

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

S. B. No. 207

**Senators Thomas, Wilson
Cosponsor: Senator Blessing**



A BILL

To amend sections 1901.041 and 2301.03 of the
Revised Code to revise the law governing cases
that may be referred to the Hamilton County Drug
Court.

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

Section 1. That sections 1901.041 and 2301.03 of the
Revised Code be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1901.041. ~~(A)~~—Except as authorized by or provided in
division (B) of section 1901.181 of the Revised Code, all cases
filed after the institution of a housing or environmental
division of a municipal court and over which the division has
jurisdiction shall be assigned by the administrative judge of
the municipal court to the judge of the division. Any cases
pending in the municipal court at the time the division is
instituted and over which the division has jurisdiction shall be
reassigned to the judge of the division, if the administrative
judge determines that reassignment will not delay the trial of
the case and that reassignment is in the best interests of the
parties.

~~(B) The Hamilton county municipal court may refer a case of the type described in division (B) (3) of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code to the drug court judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county pursuant to that division.~~

Sec. 2301.03. (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, January 2, 1997, January 9, 2019, and January 3, 2021, 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 Franklin county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is senior in point of service shall serve on the children services board and the county advisory board and shall be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments.

(B) In Hamilton county:

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the court of common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, and successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdiction conferred by those chapters.

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 49
begin on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, 50
and successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the 51
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall 52
have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 53
legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. 54
On or after the first day of July and before the first day of 55
August of 1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the 56
judges of the division of domestic relations shall elect one of 57
the judges of the division as administrative judge of that 58
division. If a majority of the judges of the division of 59
domestic relations are unable for any reason to elect an 60
administrative judge for the division before the first day of 61
August, a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 62
common pleas, as soon as possible after that date, shall elect 63
one of the judges of the division of domestic relations as 64
administrative judge of that division. The term of the 65
administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the first day 66
of August of the year in which the administrative judge is 67
elected or the date on which the administrative judge is elected 68
by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 69
common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 70
administrative judge's successor is elected in the following 71
year. 72

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the 73
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall 74
be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 75
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 76
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 77
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 78
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 79

annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary by 80
the judges in the discharge of their various duties. 81

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 82
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 83
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 84
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 85
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 86
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall 87
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 88
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 89
and counseling and conciliation services that may be made 90
available to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons 91
are parties to an action pending in the division. 92

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the 93
sum of money each year as will meet all the administrative 94
expenses of the division of domestic relations, including 95
reasonable expenses of the domestic relations judges and the 96
division counselors and other employees designated to conduct 97
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 98
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 99
conciliation and counseling, and all matters relating to those 100
cases and counseling, and the expenses involved in the 101
attendance of division personnel at domestic relations and 102
welfare conferences designated by the division, and the further 103
sum each year as will provide for the adequate operation of the 104
division of domestic relations. 105

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the 106
salary and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county 107
treasurer from the money appropriated for the operation of the 108
division, upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to 109

by the administrative judge of the division of domestic 110
relations. 111

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 112
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or 113
staff investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any 114
county or any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the 115
provisions of law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in 116
other cases shall apply insofar as they are applicable. When a 117
summons, warrant, citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to 118
an officer, other than a bailiff, constable, or staff 119
investigator of the division, the expense of serving it shall be 120
assessed as a part of the costs in the case involved. 121

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton 122
county whose term begins on January 3, 1997, and the successors 123
to that judge shall each be elected and designated as the drug 124
court judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county. ~~The~~ 125
~~drug court judge may accept or reject any case referred to the~~ 126
~~drug court judge under division (B) (3) of this section. After~~ 127
~~the drug court judge accepts a referred case, the drug court~~ 128
~~judge has full authority over the case, including the authority~~ 129
~~to conduct arraignment, accept pleas, enter findings and~~ 130
~~dispositions, conduct trials, order treatment, and if treatment~~ 131
~~is not successfully completed pronounce and enter sentence.~~ 132

~~A judge of the general division of the court of common~~ 133
~~pleas of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county~~ 134
~~municipal court may refer to the drug court judge any case, and~~ 135
~~any companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria~~ 136
~~described under divisions (B) (3) (a) and (b) of this section. If~~ 137
~~the drug court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the~~ 138
~~case, and any companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug~~ 139

~~court judge. A judge may refer a case meeting the criteria described in divisions (B) (3) (a) and (b) of this section that involves a violation of a condition of a community control sanction to the drug court judge, and, if the drug court judge accepts the referral, the referring judge and the drug court judge have concurrent jurisdiction over the case.~~ 140
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~~A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county municipal court may refer a case to the drug court judge under division (B) (3) of this section if the judge determines that both of the following apply:~~ 146
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~~(a) One of the following applies:~~ 151

~~(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor.~~ 152
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~~(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in section 2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor, and the defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of becoming drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from treatment.~~ 157
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~~(b) All of the following apply:~~ 165

~~(i) The case involves an offense for which a community control sanction may be imposed or is a case in which a mandatory prison term or a mandatory jail term is not required~~ 166
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to be imposed.	169
(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior.	170
(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness.	171
(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is drug or alcohol driven.	172
(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to participate in a fifteen-month treatment process.	173
(vi) The defendant has no acute health condition.	174
(vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor approves of the referral.	175
(4) If the administrative judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county determines that the volume of cases pending before the drug court judge does not constitute a sufficient caseload for the drug court judge, the administrative judge, in accordance with the Rules of Superintendence for Courts of Common Pleas, shall assign individual cases to the drug court judge from the general docket of the court. If the assignments so occur, the administrative judge shall cease the assignments when the administrative judge determines that the volume of cases pending before the drug court judge constitutes a sufficient caseload for the drug court judge.	176
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(5) As used in division (B) of this section, "community control sanction," "mandatory prison term," and "mandatory jail term" have the same meanings as in section 2929.01 of the Revised Code.	190
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(C) (1) In Lorain county:	194
(a) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms	195

begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, 196
and successors, and the judge of the court of common pleas whose 197
term begins on February 9, 2009, shall have the same 198
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 199
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 200
of common pleas of Lorain county and shall be elected and 201
designated as the judges of the court of common pleas, division 202
of domestic relations. The judges of the court of common pleas 203
whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and 204
January 2, 1999, and successors, shall have all of the powers 205
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 206
and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over 207
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 208
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 209
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special 210
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 211
pleas. From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, the 212
judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on February 213
9, 2009, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, 214
and cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 215
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 216
jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 217
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to that judge, 218
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 219
other judge of the court of common pleas. 220

(b) From January 1, 2006, through September 28, 2009, the 221
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 222
relations, in addition to the powers and jurisdiction set forth 223
in division (C) (1) (a) of this section, shall have jurisdiction 224
over matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate 225
court under Chapter 2101. and other provisions of the Revised 226

Code.	227
(c) The judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, is the successor to the probate judge who was elected in 2002 for a term that began on February 9, 2003. After September 28, 2009, the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, shall be the probate judge.	228 229 230 231 232 233 234
(2) (a) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the probate court shall be construed as references to the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and all references to the probate judge shall be construed as references to the judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations.	235 236 237 238 239 240 241
(b) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the clerk of the probate court shall be construed as references to the judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations.	242 243 244 245 246 247 248
(D) In Lucas county:	249
(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, 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 Lucas county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas,	250 251 252 253 254 255

division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 256
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be 257
assigned to them. 258

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 259
point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of 260
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 261
shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of 262
the work of the division and the employment and supervision of 263
all other personnel of the domestic relations division. 264

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 265
begin on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors 266
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 267
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 268
of the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected 269
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 270
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 271
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 272
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the 273
judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, 274
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the 275
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 276
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment, 277
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 278
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 279
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division 280
in the discharge of their various duties. 281

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 282
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title, 283
compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and 284
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the 285

duties of the personnel of the division. The duties of the 286
personnel, in addition to other statutory duties include the 287
handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 288
counseling and conciliation services that may be made available 289
to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons are 290
parties to an action pending in the division. 291

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 292
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 293
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 294
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that 295
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed 296
by the judges of the other of those divisions. 297

(E) In Mahoning county: 298

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 299
began on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 300
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 301
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 302
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 303
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 304
relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce, dissolution of 305
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before 306
the court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 307
of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, 308
shall be the administrator of the domestic relations division 309
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 310
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 311
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 312
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 313
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary in 314
the discharge of the various duties of the judge's office. 315

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 316
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 317
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 318
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 319
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 320
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 321
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 322
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 323
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 324
action pending in the division. 325

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 326
began on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 327
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 328
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 329
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 330
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 331
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 332
2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions 333
conferred by those chapters. In addition to the judge's regular 334
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 335
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 336
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 337
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 338
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 339
juvenile cases, including any referees considered necessary by 340
the judge in the discharge of the judge's various duties. 341

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 342
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 343
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 344
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 345
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 346

servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling 347
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 348
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 349
action pending in the division. 350

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 351
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 352
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of 353
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that 354
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court 355
of common pleas. 356

(F) In Montgomery county: 357

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 358
begin on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, 359
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 360
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 361
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and shall be 362
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 363
division of domestic relations. These judges shall have assigned 364
to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 365
and annulment cases. 366

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 367
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 368
assignment and division of the work of the division and shall 369
have charge of the employment and supervision of the personnel 370
of the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 371
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 372
annulment cases, including any necessary referees, except those 373
employees who may be appointed by the judge, junior in point of 374
service, under this section and sections 2301.12 and 2301.18 of 375
the Revised Code. The judge of the division of domestic 376

relations, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 377
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 378
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 379
fix their duties. 380

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 381
begin on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, 382
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 383
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 384
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be 385
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 386
juvenile division, and shall be, and have the powers and 387
jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 388
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. 389

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 390
the court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 391
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 392
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 393
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 394
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 395
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 396
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 397
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 398
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 399
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 400
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 401
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 402
conciliation services that are available upon request to 403
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 404
the division. 405

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 406

division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 407
court of common pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 408
unable to perform that judge's duties or the volume of cases 409
pending in that judge's division necessitates it, the duties of 410
that judge may be performed by the judge or judges of the other 411
of those divisions. 412

(G) In Richland county: 413

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 414
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall have the same 415
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 416
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 417
of common pleas of Richland county and shall be elected and 418
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 419
domestic relations. That judge shall be assigned and hear all 420
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 421
annulment cases, all domestic violence cases arising under 422
section 3113.31 of the Revised Code, and all post-decree 423
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those 424
matters. The division of domestic relations has concurrent 425
jurisdiction with the juvenile division of the court of common 426
pleas of Richland county to determine the care, custody, or 427
control of any child not a ward of another court of this state, 428
and to hear and determine a request for an order for the support 429
of any child if the request is not ancillary to an action for 430
divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal 431
separation, a criminal or civil action involving an allegation 432
of domestic violence, or an action for support brought under 433
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. Except in cases that are 434
subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile 435
court, the judge of the division of domestic relations shall be 436
assigned and hear all cases pertaining to paternity or 437

parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 438
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 439
rights and responsibilities for the care of children, all 440
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 441
proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support 442
act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, and all 443
post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any 444
of those matters. 445

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 446
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall 447
be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 448
subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the 449
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 450
domestic relations division, including any magistrates the judge 451
considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's duties. The 452
judge shall also designate the title, compensation, expense 453
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, vacation, and other 454
employment-related matters of the personnel of the division and 455
shall fix their duties. 456

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 457
begins on January 3, 2005, and successors, shall have the same 458
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 459
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 460
common pleas of Richland county, shall be elected and designated 461
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 462
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 463
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 464
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 465
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 466
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 467
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity or 468

parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 469
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 470
rights and responsibilities for the care of children or any 471
post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any 472
of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not 473
have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 474
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 475
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 476

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 477
the juvenile division shall be the administrator of the juvenile 478
division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall 479
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 480
the personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in 481
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 482
any magistrates whom the judge considers necessary for the 483
discharge of the judge's various duties. 484

The judge of the juvenile division also shall designate 485
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 486
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 487
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 488
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 489
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling, 490
conciliation, and mediation services that the court makes 491
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 492
an action pending in the court, who request the services. 493

(H) (1) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common 494
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and 495
January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same 496
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 497
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 498

common pleas of Stark county and shall be elected and designated 499
as judges of the court of common pleas, family court division. 500
They shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and 501
all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 502
all parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 503
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 504
separation, and annulment cases, except cases that are assigned 505
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some 506
special reason, shall be assigned to the judges. 507

(2) The judge of the family court division, second most 508
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment 509
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 510
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of 511
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary 512
referees required for the judge's respective court. 513

(3) The judge of the family court division, senior in 514
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 515
administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 516
2152.71 of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division 517
of the work of the division and the employment and supervision 518
of all other personnel of the division, including, but not 519
limited to, that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those 520
employees who may be appointed by the judge second most senior 521
in point of service. The senior judge further shall serve in 522
every other position in which the statutes permit or require a 523
juvenile judge to serve. 524

(4) On and after September 29, 2015, all references in law 525
to "the division of domestic relations," "the domestic relations 526
division," "the domestic relations court," "the judge of the 527
division of domestic relations," or "the judge of the domestic 528

relations division" shall be construed, with respect to Stark 529
county, as being references to "the family court division" or 530
"the judge of the family court division." 531

(I) In Summit county: 532

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 533
begin on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, 534
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 535
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 536
of the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be 537
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 538
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 539
domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all 540
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 541
annulment cases that come before the court. Except in cases that 542
are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 543
juvenile court, the judges of the division of domestic relations 544
shall have assigned to them and hear all cases pertaining to 545
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation 546
of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 547
and all post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining 548
to any of those matters. The judges of the division of domestic 549
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all proceedings 550
under the uniform interstate family support act contained in 551
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 552

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 553
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 554
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and 555
shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision 556
of the personnel of the division, including any necessary 557
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 558

investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 559
separation, and annulment cases. That judge also shall designate 560
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 561
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 562
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 563
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 564
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 565
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and of any 566
counseling and conciliation services that are available upon 567
request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 568
action pending in the division. 569

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 570
begins on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 571
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 572
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 573
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated 574
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 575
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 576
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 577
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 578
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 579
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 580
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, 581
custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation of 582
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children or 583
any post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to 584
any of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall 585
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 586
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 587
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 588

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the 589

juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 590
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 591
the personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 592
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 593
investigating juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the 594
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 595
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 596
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 597
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 598
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 599
conciliation services that are available upon request to 600
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 601
the division. 602

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 603
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 604
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 605
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 606
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county 607
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 608
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 609
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 610
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 611
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 612
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 613
annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except cases that for 614
some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 615
court of common pleas. 616

(K) In Butler county: 617

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 618
begin on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, 619

shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 620
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 621
of the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be 622
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 623
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 624
domestic relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, 625
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 626
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 627
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 628
pleas. The judges of the division of domestic relations also 629
have concurrent jurisdiction with judges of the juvenile 630
division of the court of common pleas of Butler county with 631
respect to and may hear cases to determine the custody, support, 632
or custody and support of a child who is born of issue of a 633
marriage and who is not the ward of another court of this state, 634
cases commenced by a party of the marriage to obtain an order 635
requiring support of any child when the request for that order 636
is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 637
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 638
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 639
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 640
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 641
juvenile division of the court of common pleas of Butler county 642
and that involves an allegation that the child is an abused, 643
neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree proceedings and 644
matters arising from those types of cases. The judge senior in 645
point of service shall be charged with the assignment and 646
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 647
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 648
division. 649

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate 650

the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 651
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 652
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 653
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 654
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 655
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and providing 656
any counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 657
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 658
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 659

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 660
begin on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and successors, 661
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 662
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 663
of the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall be elected 664
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 665
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 666
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 667
and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. Except in cases 668
that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 669
juvenile court, the judges of the juvenile division shall not 670
have jurisdiction or the power to hear and shall not be 671
assigned, but shall have the limited ability and authority to 672
certify, any case commenced by a party of a marriage to 673
determine the custody, support, or custody and support of a 674
child who is born of issue of the marriage and who is not the 675
ward of another court of this state when the request for the 676
order in the case is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 677
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation. The 678
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, who is 679
senior in point of service, shall be the administrator of the 680
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The 681

judge, senior in point of service, shall have charge of the 682
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 683
juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 684
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the 685
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's 686
various duties. 687

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall 688
designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, 689
leaves of absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division 690
and shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in 691
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 692
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and providing any 693
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 694
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 695
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 696

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 697
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 698
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 699
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 700
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 701
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 702

(L) (1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of 703
common pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 704
1961, January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, 705
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 706
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 707
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county 708
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 709
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 710
all the powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 711

legal separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are 712
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas for 713
some special reason. 714

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the 715
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments 716
and has the following powers concerning division personnel: 717

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and 718
supervision; 719

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses, 720
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations. 721

(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or 722
referees engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, 723
counseling, or conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, 724
legal separation and annulment matters. 725

(M) In Lake county: 726

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 727
begins on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 728
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 729
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 730
of common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and 731
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 732
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce, 733
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 734
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 735
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 736
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 737
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 738
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 739
division. 740

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 741
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 742
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 743
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 744
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 745
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 746
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 747
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 748
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 749
division, who request the services. 750

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 751
begins on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 752
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 753
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 754
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 755
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 756
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 757
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by 758
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 759
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 760
and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have 761
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 762
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 763
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 764
referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of 765
the judge's various duties. 766

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 767
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 768
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 769
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 770
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 771

cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 772
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 773
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 774
request the services. 775

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 776
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 777
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 778
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 779
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 780
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 781

(N) In Erie county: 782

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 783
begins on January 2, 1971, and the successors to that judge 784
whose terms begin before January 2, 2007, shall have the same 785
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 786
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 787
common pleas of Erie county and shall be elected and designated 788
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 789
relations. The judge shall have all the powers relating to 790
juvenile courts, and shall be assigned all cases under Chapters 791
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over 792
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce, 793
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 794
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 795
other judge. 796

On or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the court of 797
common pleas who is elected in 2006 shall be the successor to 798
the judge of the domestic relations division whose term expires 799
on January 1, 2007, shall be designated as judge of the court of 800
common pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge 801

as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with 802
the powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. 803

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 804
division, whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 805
the judge of the court of common pleas, general division whose 806
term begins on January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of 807
the court of common pleas, general division, whose term begins 808
February 9, 2009, and successors, shall have assigned to them, 809
in addition to all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 810
the general division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, 811
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 812
coming before the court, and all matters that are within the 813
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 814
provisions, of the Revised Code. 815

(0) In Greene county: 816

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 817
begins on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 818
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 819
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 820
of common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and 821
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 822
of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 823
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform 824
reciprocal support enforcement, and domestic violence cases and 825
all other cases related to domestic relations, except cases that 826
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 827
court of common pleas. 828

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 829
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 830
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge 831

also shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel of the division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and the provision of counseling and conciliation services that the division considers necessary and makes available to persons who request the services, whether or not the persons are parties in an action pending in the division. The compensation for the personnel shall be paid from the overall court budget and shall be included in the appropriations for the existing judges of the general division of the court of common pleas.

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on January 1, 1995, 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 Greene county, shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and, on or after January 1, 1995, shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's various duties.

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation,

expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 863
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 864
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 865
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 866
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 867
that the court makes available to persons, whether or not the 868
persons are parties to an action pending in the court, who 869
request the services. 870

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 871
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 872
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 873
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of 874
the general division shall be performed by the judge of the 875
division of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile 876
division. 877

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common 878
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 879
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 880
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 881
judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall 882
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 883
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 884
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 885
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 886
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 887
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 888
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 889
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 890
domestic relations division. 891

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 892

expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 893
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 894
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 895
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 896
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 897
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 898
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 899
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 900
division, who request the services. 901

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 902
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 903
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 904
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 905
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 906
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 907
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 908
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 909
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 910
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 911
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 912
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 913
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 914
domestic relations division. 915

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 916
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 917
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 918
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 919
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 920
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 921
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 922
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 923

or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 924
division, who request the services. 925

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common 926
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall 927
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 928
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 929
judges of the court of common pleas of Warren county and shall 930
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 931
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 932
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 933
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 934
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 935
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 936
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 937
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 938
domestic relations division. 939

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 940
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 941
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 942
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 943
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 944
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 945
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 946
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 947
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 948
division, who request the services. 949

(S) In Licking county, the judges of the court of common 950
pleas, whose terms begin on January 1, 1991, and January 1, 951
2005, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 952
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 953

compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 954
Licking county and shall be elected and designated as judges of 955
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The 956
judges shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 957
legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under 958
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 959
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 960
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 961
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 962
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 963
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 964
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 965
of the court of common pleas. The administrative judge of the 966
division of domestic relations shall be charged with the 967
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 968
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 969

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 970
relations shall designate the title, compensation, expense 971
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 972
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 973
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 974
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 975
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 976
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 977
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 978
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 979
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 980
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 981
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 982
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 983
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 984

an action pending in the division, who request the services. 985

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common 986
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 987
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 988
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 989
judges of the court of common pleas of Allen county and shall be 990
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 991
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 992
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 993
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 994
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 995
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 996
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 997
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 998
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 999
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1000
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1001
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1002
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1003
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1004

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1005
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1006
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1007
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1008
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1009
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1010
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1011
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1012
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1013
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1014
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1015

custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 1016
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1017
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1018
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1019

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common 1020
pleas whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall 1021
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1022
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1023
of the court of common pleas of Medina county and shall be 1024
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1025
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1026
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1027
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1028
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1029
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1030
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1031
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1032
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1033
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1034
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1035
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1036
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1037
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1038

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1039
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1040
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1041
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1042
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1043
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1044
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1045
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 1046

involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1047
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1048
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1049
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 1050
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1051
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1052
pending in the division, who request the services. 1053

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 1054
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1055
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1056
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1057
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and 1058
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1059
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 1060
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1061
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1062
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1063
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1064
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1065
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1066
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1067
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1068
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1069
pleas. The judge also has concurrent jurisdiction with the 1070
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1071
Fairfield county with respect to and may hear cases to determine 1072
the custody of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 1073
Revised Code, who is not the ward of another court of this 1074
state, cases that are commenced by a parent, guardian, or 1075
custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 1076
Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the child 1077

to pay child support for that child when the request for that 1078
order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 1079
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 1080
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 1081
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 1082
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1083
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1084
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 1085
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 1086
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 1087

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be 1088
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1089
division and with the employment and supervision of the 1090
personnel of the division. 1091

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1092
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1093
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1094
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1095
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1096
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1097
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1098
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1099
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1100
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1101
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1102
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 1103
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1104
available to persons, regardless of whether the persons are 1105
parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1106
services. When the judge hears a case to determine the custody 1107
of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, 1108

who is not the ward of another court of this state or a case 1109
that is commenced by a parent, guardian, or custodian of a 1110
child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, to 1111
obtain an order requiring a parent of the child to pay child 1112
support for that child when the request for that order is not 1113
ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1114
annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil action 1115
involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for 1116
support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action 1117
that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1118
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1119
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 1120
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the duties of the 1121
personnel of the domestic relations division also include the 1122
handling, servicing, and investigation of those types of cases. 1123

(W) (1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 1124
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, 1125
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1126
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1127
of the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be 1128
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1129
domestic relations division. The judge shall have all the powers 1130
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 1131
and 2152. of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings 1132
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 1133
court has jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the 1134
division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 1135
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal 1136
support enforcement, and other cases related to domestic 1137
relations shall be assigned to the domestic relations division, 1138
and the presiding judge of the court of common pleas shall 1139

assign the cases to the judge of the domestic relations division 1140
and the judges of the general division. 1141

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 1142
of the division of domestic relations shall serve on the 1143
children services board and the county advisory board. 1144

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 1145
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or 1146
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the 1147
presiding judge of the court of common pleas of Clark county 1148
determines that the volume of cases pending in the division of 1149
domestic relations necessitates it, the duties of the judge of 1150
the division of domestic relations shall be performed by the 1151
judges of the general division or probate division of the court 1152
of common pleas of Clark county, as assigned for that purpose by 1153
the presiding judge of that court, and the judges so assigned 1154
shall act in conjunction with the judge of the division of 1155
domestic relations of that court. 1156

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common 1157
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1158
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1159
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1160
of the court of common pleas of Scioto county and shall be 1161
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1162
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1163
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1164
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1165
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1166
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1167
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1168
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, visitation, and 1169

all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1170
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason 1171
are assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The 1172
judge shall be charged with the assignment and division of the 1173
work of the division and with the employment and supervision of 1174
the personnel of the division. 1175

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1176
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1177
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1178
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1179
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1180
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1181
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1182
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 1183
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1184
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1185
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1186
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 1187
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1188
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1189
pending in the division, who request the services. 1190

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and 1191
juvenile divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas 1192
also shall be the administrative judge of the domestic relations 1193
division of the court and shall be assigned all divorce, 1194
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1195
coming before the court. The judge shall have all powers as 1196
administrator of the domestic relations division and shall have 1197
charge of the personnel engaged in handling, servicing, or 1198
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1199
separation, and annulment cases, including any referees 1200

considered necessary for the discharge of the judge's various 1201
duties. 1202

(Z) (1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 1203
pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors 1204
to that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1205
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1206
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion 1207
county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court 1208
of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. 1209
Except as otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and 1210
the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating 1211
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 1212
of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1213
the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1214
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1215
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1216
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 1217
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1218
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1219
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1220
and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division 1221
(Z) (2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision 1222
of any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 1223
2003, the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county 1224
whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 1225
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 1226
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county in 1227
addition to the powers previously specified in this division, 1228
and shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 1229
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 1230
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 1231

Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 1232
addition to the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1233
probate division of that court otherwise specified in division 1234
(Z) (1) of this section. 1235

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1236
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the 1237
judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 1238
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total 1239
length of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county, 1240
regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve 1241
as the clerk of the probate division of the court of common 1242
pleas of Marion county. 1243

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law 1244
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 1245
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, 1246
with respect to Marion county, as being references to both "the 1247
probate division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1248
division" and as being references to both "the judge of the 1249
probate division" and "the judge of the domestic relations- 1250
juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all 1251
references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be 1252
construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to 1253
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z) (2) of this 1254
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of 1255
common pleas of Marion county. 1256

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common 1257
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, 1258
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1259
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1260
judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and 1261

shall be elected and designated as the judge of the court of 1262
common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 1263
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1264
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1265
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1266
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1267
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1268
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1269
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1270
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1271
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1272
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1273
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1274
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1275

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1276
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1277
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1278
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1279
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1280
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1281
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1282
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1283
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1284
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1285
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1286
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 1287
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1288
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1289
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1290

(BB) In Henry county, the judge of the court of common 1291
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 1292

shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1293
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1294
judge of the court of common pleas of Henry county and shall be 1295
elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1296
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall have all 1297
of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 1298
Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 1299
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over 1300
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, all divorce, 1301
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1302
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1303
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 1304
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 1305
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 1306
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 1307
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 1308
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 1309
the court of common pleas. 1310

(CC) (1) In Logan county, the judge of the court of common 1311
pleas whose term begins January 2, 2005, and the successors to 1312
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1313
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1314
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Logan county 1315
and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of 1316
common pleas, family court division. Except as otherwise 1317
specified in this division, that judge, and the successors to 1318
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 1319
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1320
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1321
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1322
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1323

support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1324
for the care of children and designation for the children of a 1325
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1326
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1327
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1328
and the successors to that judge. Notwithstanding any other 1329
provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 1330
January 2, 2005, the judge of the court of common pleas of Logan 1331
county whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and the successors 1332
to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 1333
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county in 1334
addition to the powers previously specified in this division and 1335
shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 1336
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 1337
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 1338
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 1339
addition to the jurisdiction of the family court division of 1340
that court otherwise specified in division (CC) (1) of this 1341
section. 1342

(2) The judge of the family court division of the court of 1343
common pleas of Logan county or the probate judge of the court 1344
of common pleas of Logan county who is elected as the 1345
administrative judge of the family court division of the court 1346
of common pleas of Logan county pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules 1347
of Superintendence shall be the clerk of the family court 1348
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county. 1349

(3) On and after April 5, 2019, all references in law to 1350
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," 1351
or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with 1352
respect to Logan county, as being references to both "the 1353
probate division" and the "family court division" and as being 1354

references to both "the judge of the probate division" and the 1355
"judge of the family court division." On and after April 5, 1356
2019, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" 1357
shall be construed, with respect to Logan county, as being 1358
references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division (CC) 1359
(2) of this section as the clerk of the family court division of 1360
the court of common pleas of Logan county. 1361

(DD) (1) In Champaign county, the judge of the court of 1362
common pleas whose term begins February 9, 2003, and the judge 1363
of the court of common pleas whose term begins February 10, 1364
2009, and the successors to those judges, shall have the same 1365
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1366
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1367
of common pleas of Champaign county and shall be elected and 1368
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, domestic 1369
relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as otherwise 1370
specified in this division, those judges, and the successors to 1371
those judges, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 1372
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1373
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1374
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1375
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1376
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1377
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 1378
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1379
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1380
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to those 1381
judges and the successors to those judges. Notwithstanding any 1382
other provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 1383
February 9, 2009, the judges designated by this division as 1384
judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign county, 1385

domestic relations-juvenile-probate division, and the successors 1386
to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to probate 1387
courts in addition to the powers previously specified in this 1388
division and shall exercise jurisdiction over all matters that 1389
are within the jurisdiction of probate courts under Chapter 1390
2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to 1391
the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1392
division otherwise specified in division (DD)(1) of this 1393
section. 1394

(2) On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law 1395
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 1396
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed 1397
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 1398
"domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being 1399
references to the "judge of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1400
probate division." On and after February 9, 2009, all references 1401
in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be construed 1402
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 1403
judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 1404
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 1405
judge of the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile- 1406
probate division. 1407

(EE) In Delaware county, the judge of the court of common 1408
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2017, and successors, 1409
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1410
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1411
judges of the court of common pleas of Delaware county and shall 1412
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1413
pleas, division of domestic relations. Divorce, dissolution of 1414
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, including any 1415
post-decree proceedings, and cases involving questions of 1416

paternity, custody, visitation, child support, and the 1417
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1418
of children, regardless of whether those matters arise in post- 1419
decree proceedings or involve children born between unmarried 1420
persons, shall be assigned to that judge, except cases that for 1421
some special reason are assigned to another judge of the court 1422
of common pleas. 1423

(FF) In Hardin county: 1424

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1425
begins on January 1, 2023, and successors, shall have the same 1426
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1427
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 1428
common pleas of Hardin county and shall be elected and 1429
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 1430
of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of the powers 1431
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. 1432
or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings arising 1433
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 1434
court has jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1435
legal separation, and annulment cases, civil protection orders 1436
issued under sections 2903.214 and 3113.31 of the Revised Code, 1437
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1438
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 1439
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 1440
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 1441
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 1442
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 1443
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 1444
the court of common pleas. 1445

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 1446

division, whose term begins on February 9, 2027, and successors, 1447
shall have assigned to the judge, in addition to all matters 1448
that are within the jurisdiction of the general division of the 1449
court of common pleas, all matters that are within the 1450
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 1451
provisions, of the Revised Code. 1452

(GG) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1453
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 1454
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 1455
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in 1456
the judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge 1457
shall be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas 1458
of that county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge 1459
of the court of common pleas of that county to act in place of 1460
or in conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 1461

Section 2. That existing sections 1901.041 and 2301.03 of 1462
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1463