January 1, 1993, and January 2, 1993,	304
respectively;	305
In Summit county, thirteen judges; four to be elected in	306
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, January	307
3, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; three to be elected	308

in 1958, terms to begin January 1, 1959, January 2, 1959, and 309  
May 17, 1959, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to 310  
begin January 4, 1967; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin 311  
January 5, 1969; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin May 1, 312  
1991; one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 6, 1993; 313  
and two to be elected in 2008, terms to begin January 5, 2009, 314  
and January 6, 2009, respectively. 315

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, in any county 316  
having two or more judges of the court of common pleas, in which 317  
more than one-third of the judges plus one were previously 318  
elected at the same election, if the office of one of those 319  
judges so elected becomes vacant more than forty days prior to 320  
the second general election preceding the expiration of that 321  
judge's term, the office that that judge had filled shall be 322  
abolished as of the date of the next general election, and a new 323  
office of judge of the court of common pleas shall be created. 324  
The judge who is to fill that new office shall be elected for a 325  
six-year term at the next general election, and the term of that 326  
judge shall commence on the first day of the year following that 327  
general election, on which day no other judge's term begins, so 328  
that the number of judges that the county shall elect shall not 329  
be reduced. 330

Judges of the probate division of the court of common 331  
pleas are judges of the court of common pleas but shall be 332  
elected pursuant to sections 2101.02 and 2101.021 of the Revised 333  
Code, except in ~~Adams~~—Harrison, Henry, Morgan, Noble, and 334  
Wyandot counties in which the judge of the court of common pleas 335  
elected pursuant to this section also shall serve as judge of 336  
the probate division, except in Lorain county in which the 337  
judges of the domestic relations division of the Lorain county 338  
court of common pleas elected pursuant to this section also 339

shall perform the duties and functions of the judge of the 340  
probate division from February 9, 2009, through September 28, 341  
2009, and except in Morrow county in which the judges of the 342  
court of common pleas elected pursuant to this section also 343  
shall perform the duties and functions of the judge of the 344  
probate division. 345

**Sec. 2301.03.** (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the 346  
court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, 347  
January 2, 1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, January 2, 348  
1997, January 9, 2019, and January 3, 2021, and successors, 349  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 350  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 351  
of the court of common pleas of Franklin county and shall be 352  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 353  
division of domestic relations. They shall have all the powers 354  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 355  
and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings under 356  
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court 357  
has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 358  
legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. 359  
In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is 360  
senior in point of service shall serve on the children services 361  
board and the county advisory board and shall be the 362  
administrator of the domestic relations division and its 363  
subdivisions and departments. 364

(B) In Hamilton county: 365

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term 366  
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the 367  
court of common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, 368  
and successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 369

Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 370  
and jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. 371

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 372  
begin on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, 373  
and successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the 374  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall 375  
have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 376  
legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. 377  
On or after the first day of July and before the first day of 378  
August of 1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the 379  
judges of the division of domestic relations shall elect one of 380  
the judges of the division as administrative judge of that 381  
division. If a majority of the judges of the division of 382  
domestic relations are unable for any reason to elect an 383  
administrative judge for the division before the first day of 384  
August, a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 385  
common pleas, as soon as possible after that date, shall elect 386  
one of the judges of the division of domestic relations as 387  
administrative judge of that division. The term of the 388  
administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the first day 389  
of August of the year in which the administrative judge is 390  
elected or the date on which the administrative judge is elected 391  
by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 392  
common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 393  
administrative judge's successor is elected in the following 394  
year. 395

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the 396  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall 397  
be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 398  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 399  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 400

division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 401  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 402  
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary by 403  
the judges in the discharge of their various duties. 404

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 405  
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 406  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 407  
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 408  
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 409  
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall 410  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 411  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 412  
and counseling and conciliation services that may be made 413  
available to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons 414  
are parties to an action pending in the division. 415

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the 416  
sum of money each year as will meet all the administrative 417  
expenses of the division of domestic relations, including 418  
reasonable expenses of the domestic relations judges and the 419  
division counselors and other employees designated to conduct 420  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 421  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 422  
conciliation and counseling, and all matters relating to those 423  
cases and counseling, and the expenses involved in the 424  
attendance of division personnel at domestic relations and 425  
welfare conferences designated by the division, and the further 426  
sum each year as will provide for the adequate operation of the 427  
division of domestic relations. 428

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the 429  
salary and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county 430

treasurer from the money appropriated for the operation of the 431  
division, upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to 432  
by the administrative judge of the division of domestic 433  
relations. 434

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 435  
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or 436  
staff investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any 437  
county or any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the 438  
provisions of law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in 439  
other cases shall apply insofar as they are applicable. When a 440  
summons, warrant, citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to 441  
an officer, other than a bailiff, constable, or staff 442  
investigator of the division, the expense of serving it shall be 443  
assessed as a part of the costs in the case involved. 444

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton 445  
county whose term begins on January 3, 1997, and the successors 446  
to that judge shall each be elected and designated as the drug 447  
court judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county. 448

Eligibility for admission of a case into the drug court 449  
shall be set forth in a local rule adopted by the court of 450  
common pleas of Hamilton county. The local rule specifying 451  
eligibility shall not permit referral to the drug court of a 452  
case that involves a felony of the first or second degree, a 453  
violation of any prohibition contained in Chapter 2907. of the 454  
Revised Code that is a felony of the third degree, or a 455  
violation of section 2903.01 or 2903.02 of the Revised Code. 456

(4) If the administrative judge of the court of common 457  
pleas of Hamilton county determines that the volume of cases 458  
pending before the drug court judge does not constitute a 459  
sufficient caseload for the drug court judge, the administrative 460



judge, in accordance with the Rules of Superintendence for 461  
Courts of Common Pleas, shall assign individual cases to the 462  
drug court judge from the general docket of the court. If the 463  
assignments so occur, the administrative judge shall cease the 464  
assignments when the administrative judge determines that the 465  
volume of cases pending before the drug court judge constitutes 466  
a sufficient caseload for the drug court judge. 467

(C) (1) In Lorain county: 468

(a) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 469  
begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, 470  
and successors, and the judge of the court of common pleas whose 471  
term begins on February 9, 2009, shall have the same 472  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 473  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 474  
of common pleas of Lorain county and shall be elected and 475  
designated as the judges of the court of common pleas, division 476  
of domestic relations. The judges of the court of common pleas 477  
whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and 478  
January 2, 1999, and successors, shall have all of the powers 479  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 480  
and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over 481  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 482  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 483  
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special 484  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 485  
pleas. From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, the 486  
judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on February 487  
9, 2009, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, 488  
and cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 489  
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 490  
jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 491

separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to that judge, 492  
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 493  
other judge of the court of common pleas. 494

(b) From January 1, 2006, through September 28, 2009, the 495  
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 496  
relations, in addition to the powers and jurisdiction set forth 497  
in division (C) (1) (a) of this section, shall have jurisdiction 498  
over matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate 499  
court under Chapter 2101. and other provisions of the Revised 500  
Code. 501

(c) The judge of the court of common pleas, division of 502  
domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, is 503  
the successor to the probate judge who was elected in 2002 for a 504  
term that began on February 9, 2003. After September 28, 2009, 505  
the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 506  
relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, shall be the 507  
probate judge. 508

(2) (a) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 509  
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 510  
probate court shall be construed as references to the court of 511  
common pleas, division of domestic relations, and all references 512  
to the probate judge shall be construed as references to the 513  
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 514  
relations. 515

(b) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 516  
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 517  
clerk of the probate court shall be construed as references to 518  
the judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 519  
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 520  
judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 521

relations. 522

(D) In Lucas county: 523

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 524  
begin on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, 525  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 526  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 527  
of the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be 528  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 529  
division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 530  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be 531  
assigned to them. 532

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 533  
point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of 534  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 535  
shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of 536  
the work of the division and the employment and supervision of 537  
all other personnel of the domestic relations division. 538

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 539  
begin on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors 540  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 541  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 542  
of the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected 543  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 544  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 545  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 546  
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the 547  
judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, 548  
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the 549  
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 550  
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment, 551

and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 552  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 553  
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division 554  
in the discharge of their various duties. 555

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 556  
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title, 557  
compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and 558  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the 559  
duties of the personnel of the division. The duties of the 560  
personnel, in addition to other statutory duties include the 561  
handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 562  
counseling and conciliation services that may be made available 563  
to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons are 564  
parties to an action pending in the division. 565

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 566  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 567  
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 568  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that 569  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed 570  
by the judges of the other of those divisions. 571

(E) In Mahoning county: 572

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 573  
began on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 574  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 575  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 576  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 577  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 578  
relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce, dissolution of 579  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before 580  
the court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 581

of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, 582  
shall be the administrator of the domestic relations division 583  
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 584  
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 585  
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 586  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 587  
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary in 588  
the discharge of the various duties of the judge's office. 589

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 590  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 591  
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 592  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 593  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 594  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 595  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 596  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 597  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 598  
action pending in the division. 599

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 600  
began on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 601  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 602  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 603  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 604  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 605  
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 606  
2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions 607  
conferred by those chapters. In addition to the judge's regular 608  
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 609  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 610  
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 611  
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 612

the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 613  
juvenile cases, including any referees considered necessary by 614  
the judge in the discharge of the judge's various duties. 615

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 616  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 617  
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 618  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 619  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 620  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling 621  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 622  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 623  
action pending in the division. 624

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 625  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 626  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of 627  
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that 628  
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court 629  
of common pleas. 630

(F) In Montgomery county: 631

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 632  
begin on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, 633  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 634  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 635  
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and shall be 636  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 637  
division of domestic relations. These judges shall have assigned 638  
to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 639  
and annulment cases. 640

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 641

point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 642  
assignment and division of the work of the division and shall 643  
have charge of the employment and supervision of the personnel 644  
of the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 645  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 646  
annulment cases, including any necessary referees, except those 647  
employees who may be appointed by the judge, junior in point of 648  
service, under this section and sections 2301.12 and 2301.18 of 649  
the Revised Code. The judge of the division of domestic 650  
relations, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 651  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 652  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 653  
fix their duties. 654

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 655  
begin on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, 656  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 657  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 658  
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be 659  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 660  
juvenile division, and shall be, and have the powers and 661  
jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 662  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. 663

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 664  
the court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 665  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 666  
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 667  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 668  
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 669  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 670  
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 671  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 672

absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 673  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 674  
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 675  
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 676  
conciliation services that are available upon request to 677  
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 678  
the division. 679

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 680  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 681  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 682  
unable to perform that judge's duties or the volume of cases 683  
pending in that judge's division necessitates it, the duties of 684  
that judge may be performed by the judge or judges of the other 685  
of those divisions. 686

(G) In Richland county: 687

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 688  
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall have the same 689  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 690  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 691  
of common pleas of Richland county and shall be elected and 692  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 693  
domestic relations. That judge shall be assigned and hear all 694  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 695  
annulment cases, all domestic violence cases arising under 696  
section 3113.31 of the Revised Code, and all post-decree 697  
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those 698  
matters. The division of domestic relations has concurrent 699  
jurisdiction with the juvenile division of the court of common 700  
pleas of Richland county to determine the care, custody, or 701  
control of any child not a ward of another court of this state, 702



and to hear and determine a request for an order for the support 703  
of any child if the request is not ancillary to an action for 704  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal 705  
separation, a criminal or civil action involving an allegation 706  
of domestic violence, or an action for support brought under 707  
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. Except in cases that are 708  
subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile 709  
court, the judge of the division of domestic relations shall be 710  
assigned and hear all cases pertaining to paternity or 711  
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 712  
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 713  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children, all 714  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 715  
proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support 716  
act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, and all 717  
post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any 718  
of those matters. 719

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 720  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall 721  
be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 722  
subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the 723  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 724  
domestic relations division, including any magistrates the judge 725  
considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's duties. The 726  
judge shall also designate the title, compensation, expense 727  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, vacation, and other 728  
employment-related matters of the personnel of the division and 729  
shall fix their duties. 730

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 731  
begins on January 3, 2005, and successors, shall have the same 732  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 733

receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 734  
common pleas of Richland county, shall be elected and designated 735  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 736  
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 737  
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 738  
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 739  
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 740  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 741  
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity or 742  
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 743  
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 744  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children or any 745  
post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any 746  
of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not 747  
have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 748  
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 749  
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 750

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 751  
the juvenile division shall be the administrator of the juvenile 752  
division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall 753  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 754  
the personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in 755  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 756  
any magistrates whom the judge considers necessary for the 757  
discharge of the judge's various duties. 758

The judge of the juvenile division also shall designate 759  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 760  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 761  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 762  
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 763  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling, 764

conciliation, and mediation services that the court makes 765  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 766  
an action pending in the court, who request the services. 767

(H) (1) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common 768  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and 769  
January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same 770  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 771  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 772  
common pleas of Stark county and shall be elected and designated 773  
as judges of the court of common pleas, family court division. 774  
They shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and 775  
all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 776  
all parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 777  
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 778  
separation, and annulment cases, except cases that are assigned 779  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some 780  
special reason, shall be assigned to the judges. 781

(2) The judge of the family court division, second most 782  
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment 783  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 784  
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of 785  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary 786  
referees required for the judge's respective court. 787

(3) The judge of the family court division, senior in 788  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 789  
administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 790  
2152.71 of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division 791  
of the work of the division and the employment and supervision 792  
of all other personnel of the division, including, but not 793  
limited to, that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those 794

employees who may be appointed by the judge second most senior 795  
in point of service. The senior judge further shall serve in 796  
every other position in which the statutes permit or require a 797  
juvenile judge to serve. 798

(4) On and after September 29, 2015, all references in law 799  
to "the division of domestic relations," "the domestic relations 800  
division," "the domestic relations court," "the judge of the 801  
division of domestic relations," or "the judge of the domestic 802  
relations division" shall be construed, with respect to Stark 803  
county, as being references to "the family court division" or 804  
"the judge of the family court division." 805

(I) In Summit county: 806

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 807  
begin on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, 808  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 809  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 810  
of the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be 811  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 812  
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 813  
domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all 814  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 815  
annulment cases that come before the court. Except in cases that 816  
are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 817  
juvenile court, the judges of the division of domestic relations 818  
shall have assigned to them and hear all cases pertaining to 819  
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation 820  
of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 821  
and all post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining 822  
to any of those matters. The judges of the division of domestic 823  
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all proceedings 824

under the uniform interstate family support act contained in 825  
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 826

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 827  
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 828  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and 829  
shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision 830  
of the personnel of the division, including any necessary 831  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 832  
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 833  
separation, and annulment cases. That judge also shall designate 834  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 835  
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 836  
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 837  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 838  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 839  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and of any 840  
counseling and conciliation services that are available upon 841  
request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 842  
action pending in the division. 843

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 844  
begins on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 845  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 846  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 847  
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated 848  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 849  
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 850  
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 851  
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 852  
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 853  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 854  
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, 855

custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation of 856  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children or 857  
any post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to 858  
any of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall 859  
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 860  
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 861  
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 862

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the 863  
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 864  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 865  
the personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 866  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 867  
investigating juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the 868  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 869  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 870  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 871  
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 872  
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 873  
conciliation services that are available upon request to 874  
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 875  
the division. 876

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 877  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 878  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 879  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 880  
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county 881  
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 882  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 883  
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 884  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 885  
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 886

all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 887  
annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except cases that for 888  
some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 889  
court of common pleas. 890

(K) In Butler county: 891

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 892  
begin on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, 893  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 894  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 895  
of the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be 896  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 897  
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 898  
domestic relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, 899  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 900  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 901  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 902  
pleas. The judges of the division of domestic relations also 903  
have concurrent jurisdiction with judges of the juvenile 904  
division of the court of common pleas of Butler county with 905  
respect to and may hear cases to determine the custody, support, 906  
or custody and support of a child who is born of issue of a 907  
marriage and who is not the ward of another court of this state, 908  
cases commenced by a party of the marriage to obtain an order 909  
requiring support of any child when the request for that order 910  
is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 911  
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 912  
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 913  
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 914  
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 915  
juvenile division of the court of common pleas of Butler county 916  
and that involves an allegation that the child is an abused, 917

neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree proceedings and 918  
matters arising from those types of cases. The judge senior in 919  
point of service shall be charged with the assignment and 920  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 921  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 922  
division. 923

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate 924  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 925  
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 926  
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 927  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 928  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 929  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and providing 930  
any counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 931  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 932  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 933

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 934  
begin on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and successors, 935  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 936  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 937  
of the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall be elected 938  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 939  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 940  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 941  
and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. Except in cases 942  
that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 943  
juvenile court, the judges of the juvenile division shall not 944  
have jurisdiction or the power to hear and shall not be 945  
assigned, but shall have the limited ability and authority to 946  
certify, any case commenced by a party of a marriage to 947  
determine the custody, support, or custody and support of a 948



child who is born of issue of the marriage and who is not the 949  
ward of another court of this state when the request for the 950  
order in the case is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 951  
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation. The 952  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, who is 953  
senior in point of service, shall be the administrator of the 954  
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The 955  
judge, senior in point of service, shall have charge of the 956  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 957  
juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 958  
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the 959  
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's 960  
various duties. 961

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall 962  
designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, 963  
leaves of absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division 964  
and shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in 965  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 966  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and providing any 967  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 968  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 969  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 970

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 971  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 972  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 973  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 974  
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 975  
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 976

(L) (1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of 977  
common pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 978

1961, January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, 979  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 980  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 981  
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county 982  
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 983  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 984  
all the powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 985  
legal separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are 986  
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas for 987  
some special reason. 988

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the 989  
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments 990  
and has the following powers concerning division personnel: 991

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and 992  
supervision; 993

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses, 994  
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations. 995

(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or 996  
referees engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, 997  
counseling, or conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, 998  
legal separation and annulment matters. 999

(M) In Lake county: 1000

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1001  
begins on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1002  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1003  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1004  
of common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and 1005  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1006  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce, 1007

dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1008  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1009  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1010  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1011  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1012  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1013  
division. 1014

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1015  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1016  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1017  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1018  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1019  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1020  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1021  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1022  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1023  
division, who request the services. 1024

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1025  
begins on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 1026  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1027  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1028  
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 1029  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 1030  
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1031  
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by 1032  
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1033  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 1034  
and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have 1035  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1036  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 1037  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 1038

referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of 1039  
the judge's various duties. 1040

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1041  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 1042  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1043  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1044  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 1045  
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 1046  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1047  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1048  
request the services. 1049

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1050  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1051  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 1052  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 1053  
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 1054  
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 1055

(N) In Erie county: 1056

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1057  
begins on January 2, 1971, and the successors to that judge 1058  
whose terms begin before January 2, 2007, shall have the same 1059  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1060  
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 1061  
common pleas of Erie county and shall be elected and designated 1062  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1063  
relations. The judge shall have all the powers relating to 1064  
juvenile courts, and shall be assigned all cases under Chapters 1065  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over 1066  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce, 1067  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1068

except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 1069  
other judge. 1070

On or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the court of 1071  
common pleas who is elected in 2006 shall be the successor to 1072  
the judge of the domestic relations division whose term expires 1073  
on January 1, 2007, shall be designated as judge of the court of 1074  
common pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge 1075  
as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with 1076  
the powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. 1077

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 1078  
division, whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 1079  
the judge of the court of common pleas, general division whose 1080  
term begins on January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of 1081  
the court of common pleas, general division, whose term begins 1082  
February 9, 2009, and successors, shall have assigned to them, 1083  
in addition to all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 1084  
the general division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, 1085  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1086  
coming before the court, and all matters that are within the 1087  
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 1088  
provisions, of the Revised Code. 1089

(0) In Greene county: 1090

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1091  
begins on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1092  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1093  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1094  
of common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and 1095  
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 1096  
of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1097  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform 1098

reciprocal support enforcement, and domestic violence cases and 1099  
all other cases related to domestic relations, except cases that 1100  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1101  
court of common pleas. 1102

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1103  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1104  
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge 1105  
also shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of 1106  
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 1107  
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel of the 1108  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1109  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1110  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1111  
and the provision of counseling and conciliation services that 1112  
the division considers necessary and makes available to persons 1113  
who request the services, whether or not the persons are parties 1114  
in an action pending in the division. The compensation for the 1115  
personnel shall be paid from the overall court budget and shall 1116  
be included in the appropriations for the existing judges of the 1117  
general division of the court of common pleas. 1118

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1119  
begins on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same 1120  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1121  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1122  
of common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and 1123  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1124  
division, and, on or after January 1, 1995, shall be the 1125  
juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1126  
Revised Code with the powers and jurisdiction conferred by those 1127  
chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1128  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 1129

and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have 1130  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1131  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 1132  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 1133  
referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of 1134  
the judge's various duties. 1135

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1136  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 1137  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1138  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1139  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 1140  
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 1141  
that the court makes available to persons, whether or not the 1142  
persons are parties to an action pending in the court, who 1143  
request the services. 1144

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 1145  
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 1146  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 1147  
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of 1148  
the general division shall be performed by the judge of the 1149  
division of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile 1150  
division. 1151

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common 1152  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1153  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1154  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1155  
judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall 1156  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1157  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1158  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1159

annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1160  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1161  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1162  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1163  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1164  
all proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family 1165  
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, all 1166  
proceedings arising under sections 3119.96 to 3119.967 of the 1167  
Revised Code, all proceedings arising under the uniform child 1168  
custody jurisdiction and enforcement act contained in Chapter 1169  
3127. of the Revised Code, and all post-decree proceedings and 1170  
matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 1171  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to some other 1172  
judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged 1173  
with the assignment and division of the work of the division and 1174  
with the employment and supervision of all other personnel of 1175  
the domestic relations division. 1176

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1177  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1178  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1179  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1180  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1181  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1182  
annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1183  
Revised Code, proceedings involving child support, the 1184  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1185  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1186  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1187  
proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support 1188  
act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, proceedings 1189  
arising under sections 3119.96 to 3119.967 of the Revised Code, 1190



and proceedings arising under the uniform child custody 1191  
jurisdiction and enforcement act contained in Chapter 3127. of 1192  
the Revised Code, and providing any counseling and conciliation 1193  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1194  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1195  
division, who request the services. 1196

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 1197  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1198  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1199  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1200  
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 1201  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1202  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1203  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1204  
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 1205  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1206  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1207  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1208  
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 1209  
domestic relations division. 1210

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1211  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1212  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1213  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1214  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1215  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1216  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1217  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1218  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1219  
division, who request the services. 1220

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common 1221  
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall 1222  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1223  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1224  
judges of the court of common pleas of Warren county and shall 1225  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1226  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1227  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1228  
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 1229  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1230  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1231  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1232  
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 1233  
domestic relations division. 1234

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1235  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1236  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1237  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1238  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1239  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1240  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1241  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1242  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1243  
division, who request the services. 1244

(S) In Licking county, the judges of the court of common 1245  
pleas, whose terms begin on January 1, 1991, and January 1, 1246  
2005, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 1247  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1248  
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 1249  
Licking county and shall be elected and designated as judges of 1250  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The 1251

judges shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1252  
legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under 1253  
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1254  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1255  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1256  
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1257  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 1258  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 1259  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 1260  
of the court of common pleas. The administrative judge of the 1261  
division of domestic relations shall be charged with the 1262  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1263  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1264

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 1265  
relations shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1266  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1267  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1268  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1269  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1270  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1271  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1272  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1273  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1274  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1275  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1276  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 1277  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1278  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1279  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1280

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common 1281  
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 1282

have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1283  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1284  
judges of the court of common pleas of Allen county and shall be 1285  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1286  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1287  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1288  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1289  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1290  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1291  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1292  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1293  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1294  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1295  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1296  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1297  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1298  
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1299

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1300  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1301  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1302  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1303  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1304  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1305  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1306  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1307  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1308  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1309  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1310  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 1311  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1312  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1313

an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1314

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common 1315  
pleas whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall 1316  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1317  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1318  
of the court of common pleas of Medina county and shall be 1319  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1320  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1321  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1322  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1323  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1324  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1325  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1326  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1327  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1328  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1329  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1330  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1331  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1332  
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1333

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1334  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1335  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1336  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1337  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1338  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1339  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1340  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 1341  
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1342  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1343  
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1344

parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 1345  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1346  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1347  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1348

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 1349  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1350  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1351  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1352  
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and 1353  
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1354  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 1355  
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1356  
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1357  
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1358  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1359  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1360  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1361  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1362  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1363  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1364  
pleas. The judge also has concurrent jurisdiction with the 1365  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1366  
Fairfield county with respect to and may hear cases to determine 1367  
the custody of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 1368  
Revised Code, who is not the ward of another court of this 1369  
state, cases that are commenced by a parent, guardian, or 1370  
custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 1371  
Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the child 1372  
to pay child support for that child when the request for that 1373  
order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 1374  
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 1375

action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 1376  
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 1377  
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1378  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1379  
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 1380  
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 1381  
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 1382

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be 1383  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1384  
division and with the employment and supervision of the 1385  
personnel of the division. 1386

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1387  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1388  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1389  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1390  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1391  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1392  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1393  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1394  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1395  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1396  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1397  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 1398  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1399  
available to persons, regardless of whether the persons are 1400  
parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1401  
services. When the judge hears a case to determine the custody 1402  
of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, 1403  
who is not the ward of another court of this state or a case 1404  
that is commenced by a parent, guardian, or custodian of a 1405  
child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, to 1406

obtain an order requiring a parent of the child to pay child support for that child when the request for that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the duties of the personnel of the domestic relations division also include the handling, servicing, and investigation of those types of cases.

(W) (1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, domestic relations division. The judge shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support enforcement, and other cases related to domestic relations shall be assigned to the domestic relations division, and the presiding judge of the court of common pleas shall assign the cases to the judge of the domestic relations division and the judges of the general division.

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge



of the division of domestic relations shall serve on the 1438  
children services board and the county advisory board. 1439

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 1440  
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or 1441  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the 1442  
presiding judge of the court of common pleas of Clark county 1443  
determines that the volume of cases pending in the division of 1444  
domestic relations necessitates it, the duties of the judge of 1445  
the division of domestic relations shall be performed by the 1446  
judges of the general division or probate division of the court 1447  
of common pleas of Clark county, as assigned for that purpose by 1448  
the presiding judge of that court, and the judges so assigned 1449  
shall act in conjunction with the judge of the division of 1450  
domestic relations of that court. 1451

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common 1452  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1453  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1454  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1455  
of the court of common pleas of Scioto county and shall be 1456  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1457  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1458  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1459  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1460  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1461  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1462  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1463  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, visitation, and 1464  
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1465  
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason 1466  
are assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The 1467  
judge shall be charged with the assignment and division of the 1468

work of the division and with the employment and supervision of 1469  
the personnel of the division. 1470

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1471  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1472  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1473  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1474  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1475  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1476  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1477  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 1478  
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1479  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1480  
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1481  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 1482  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1483  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1484  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1485

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and 1486  
juvenile divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas 1487  
also shall be the administrative judge of the domestic relations 1488  
division of the court and shall be assigned all divorce, 1489  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1490  
coming before the court. The judge shall have all powers as 1491  
administrator of the domestic relations division and shall have 1492  
charge of the personnel engaged in handling, servicing, or 1493  
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1494  
separation, and annulment cases, including any referees 1495  
considered necessary for the discharge of the judge's various 1496  
duties. 1497

(Z) (1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 1498

pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors 1499  
to that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1500  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1501  
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion 1502  
county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court 1503  
of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. 1504  
Except as otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and 1505  
the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating 1506  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 1507  
of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1508  
the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1509  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1510  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1511  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 1512  
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1513  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1514  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1515  
and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division 1516  
(Z) (2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision 1517  
of any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 1518  
2003, the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county 1519  
whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 1520  
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 1521  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county in 1522  
addition to the powers previously specified in this division, 1523  
and shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 1524  
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 1525  
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 1526  
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 1527  
addition to the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1528  
probate division of that court otherwise specified in division 1529  
(Z) (1) of this section. 1530

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total length of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county, regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve as the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of Marion county.

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to both "the probate division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being references to both "the judge of the probate division" and "the judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of Marion county.

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and shall be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the

allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1562  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1563  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1564  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1565  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1566  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1567  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1568  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1569  
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1570

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1571  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1572  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1573  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1574  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1575  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1576  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1577  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1578  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1579  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1580  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1581  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 1582  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1583  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1584  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1585

(BB) In Henry county, the judge of the court of common 1586  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 1587  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1588  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1589  
judge of the court of common pleas of Henry county and shall be 1590  
elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1591  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall have all 1592

of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 1593  
Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 1594  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over 1595  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, all divorce, 1596  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1597  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1598  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 1599  
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 1600  
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 1601  
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 1602  
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 1603  
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 1604  
the court of common pleas. 1605

(CC) (1) In Logan county, the judge of the court of common 1606  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 2005, and the successors to 1607  
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1608  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1609  
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Logan county 1610  
and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of 1611  
common pleas, family court division. Except as otherwise 1612  
specified in this division, that judge, and the successors to 1613  
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 1614  
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1615  
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1616  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1617  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1618  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1619  
for the care of children and designation for the children of a 1620  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1621  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1622  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1623

and the successors to that judge. Notwithstanding any other 1624  
provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 1625  
January 2, 2005, the judge of the court of common pleas of Logan 1626  
county whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and the successors 1627  
to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 1628  
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county in 1629  
addition to the powers previously specified in this division and 1630  
shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 1631  
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 1632  
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 1633  
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 1634  
addition to the jurisdiction of the family court division of 1635  
that court otherwise specified in division (CC) (1) of this 1636  
section. 1637

(2) The judge of the family court division of the court of 1638  
common pleas of Logan county or the probate judge of the court 1639  
of common pleas of Logan county who is elected as the 1640  
administrative judge of the family court division of the court 1641  
of common pleas of Logan county pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules 1642  
of Superintendence shall be the clerk of the family court 1643  
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county. 1644

(3) On and after April 5, 2019, all references in law to 1645  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," 1646  
or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with 1647  
respect to Logan county, as being references to both "the 1648  
probate division" and the "family court division" and as being 1649  
references to both "the judge of the probate division" and the 1650  
"judge of the family court division." On and after April 5, 1651  
2019, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" 1652  
shall be construed, with respect to Logan county, as being 1653  
references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division (CC) 1654

(2) of this section as the clerk of the family court division of 1655  
the court of common pleas of Logan county. 1656

(DD) (1) In Champaign county, the judge of the court of 1657  
common pleas whose term begins February 9, 2003, and the judge 1658  
of the court of common pleas whose term begins February 10, 1659  
2009, and the successors to those judges, shall have the same 1660  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1661  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1662  
of common pleas of Champaign county and shall be elected and 1663  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, domestic 1664  
relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as otherwise 1665  
specified in this division, those judges, and the successors to 1666  
those judges, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 1667  
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1668  
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1669  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1670  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1671  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1672  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 1673  
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1674  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1675  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to those 1676  
judges and the successors to those judges. Notwithstanding any 1677  
other provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 1678  
February 9, 2009, the judges designated by this division as 1679  
judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign county, 1680  
domestic relations-juvenile-probate division, and the successors 1681  
to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to probate 1682  
courts in addition to the powers previously specified in this 1683  
division and shall exercise jurisdiction over all matters that 1684  
are within the jurisdiction of probate courts under Chapter 1685



2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to 1686  
the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1687  
division otherwise specified in division (DD)(1) of this 1688  
section. 1689

(2) On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law 1690  
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 1691  
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed 1692  
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 1693  
"domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being 1694  
references to the "judge of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1695  
probate division." On and after February 9, 2009, all references 1696  
in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be construed 1697  
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 1698  
judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 1699  
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 1700  
judge of the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile- 1701  
probate division. 1702

(EE) In Delaware county, the judge of the court of common 1703  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2017, and successors, 1704  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1705  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1706  
judges of the court of common pleas of Delaware county and shall 1707  
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1708  
pleas, division of domestic relations. Divorce, dissolution of 1709  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, including any 1710  
post-decree proceedings, and cases involving questions of 1711  
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, and the 1712  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1713  
of children, regardless of whether those matters arise in post- 1714  
decree proceedings or involve children born between unmarried 1715  
persons, shall be assigned to that judge, except cases that for 1716

some special reason are assigned to another judge of the court 1717  
of common pleas. 1718

(FF) In Hardin county: 1719

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1720  
begins on January 1, 2023, and successors, shall have the same 1721  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1722  
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 1723  
common pleas of Hardin county and shall be elected and 1724  
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 1725  
of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of the powers 1726  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. 1727  
or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings arising 1728  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 1729  
court has jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1730  
legal separation, and annulment cases, civil protection orders 1731  
issued under sections 2903.214 and 3113.31 of the Revised Code, 1732  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1733  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 1734  
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 1735  
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 1736  
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 1737  
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 1738  
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 1739  
the court of common pleas. 1740

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 1741  
division, whose term begins on February 9, 2027, and successors, 1742  
shall have assigned to the judge, in addition to all matters 1743  
that are within the jurisdiction of the general division of the 1744  
court of common pleas, all matters that are within the 1745  
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 1746

provisions, of the Revised Code. 1747

(GG) In Adams county: 1748

(1) Subject to division (GG) (2) of this section, the judge 1749  
of the court of common pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1750  
2027, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 1751  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1752  
compensation as the other judge of the court of common pleas of 1753  
Adams county. 1754

(2) Beginning on February 9, 2029, the judge of the court 1755  
of common pleas whose term begins on February 9, 2027, and 1756  
successors shall be designated as the judge of the court of 1757  
common pleas, probate and juvenile division. The judge shall 1758  
have all of the powers relating to juvenile courts, all cases 1759  
under Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 1760  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over 1761  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, all of the powers 1762  
relating to probate courts, and all matters that are within the 1763  
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 1764  
provisions, of the Revised Code. 1765

On and after February 9, 2029, all references in law to 1766  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," 1767  
or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with 1768  
respect to Adams county, as being references to "the probate and 1769  
juvenile division" and as being references to "the judge of the 1770  
probate and juvenile division." 1771

(HH) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1772  
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 1773  
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 1774  
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in 1775

the judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge 1776  
shall be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas 1777  
of that county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge 1778  
of the court of common pleas of that county to act in place of 1779  
or in conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 1780

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 1781  
2301.03 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1782

**Section 3.** Section 2301.03 of the Revised Code is 1783  
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 1784  
by both H.B. 33 and S.B. 21 of the 135th General Assembly and 1785  
H.B. 518 of the 134th General Assembly. The General Assembly, 1786  
applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of 1787  
the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if 1788  
reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the 1789  
composite is the resulting version of the section in effect 1790  
prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this 1791  
act. 1792