

**As Reported by House Judiciary Committee**

**131st General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2015-2016**

**H. B. No. 11**

**Representatives Brenner, Ruhl  
Cosponsor: Representative Celebrezze**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 of  
the Revised Code to create a domestic relations  
division of the Delaware County Court of Common  
Pleas and to create a judgeship for that  
division.

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

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

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

Whenever the juvenile judge of the juvenile court is sick,  
is absent from the county, or is unable to attend court, or the  
volume of cases pending in court necessitates it, upon the  
request of the administrative juvenile judge, the presiding  
judge of the court of common pleas pursuant to division ~~(EE)~~  
(FF) of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code shall assign a judge  
of any division of the court of common pleas of the county to

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

**Sec. 2301.02.** The number of judges of the court of common 28  
pleas for each county, the time for the next election of the 29  
judges in the several counties, and the beginning of their terms 30  
shall be as follows: 31

(A) In Adams, Ashland, Fayette, and Pike counties, one 32  
judge, elected in 1956, term to begin February 9, 1957; 33

In Brown, Crawford, Defiance, Highland, Holmes, Morgan, 34  
Ottawa, and Union counties, one judge, to be elected in 1954, 35  
term to begin February 9, 1955; 36

In Auglaize county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term 37  
to begin January 9, 1957; 38

In Coshocton, Darke, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Hardin, 39  
Jackson, Knox, Madison, Mercer, Monroe, Paulding, Vinton, and 40  
Wyandot counties, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to 41  
begin January 1, 1957; 42

In Morrow county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 43  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2006, 44  
term to begin January 1, 2007; 45

In Logan county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 46  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, 47

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| term to begin January 2, 2005;  | 48                   |
| In Carroll, Clinton, Hocking, Meigs, Pickaway, Preble,<br>Shelby, Van Wert, and Williams counties, one judge, to be<br>elected in 1952, term to begin January 1, 1953;  | 49<br>50<br>51       |
| In Champaign county, two judges, one to be elected in<br>1952, term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in<br>2008, term to begin February 10, 2009;  | 52<br>53<br>54       |
| In Harrison and Noble counties, one judge, to be elected<br>in 1954, term to begin April 18, 1955;  | 55<br>56             |
| In Henry county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,<br>term to begin May 9, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, term<br>to begin January 1, 2005;  | 57<br>58<br>59       |
| In Putnam county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term<br>to begin May 9, 1957;   | 60<br>61             |
| In Huron county, one judge, to be elected in 1952, term to<br>begin May 14, 1953;   | 62<br>63             |
| In Perry county, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term to<br>begin July 6, 1956;   | 64<br>65             |
| In Sandusky county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,<br>term to begin February 10, 1955, and one to be elected in 1978,<br>term to begin January 1, 1979.   | 66<br>67<br>68       |
| (B) In Allen county, three judges, one to be elected in<br>1956, term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected<br>in 1958, term to begin January 1, 1959, and the third to be<br>elected in 1992, term to begin January 1, 1993; | 69<br>70<br>71<br>72 |
| In Ashtabula county, three judges, one to be elected in<br>1954, term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1960,   | 73<br>74             |

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| term to begin January 1, 1961, and one to be elected in 1978,    | 75  |
| term to begin January 2, 1979;                                   | 76  |
| In Athens county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,         | 77  |
| term to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1990,   | 78  |
| term to begin July 1, 1991;                                      | 79  |
| In Erie county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956,          | 80  |
| term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1970, | 81  |
| term to begin January 2, 1971, the third to be elected in 2004,  | 82  |
| term to begin January 2, 2005, and the fourth to be elected in   | 83  |
| 2008, term to begin February 9, 2009;                            | 84  |
| In Fairfield county, three judges, one to be elected in          | 85  |
| 1954, term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected   | 86  |
| in 1970, term to begin January 1, 1971, and the third to be      | 87  |
| elected in 1994, term to begin January 2, 1995;                  | 88  |
| In Geauga county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956,         | 89  |
| term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in   | 90  |
| 1976, term to begin January 6, 1977;                             | 91  |
| In Greene county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956,        | 92  |
| term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in      | 93  |
| 1960, term to begin January 1, 1961, the third to be elected in  | 94  |
| 1978, term to begin January 2, 1979, and the fourth to be        | 95  |
| elected in 1994, term to begin January 1, 1995;                  | 96  |
| In Hancock county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952,        | 97  |
| term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in   | 98  |
| 1978, term to begin January 1, 1979;                             | 99  |
| In Lawrence county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,       | 100 |
| term to begin February 9, 1955, and the second to be elected in  | 101 |
| 1976, term to begin January 1, 1977;                             | 102 |

In Marion county, three judges, one to be elected in 1952, 103  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1976, 104  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the third to be elected in 105  
1998, term to begin February 9, 1999; 106

In Medina county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956, 107  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1966, 108  
term to begin January 1, 1967, and the third to be elected in 109  
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995; 110

In Miami county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, 111  
term to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1970, 112  
term to begin on January 1, 1971; 113

In Muskingum county, three judges, one to be elected in 114  
1968, term to begin August 9, 1969, one to be elected in 1978, 115  
term to begin January 1, 1979, and one to be elected in 2002, 116  
term to begin January 2, 2003; 117

In Portage county, three judges, one to be elected in 118  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 119  
1960, term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected 120  
in 1986, term to begin January 2, 1987; 121

In Ross county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 122  
term to begin February 9, 1957, and the second to be elected in 123  
1976, term to begin January 1, 1977; 124

In Scioto county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 125  
term to begin February 10, 1955, the second to be elected in 126  
1960, term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected 127  
in 1994, term to begin January 2, 1995; 128

In Seneca county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 129  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 130  
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987; 131

In Warren county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954, 132  
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 133  
1970, term to begin January 1, 1971, the third to be elected in 134  
1986, term to begin January 1, 1987, and the fourth to be 135  
elected in 2004, term to begin January 2, 2005; 136

In Washington county, two judges, one to be elected in 137  
1952, term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in 138  
1986, term to begin January 1, 1987; 139

In Wood county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968, 140  
term beginning January 1, 1969, the second to be elected in 141  
1970, term to begin January 2, 1971, and the third to be elected 142  
in 1990, term to begin January 1, 1991; 143

In Belmont and Jefferson counties, two judges, to be 144  
elected in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 145  
1955, respectively; 146

In Clark county, four judges, one to be elected in 1952, 147  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1956, 148  
term to begin January 2, 1957, the third to be elected in 1986, 149  
term to begin January 3, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in 150  
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995; 151

In Clermont county, five judges, one to be elected in 152  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 153  
1964, term to begin January 1, 1965, the third to be elected in 154  
1982, term to begin January 2, 1983, the fourth to be elected in 155  
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987, and the fifth to be elected 156  
in 2006, term to begin January 3, 2007; 157

In Columbiana county, two judges, one to be elected in 158  
1952, term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be 159  
elected in 1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; 160

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

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

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

In Lorain county, nine judges, two to be elected in 1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, respectively, one to be elected in 1958, term to begin January 3, 1959, one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 1, 1969, two to be elected in 1988, terms to begin January 4, 1989, and January 5, 1989, respectively, two to be elected in 1998, terms to begin January 2, 1999, and January 3, 1999, respectively; and one to be elected in 2006, term to begin January 6, 2007;

In Butler county, eleven judges, one to be elected in 1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; two to be elected in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 2, 1969; one to be elected in 1986, term to begin January 3,

1987; two to be elected in 1988, terms to begin January 1, 1989, 191  
and January 2, 1989, respectively; one to be elected in 1992, 192  
term to begin January 4, 1993; two to be elected in 2002, terms 193  
to begin January 2, 2003, and January 3, 2003, respectively; and 194  
one to be elected in 2006, term to begin January 3, 2007; 195

In Richland county, four judges, one to be elected in 196 196  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 197  
1960, term to begin February 9, 1961, the third to be elected in 198  
1968, term to begin January 2, 1969, and the fourth to be 199  
elected in 2004, term to begin January 3, 2005; 200

In Tuscarawas county, two judges, one to be elected in 201  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be 202  
elected in 1960, term to begin January 2, 1961; 203

In Wayne county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 204  
term beginning January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 1968, 205  
term to begin January 2, 1969; 206

In Trumbull county, six judges, one to be elected in 1952, 207  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1954, 208  
term to begin January 1, 1955, the third to be elected in 1956, 209  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the fourth to be elected in 1964, 210  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the fifth to be elected in 1976, 211  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the sixth to be elected in 212  
1994, term to begin January 3, 1995; 213

(C) In Cuyahoga county, thirty-nine judges; eight to be 214  
elected in 1954, terms to begin on successive days beginning 215  
from January 1, 1955, to January 7, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 216  
respectively; eight to be elected in 1956, terms to begin on 217  
successive days beginning from January 1, 1957, to January 8, 218  
1957; three to be elected in 1952, terms to begin from January 219



1, 1953, to January 3, 1953; two to be elected in 1960, terms to 220  
begin on January 8, 1961, and January 9, 1961, respectively; two 221  
to be elected in 1964, terms to begin January 4, 1965, and 222  
January 5, 1965, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term 223  
to begin on January 10, 1967; four to be elected in 1968, terms 224  
to begin on successive days beginning from January 9, 1969, to 225  
January 12, 1969; two to be elected in 1974, terms to begin on 226  
January 18, 1975, and January 19, 1975, respectively; five to be 227  
elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning 228  
January 6, 1977, to January 10, 1977; two to be elected in 1982, 229  
terms to begin January 11, 1983, and January 12, 1983, 230  
respectively; and two to be elected in 1986, terms to begin 231  
January 13, 1987, and January 14, 1987, respectively; 232

In Franklin county, twenty-two judges; two to be elected 233  
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 234  
respectively; four to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 235  
1, 1957, to January 4, 1957; four to be elected in 1958, terms 236  
to begin January 1, 1959, to January 4, 1959; three to be 237  
elected in 1968, terms to begin January 5, 1969, to January 7, 238  
1969; three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive 239  
days beginning January 5, 1977, to January 7, 1977; one to be 240  
elected in 1982, term to begin January 8, 1983; one to be 241  
elected in 1986, term to begin January 9, 1987; two to be 242  
elected in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, 243  
respectively; one to be elected in 1996, term to begin January 244  
2, 1997; and one to be elected in 2004, term to begin July 1, 245  
2005; 246

In Hamilton county, twenty-one judges; eight to be elected 247  
in 1966, terms to begin January 1, 1967, January 2, 1967, and 248  
from February 9, 1967, to February 14, 1967, respectively; five 249  
to be elected in 1956, terms to begin from January 1, 1957, to 250

January 5, 1957; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin 251  
January 1, 1965; one to be elected in 1974, term to begin 252  
January 15, 1975; one to be elected in 1980, term to begin 253  
January 16, 1981; two to be elected at large in the general 254  
election in 1982, terms to begin April 1, 1983; one to be 255  
elected in 1990, term to begin July 1, 1991; and two to be 256  
elected in 1996, terms to begin January 3, 1997, and January 4, 257  
1997, respectively; 258

In Lucas county, fourteen judges; two to be elected in 259  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 260  
respectively; two to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 261  
1, 1957, and October 29, 1957, respectively; two to be elected 262  
in 1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, 263  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 264  
3, 1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 4, 265  
1969; two to be elected in 1976, terms to begin January 4, 1977, 266  
and January 5, 1977, respectively; one to be elected in 1982, 267  
term to begin January 6, 1983; one to be elected in 1988, term 268  
to begin January 7, 1989; one to be elected in 1990, term to 269  
begin January 2, 1991; and one to be elected in 1992, term to 270  
begin January 2, 1993; 271

In Mahoning county, seven judges; three to be elected in 272  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and 273  
February 9, 1955, respectively; one to be elected in 1956, term 274  
to begin January 1, 1957; one to be elected in 1952, term to 275  
begin January 1, 1953; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin 276  
January 2, 1969; and one to be elected in 1990, term to begin 277  
July 1, 1991; 278

In Montgomery county, fifteen judges; three to be elected 279  
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and 280

January 3, 1955, respectively; four to be elected in 1952, terms 281  
to begin January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, July 1, 1953, and 282  
July 2, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to 283  
begin January 3, 1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin 284  
January 3, 1969; three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on 285  
successive days beginning January 4, 1977, to January 6, 1977; 286  
two to be elected in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July 287  
2, 1991, respectively; and one to be elected in 1992, term to 288  
begin January 1, 1993; 289

In Stark county, eight judges; one to be elected in 1958, 290  
term to begin on January 2, 1959; two to be elected in 1954, 291  
terms to begin on January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 292  
respectively; two to be elected in 1952, terms to begin January 293  
1, 1953, and April 16, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in 294  
1966, term to begin on January 4, 1967; and two to be elected in 295  
1992, terms to begin January 1, 1993, and January 2, 1993, 296  
respectively; 297

In Summit county, thirteen judges; four to be elected in 298  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, January 299  
3, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; three to be elected 300  
in 1958, terms to begin January 1, 1959, January 2, 1959, and 301  
May 17, 1959, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to 302  
begin January 4, 1967; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin 303  
January 5, 1969; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin May 1, 304  
1991; one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 6, 1993; 305  
and two to be elected in 2008, terms to begin January 5, 2009, 306  
and January 6, 2009, respectively. 307

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, in any county 308  
having two or more judges of the court of common pleas, in which 309  
more than one-third of the judges plus one were previously 310

elected at the same election, if the office of one of those 311  
judges so elected becomes vacant more than forty days prior to 312  
the second general election preceding the expiration of that 313  
judge's term, the office that that judge had filled shall be 314  
abolished as of the date of the next general election, and a new 315  
office of judge of the court of common pleas shall be created. 316  
The judge who is to fill that new office shall be elected for a 317  
six-year term at the next general election, and the term of that 318  
judge shall commence on the first day of the year following that 319  
general election, on which day no other judge's term begins, so 320  
that the number of judges that the county shall elect shall not 321  
be reduced. 322

Judges of the probate division of the court of common 323  
pleas are judges of the court of common pleas but shall be 324  
elected pursuant to sections 2101.02 and 2101.021 of the Revised 325  
Code, except in Adams, Harrison, Henry, Morgan, Noble, and 326  
Wyandot counties in which the judge of the court of common pleas 327  
elected pursuant to this section also shall serve as judge of 328  
the probate division, except in Lorain county in which the 329  
judges of the domestic relations division of the Lorain county 330  
court of common pleas elected pursuant to this section also 331  
shall perform the duties and functions of the judge of the 332  
probate division from February 9, 2009, through September 28, 333  
2009, and except in Morrow county in which the judges of the 334  
court of common pleas elected pursuant to this section also 335  
shall perform the duties and functions of the judge of the 336  
probate division. 337

**Sec. 2301.03.** (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the 338  
court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, 339  
January 2, 1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, and January 340  
2, 1997, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 341

exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 342  
compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of 343  
Franklin county and shall be elected and designated as judges of 344  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They 345  
shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all 346  
cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all 347  
parentage proceedings under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code 348  
over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 349  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 350  
shall be assigned to them. In addition to the judge's regular 351  
duties, the judge who is senior in point of service shall serve 352  
on the children services board and the county advisory board and 353  
shall be the administrator of the domestic relations division 354  
and its subdivisions and departments. 355

(B) In Hamilton county: 356

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term 357  
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the 358  
court of common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, 359  
and successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 360  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 361  
and jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. 362

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 363  
begin on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, 364  
and successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the 365  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall 366  
have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 367  
legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. 368  
On or after the first day of July and before the first day of 369  
August of 1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the 370  
judges of the division of domestic relations shall elect one of 371

the judges of the division as administrative judge of that 372  
division. If a majority of the judges of the division of 373  
domestic relations are unable for any reason to elect an 374  
administrative judge for the division before the first day of 375  
August, a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 376  
common pleas, as soon as possible after that date, shall elect 377  
one of the judges of the division of domestic relations as 378  
administrative judge of that division. The term of the 379  
administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the first day 380  
of August of the year in which the administrative judge is 381  
elected or the date on which the administrative judge is elected 382  
by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court of 383  
common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 384  
administrative judge's successor is elected in the following 385  
year. 386

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the 387  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall 388  
be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 389  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 390  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 391  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 392  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 393  
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary by 394  
the judges in the discharge of their various duties. 395

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 396  
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 397  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 398  
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 399  
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 400  
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall 401  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 402

dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 403  
and counseling and conciliation services that may be made 404  
available to persons requesting them, whether or not the persons 405  
are parties to an action pending in the division. 406

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the 407  
sum of money each year as will meet all the administrative 408  
expenses of the division of domestic relations, including 409  
reasonable expenses of the domestic relations judges and the 410  
division counselors and other employees designated to conduct 411  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 412  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 413  
conciliation and counseling, and all matters relating to those 414  
cases and counseling, and the expenses involved in the 415  
attendance of division personnel at domestic relations and 416  
welfare conferences designated by the division, and the further 417  
sum each year as will provide for the adequate operation of the 418  
division of domestic relations. 419

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the 420  
salary and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county 421  
treasurer from the money appropriated for the operation of the 422  
division, upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to 423  
by the administrative judge of the division of domestic 424  
relations. 425

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 426  
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or 427  
staff investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any 428  
county or any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the 429  
provisions of law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in 430  
other cases shall apply insofar as they are applicable. When a 431  
summons, warrant, citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to 432

an officer, other than a bailiff, constable, or staff 433  
investigator of the division, the expense of serving it shall be 434  
assessed as a part of the costs in the case involved. 435

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton 436  
county whose term begins on January 3, 1997, and the successors 437  
to that judge shall each be elected and designated as the drug 438  
court judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county. The 439  
drug court judge may accept or reject any case referred to the 440  
drug court judge under division (B) (3) of this section. After 441  
the drug court judge accepts a referred case, the drug court 442  
judge has full authority over the case, including the authority 443  
to conduct arraignment, accept pleas, enter findings and 444  
dispositions, conduct trials, order treatment, and if treatment 445  
is not successfully completed pronounce and enter sentence. 446

A judge of the general division of the court of common 447  
pleas of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county 448  
municipal court may refer to the drug court judge any case, and 449  
any companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria 450  
described under divisions (B) (3) (a) and (b) of this section. If 451  
the drug court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the 452  
case, and any companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug 453  
court judge. A judge may refer a case meeting the criteria 454  
described in divisions (B) (3) (a) and (b) of this section that 455  
involves a violation of a condition of a community control 456  
sanction to the drug court judge, and, if the drug court judge 457  
accepts the referral, the referring judge and the drug court 458  
judge have concurrent jurisdiction over the case. 459

A judge of the general division of the court of common 460  
pleas of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county 461  
municipal court may refer a case to the drug court judge under 462



division (B) (3) of this section if the judge determines that 463  
both of the following apply: 464

(a) One of the following applies: 465

(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in 466  
section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the 467  
third or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 468  
1, 1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the 469  
offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor. 470

(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in 471  
section 2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the 472  
third or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 473  
1, 1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the 474  
offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor, 475  
and the defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of 476  
becoming drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from 477  
treatment. 478

(b) All of the following apply: 479

(i) The case involves an offense for which a community 480  
control sanction may be imposed or is a case in which a 481  
mandatory prison term or a mandatory jail term is not required 482  
to be imposed. 483

(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior. 484

(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness. 485

(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is 486  
drug or alcohol driven. 487

(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to 488  
participate in a fifteen-month treatment process. 489

|   |   |
|---|---|
| (vi) The defendant has no acute health condition.   | 490   |
| (vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor approves of the referral.   | 491<br>492  |
| (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. | 493<br>494<br>495<br>496<br>497<br>498<br>499<br>500<br>501<br>502<br>503 |
| (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.   | 504<br>505<br>506<br>507  |
| (C) (1) In Lorain county:   | 508   |
| (a) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, and successors, and the judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on February 9, 2009, 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 Lorain county and shall be elected and designated as the judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and   | 509<br>510<br>511<br>512<br>513<br>514<br>515<br>516<br>517<br>518        |

January 2, 1999, and successors, shall have all of the powers 519  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 520  
and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over 521  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 522  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 523  
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special 524  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 525  
pleas. From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, the 526  
judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins on February 527  
9, 2009, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, 528  
and cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, 529  
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 530  
jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 531  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to that judge, 532  
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 533  
other judge of the court of common pleas. 534

(b) From January 1, 2006, through September 28, 2009, the 535  
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 536  
relations, in addition to the powers and jurisdiction set forth 537  
in division (C) (1) (a) of this section, shall have jurisdiction 538  
over matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate 539  
court under Chapter 2101. and other provisions of the Revised 540  
Code. 541

(c) The judge of the court of common pleas, division of 542  
domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, is 543  
the successor to the probate judge who was elected in 2002 for a 544  
term that began on February 9, 2003. After September 28, 2009, 545  
the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 546  
relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, shall be the 547  
probate judge. 548

(2) (a) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 549  
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 550  
probate court shall be construed as references to the court of 551  
common pleas, division of domestic relations, and all references 552  
to the probate judge shall be construed as references to the 553  
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 554  
relations. 555

(b) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 556  
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 557  
clerk of the probate court shall be construed as references to 558  
the judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 559  
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 560  
judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 561  
relations. 562

(D) In Lucas county: 563

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 564  
begin on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, 565  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 566  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 567  
of the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be 568  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 569  
division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 570  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be 571  
assigned to them. 572

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 573  
point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of 574  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 575  
shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of 576  
the work of the division and the employment and supervision of 577  
all other personnel of the domestic relations division. 578

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms  
begin on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, 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, shall be elected  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and  
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the  
judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas,  
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the  
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and  
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment,  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including  
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division  
in the discharge of their various duties.

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

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas,  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the  
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that

judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed 610  
by the judges of the other of those divisions. 611

(E) In Mahoning county: 612

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 613  
began on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 614  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 615  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 616  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 617  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 618  
relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce, dissolution of 619  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before 620  
the court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 621  
of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, 622  
shall be the administrator of the domestic relations division 623  
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 624  
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 625  
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 626  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 627  
annulment cases, including any referees considered necessary in 628  
the discharge of the various duties of the judge's office. 629

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 630  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 631  
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 632  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 633  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 634  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 635  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 636  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 637  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 638  
action pending in the division. 639

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 640  
began on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 641  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 642  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 643  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 644  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 645  
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 646  
2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions 647  
conferred by those chapters. In addition to the judge's regular 648  
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 649  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 650  
and its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of 651  
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 652  
the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 653  
juvenile cases, including any referees considered necessary by 654  
the judge in the discharge of the judge's various duties. 655

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 656  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 657  
the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 658  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 659  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 660  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling 661  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 662  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 663  
action pending in the division. 664

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 665  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 666  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of 667  
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that 668  
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court 669  
of common pleas. 670

(F) In Montgomery county: 671

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 672  
begin on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, 673  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 674  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 675  
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and shall be 676  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 677  
division of domestic relations. These judges shall have assigned 678  
to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 679  
and annulment cases. 680

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 681  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 682  
assignment and division of the work of the division and shall 683  
have charge of the employment and supervision of the personnel 684  
of the division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 685  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 686  
annulment cases, including any necessary referees, except those 687  
employees who may be appointed by the judge, junior in point of 688  
service, under this section and sections 2301.12 and 2301.18 of 689  
the Revised Code. The judge of the division of domestic 690  
relations, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 691  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 692  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 693  
fix their duties. 694

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 695  
begin on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, 696  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 697  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 698  
of the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be 699  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 700



juvenile division, and shall be, and have the powers and 701  
jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 702  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. 703

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 704  
the court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 705  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 706  
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 707  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 708  
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 709  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 710  
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 711  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 712  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 713  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 714  
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 715  
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 716  
conciliation services that are available upon request to 717  
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 718  
the division. 719

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 720  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 721  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 722  
unable to perform that judge's duties or the volume of cases 723  
pending in that judge's division necessitates it, the duties of 724  
that judge may be performed by the judge or judges of the other 725  
of those divisions. 726

(G) In Richland county: 727

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 728  
begins on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall have the same 729  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 730

receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 731  
of common pleas of Richland county and shall be elected and 732  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 733  
domestic relations. That judge shall be assigned and hear all 734  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 735  
annulment cases, all domestic violence cases arising under 736  
section 3113.31 of the Revised Code, and all post-decree 737  
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those 738  
matters. The division of domestic relations has concurrent 739  
jurisdiction with the juvenile division of the court of common 740  
pleas of Richland county to determine the care, custody, or 741  
control of any child not a ward of another court of this state, 742  
and to hear and determine a request for an order for the support 743  
of any child if the request is not ancillary to an action for 744  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal 745  
separation, a criminal or civil action involving an allegation 746  
of domestic violence, or an action for support brought under 747  
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. Except in cases that are 748  
subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile 749  
court, the judge of the division of domestic relations shall be 750  
assigned and hear all cases pertaining to paternity or 751  
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 752  
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 753  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children, all 754  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 755  
proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support 756  
act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, and all 757  
post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any 758  
of those matters. 759

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 760  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall 761

be the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 762  
subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the 763  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 764  
domestic relations division, including any magistrates the judge 765  
considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's duties. The 766  
judge shall also designate the title, compensation, expense 767  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, vacation, and other 768  
employment-related matters of the personnel of the division and 769  
shall fix their duties. 770

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 771  
begins on January 3, 2005, and successors, shall have the same 772  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 773  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 774  
common pleas of Richland county, shall be elected and designated 775  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 776  
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 777  
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 778  
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 779  
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 780  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 781  
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity or 782  
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 783  
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 784  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children or any 785  
post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any 786  
of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not 787  
have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 788  
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 789  
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 790

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 791  
the juvenile division shall be the administrator of the juvenile 792

division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall 793  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 794  
the personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in 795  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 796  
any magistrates whom the judge considers necessary for the 797  
discharge of the judge's various duties. 798

The judge of the juvenile division also shall designate 799  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 800  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 801  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 802  
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 803  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling, 804  
conciliation, and mediation services that the court makes 805  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 806  
an action pending in the court, who request the services. 807

(H) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common 808  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and 809  
January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same 810  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 811  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 812  
common pleas of Stark county and shall be elected and designated 813  
as judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 814  
relations. They shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 815  
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 816  
Revised Code, all parentage proceedings over which the juvenile 817  
court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of 818  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, except cases 819  
that are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 820  
pleas for some special reason, shall be assigned to the judges. 821

The judge of the division of domestic relations, second 822

most senior in point of service, shall have charge of the 823  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division 824  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 825  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 826  
and necessary referees required for the judge's respective 827  
court. 828

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 829  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 830  
administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 831  
2152.71 of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division 832  
of the work of the division and the employment and supervision 833  
of all other personnel of the division, including, but not 834  
limited to, that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those 835  
employees who may be appointed by the judge second most senior 836  
in point of service. The senior judge further shall serve in 837  
every other position in which the statutes permit or require a 838  
juvenile judge to serve. 839

(I) In Summit county: 840

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 841  
begin on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, 842  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 843  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 844  
of the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be 845  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 846  
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 847  
domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all 848  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 849  
annulment cases that come before the court. Except in cases that 850  
are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 851  
juvenile court, the judges of the division of domestic relations 852

shall have assigned to them and hear all cases pertaining to 853  
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation 854  
of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 855  
and all post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining 856  
to any of those matters. The judges of the division of domestic 857  
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all proceedings 858  
under the uniform interstate family support act contained in 859  
Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 860

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 861  
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 862  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and 863  
shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision 864  
of the personnel of the division, including any necessary 865  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 866  
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 867  
separation, and annulment cases. That judge also shall designate 868  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 869  
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 870  
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 871  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 872  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 873  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and of any 874  
counseling and conciliation services that are available upon 875  
request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 876  
action pending in the division. 877

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 878  
begins on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 879  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 880  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 881  
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated 882  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 883

shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 884  
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised 885  
Code. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 886  
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 887  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 888  
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, 889  
custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation of 890  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children or 891  
any post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to 892  
any of those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall 893  
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 894  
assigned, any proceeding under the uniform interstate family 895  
support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 896

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the 897  
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 898  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of 899  
the personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 900  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 901  
investigating juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the 902  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 903  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 904  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 905  
other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 906  
and investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 907  
conciliation services that are available upon request to 908  
persons, whether or not they are parties to an action pending in 909  
the division. 910

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 911  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 912  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 913  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 914

as other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county 915  
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 916  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 917  
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 918  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 919  
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 920  
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 921  
annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except cases that for 922  
some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 923  
court of common pleas. 924

(K) In Butler county: 925

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 926  
begin on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, 927  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 928  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 929  
of the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be 930  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 931  
division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of 932  
domestic relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, 933  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 934  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 935  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 936  
pleas. The judges of the division of domestic relations also 937  
have concurrent jurisdiction with judges of the juvenile 938  
division of the court of common pleas of Butler county with 939  
respect to and may hear cases to determine the custody, support, 940  
or custody and support of a child who is born of issue of a 941  
marriage and who is not the ward of another court of this state, 942  
cases commenced by a party of the marriage to obtain an order 943  
requiring support of any child when the request for that order 944  
is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 945



marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 946  
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 947  
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 948  
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 949  
juvenile division of the court of common pleas of Butler county 950  
and that involves an allegation that the child is an abused, 951  
neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree proceedings and 952  
matters arising from those types of cases. The judge senior in 953  
point of service shall be charged with the assignment and 954  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 955  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 956  
division. 957

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate 958  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 959  
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 960  
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition 961  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, 962  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 963  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and providing 964  
any counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 965  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 966  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 967

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms 968  
begin on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and successors, 969  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 970  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 971  
of the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall be elected 972  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 973  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in 974  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers 975  
and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. Except in cases 976

that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 977  
juvenile court, the judges of the juvenile division shall not 978  
have jurisdiction or the power to hear and shall not be 979  
assigned, but shall have the limited ability and authority to 980  
certify, any case commenced by a party of a marriage to 981  
determine the custody, support, or custody and support of a 982  
child who is born of issue of the marriage and who is not the 983  
ward of another court of this state when the request for the 984  
order in the case is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 985  
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation. The 986  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, who is 987  
senior in point of service, shall be the administrator of the 988  
juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The 989  
judge, senior in point of service, shall have charge of the 990  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 991  
juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 992  
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the 993  
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's 994  
various duties. 995

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall 996  
designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, 997  
leaves of absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division 998  
and shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in 999  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1000  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and providing any 1001  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1002  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1003  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1004

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1005  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1006  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 1007

cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 1008  
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 1009  
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 1010

(L) (1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of 1011  
common pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 1012  
1961, January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, 1013  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1014  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1015  
as other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county 1016  
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 1017  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 1018  
all the powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1019  
legal separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are 1020  
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas for 1021  
some special reason. 1022

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the 1023  
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments 1024  
and has the following powers concerning division personnel: 1025

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and 1026  
supervision; 1027

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses, 1028  
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations. 1029

(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or 1030  
referees engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, 1031  
counseling, or conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1032  
legal separation and annulment matters. 1033

(M) In Lake county: 1034

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1035  
begins on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1036

qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1037  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1038  
of common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and 1039  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1040  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce, 1041  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1042  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1043  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1044  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1045  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1046  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1047  
division. 1048

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1049  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1050  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1051  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1052  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1053  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1054  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1055  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1056  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1057  
division, who request the services. 1058

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1059  
begins on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 1060  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1061  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1062  
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 1063  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 1064  
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1065  
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by 1066  
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1067

division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 1068  
and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have 1069  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1070  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 1071  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 1072  
referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of 1073  
the judge's various duties. 1074

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1075  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 1076  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1077  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1078  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 1079  
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 1080  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1081  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1082  
request the services. 1083

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1084  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1085  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 1086  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the 1087  
duties of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of 1088  
the domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 1089

(N) In Erie county: 1090

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1091  
begins on January 2, 1971, and the successors to that judge 1092  
whose terms begin before January 2, 2007, shall have the same 1093  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1094  
receive the same compensation as the other judge of the court of 1095  
common pleas of Erie county and shall be elected and designated 1096  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1097

relations. The judge shall have all the powers relating to 1098  
juvenile courts, and shall be assigned all cases under Chapters 1099  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over 1100  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce, 1101  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1102  
except cases that for some special reason are assigned to some 1103  
other judge. 1104

On or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the court of 1105  
common pleas who is elected in 2006 shall be the successor to 1106  
the judge of the domestic relations division whose term expires 1107  
on January 1, 2007, shall be designated as judge of the court of 1108  
common pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge 1109  
as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with 1110  
the powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. 1111

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general 1112  
division, whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 1113  
the judge of the court of common pleas, general division whose 1114  
term begins on January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of 1115  
the court of common pleas, general division, whose term begins 1116  
February 9, 2009, and successors, shall have assigned to them, 1117  
in addition to all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 1118  
the general division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, 1119  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1120  
coming before the court, and all matters that are within the 1121  
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101., and other 1122  
provisions, of the Revised Code. 1123

(0) In Greene county: 1124

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1125  
begins on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1126  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1127

receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1128  
of common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and 1129  
designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 1130  
of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1131  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform 1132  
reciprocal support enforcement, and domestic violence cases and 1133  
all other cases related to domestic relations, except cases that 1134  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1135  
court of common pleas. 1136

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1137  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1138  
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge 1139  
also shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of 1140  
absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and 1141  
shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel of the 1142  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1143  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1144  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1145  
and the provision of counseling and conciliation services that 1146  
the division considers necessary and makes available to persons 1147  
who request the services, whether or not the persons are parties 1148  
in an action pending in the division. The compensation for the 1149  
personnel shall be paid from the overall court budget and shall 1150  
be included in the appropriations for the existing judges of the 1151  
general division of the court of common pleas. 1152

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term 1153  
begins on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same 1154  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1155  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1156  
of common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and 1157  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1158

division, and, on or after January 1, 1995, shall be the 1159  
juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1160  
Revised Code with the powers and jurisdiction conferred by those 1161  
chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1162  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division 1163  
and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have 1164  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 1165  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 1166  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 1167  
referees whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of 1168  
the judge's various duties. 1169

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1170  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of 1171  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1172  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1173  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile 1174  
cases and providing any counseling and conciliation services 1175  
that the court makes available to persons, whether or not the 1176  
persons are parties to an action pending in the court, who 1177  
request the services. 1178

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 1179  
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 1180  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 1181  
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of 1182  
the general division shall be performed by the judge of the 1183  
division of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile 1184  
division. 1185

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common 1186  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1187  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1188



jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1189  
judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall 1190  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1191  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1192  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1193  
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 1194  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1195  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1196  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1197  
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 1198  
domestic relations division. 1199

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1200  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1201  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1202  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1203  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1204  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1205  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1206  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1207  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1208  
division, who request the services. 1209

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 1210  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1211  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1212  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1213  
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 1214  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1215  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1216  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1217  
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 1218  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1219

court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1220  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1221  
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 1222  
domestic relations division. 1223

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1224  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1225  
the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1226  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1227  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1228  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1229  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1230  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1231  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1232  
division, who request the services. 1233

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common 1234  
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall 1235  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1236  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1237  
judges of the court of common pleas of Warren county and shall 1238  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1239  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1240  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1241  
annulment cases coming before the court, except in cases that 1242  
for some special reason are assigned to some other judge of the 1243  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1244  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1245  
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the 1246  
domestic relations division. 1247

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1248  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of 1249

the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The 1250  
duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, 1251  
shall include the handling, servicing, and investigation of 1252  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1253  
annulment cases and providing any counseling and conciliation 1254  
services that the division makes available to persons, whether 1255  
or not the persons are parties to an action pending in the 1256  
division, who request the services. 1257

(S) In Licking county, the judges of the court of common 1258  
pleas, whose terms begin on January 1, 1991, and January 1, 1259  
2005, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 1260  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1261  
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 1262  
Licking county and shall be elected and designated as judges of 1263  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The 1264  
judges shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1265  
legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising under 1266  
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1267  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1268  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1269  
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1270  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 1271  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 1272  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 1273  
of the court of common pleas. The administrative judge of the 1274  
division of domestic relations shall be charged with the 1275  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1276  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1277

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 1278  
relations shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1279  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1280

personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1281  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1282  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1283  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1284  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1285  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1286  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1287  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1288  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1289  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 1290  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1291  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1292  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1293

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common 1294  
pleas, whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 1295  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1296  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1297  
judges of the court of common pleas of Allen county and shall be 1298  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1299  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1300  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1301  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1302  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1303  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1304  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1305  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1306  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1307  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1308  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1309  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1310  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1311

supervision of the personnel of the division. 1312

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1313  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1314  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1315  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1316  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1317  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1318  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1319  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1320  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1321  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1322  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1323  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 1324  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1325  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1326  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1327

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common 1328  
pleas whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall 1329  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1330  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1331  
of the court of common pleas of Medina county and shall be 1332  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1333  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1334  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1335  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1336  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1337  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1338  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1339  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1340  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1341  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1342

reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1343  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1344  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1345  
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1346

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1347  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1348  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1349  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1350  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1351  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1352  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1353  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 1354  
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1355  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1356  
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1357  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 1358  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1359  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1360  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1361

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 1362  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1363  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1364  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1365  
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and 1366  
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1367  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 1368  
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1369  
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1370  
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1371  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1372  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1373

residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1374  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1375  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1376  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1377  
pleas. The judge also has concurrent jurisdiction with the 1378  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1379  
Fairfield county with respect to and may hear cases to determine 1380  
the custody of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 1381  
Revised Code, who is not the ward of another court of this 1382  
state, cases that are commenced by a parent, guardian, or 1383  
custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the 1384  
Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the child 1385  
to pay child support for that child when the request for that 1386  
order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of 1387  
marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 1388  
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action 1389  
for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an 1390  
action that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1391  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1392  
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 1393  
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 1394  
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 1395

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be 1396  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1397  
division and with the employment and supervision of the 1398  
personnel of the division. 1399

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1400  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1401  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1402  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1403  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1404

the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1405  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1406  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1407  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1408  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1409  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1410  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and providing any 1411  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1412  
available to persons, regardless of whether the persons are 1413  
parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1414  
services. When the judge hears a case to determine the custody 1415  
of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, 1416  
who is not the ward of another court of this state or a case 1417  
that is commenced by a parent, guardian, or custodian of a 1418  
child, as defined in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, to 1419  
obtain an order requiring a parent of the child to pay child 1420  
support for that child when the request for that order is not 1421  
ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1422  
annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil action 1423  
involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for 1424  
support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action 1425  
that is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1426  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1427  
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child 1428  
is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the duties of the 1429  
personnel of the domestic relations division also include the 1430  
handling, servicing, and investigation of those types of cases. 1431

(W) (1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 1432  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, 1433  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1434  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1435



of the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be 1436  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1437  
domestic relations division. The judge shall have all the powers 1438  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. 1439  
and 2152. of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings 1440  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 1441  
court has jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the 1442  
division of domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of 1443  
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal 1444  
support enforcement, and other cases related to domestic 1445  
relations shall be assigned to the domestic relations division, 1446  
and the presiding judge of the court of common pleas shall 1447  
assign the cases to the judge of the domestic relations division 1448  
and the judges of the general division. 1449

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge 1450  
of the division of domestic relations shall serve on the 1451  
children services board and the county advisory board. 1452

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 1453  
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or 1454  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the 1455  
presiding judge of the court of common pleas of Clark county 1456  
determines that the volume of cases pending in the division of 1457  
domestic relations necessitates it, the duties of the judge of 1458  
the division of domestic relations shall be performed by the 1459  
judges of the general division or probate division of the court 1460  
of common pleas of Clark county, as assigned for that purpose by 1461  
the presiding judge of that court, and the judges so assigned 1462  
shall act in conjunction with the judge of the division of 1463  
domestic relations of that court. 1464

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common 1465

pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1466  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1467  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges 1468  
of the court of common pleas of Scioto county and shall be 1469  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1470  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1471  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1472  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1473  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1474  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1475  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1476  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, visitation, and 1477  
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1478  
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason 1479  
are assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The 1480  
judge shall be charged with the assignment and division of the 1481  
work of the division and with the employment and supervision of 1482  
the personnel of the division. 1483

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1484  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1485  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1486  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1487  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1488  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1489  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1490  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings 1491  
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1492  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation 1493  
for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1494  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing counseling and 1495  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1496

persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1497  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1498

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and 1499  
juvenile divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas 1500  
also shall be the administrative judge of the domestic relations 1501  
division of the court and shall be assigned all divorce, 1502  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1503  
coming before the court. The judge shall have all powers as 1504  
administrator of the domestic relations division and shall have 1505  
charge of the personnel engaged in handling, servicing, or 1506  
investigating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1507  
separation, and annulment cases, including any referees 1508  
considered necessary for the discharge of the judge's various 1509  
duties. 1510

(Z) (1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 1511  
pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors 1512  
to that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1513  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1514  
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion 1515  
county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court 1516  
of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. 1517  
Except as otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and 1518  
the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating 1519  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 1520  
of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1521  
the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1522  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1523  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1524  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 1525  
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1526  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1527

from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1528  
and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division 1529  
(Z) (2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision 1530  
of any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 1531  
2003, the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county 1532  
whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 1533  
that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 1534  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county in 1535  
addition to the powers previously specified in this division, 1536  
and shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 1537  
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 1538  
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 1539  
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 1540  
addition to the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1541  
probate division of that court otherwise specified in division 1542  
(Z) (1) of this section. 1543

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1544  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the 1545  
judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 1546  
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total 1547  
length of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county, 1548  
regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve 1549  
as the clerk of the probate division of the court of common 1550  
pleas of Marion county. 1551

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law 1552  
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 1553  
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, 1554  
with respect to Marion county, as being references to both "the 1555  
probate division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1556  
division" and as being references to both "the judge of the 1557  
probate division" and "the judge of the domestic relations- 1558

juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all 1559  
references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be 1560  
construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to 1561  
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this 1562  
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of 1563  
common pleas of Marion county. 1564

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common 1565  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, 1566  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1567  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1568  
judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and 1569  
shall be elected and designated as the judge of the court of 1570  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be 1571  
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1572  
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1573  
the Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1574  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1575  
of children and the designation for the children of a place of 1576  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, 1577  
and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those 1578  
cases and proceedings, except in cases that for some special 1579  
reason are assigned to another judge of the court of common 1580  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1581  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1582  
supervision of the personnel of the division. 1583

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1584  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1585  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1586  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1587  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include 1588  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1589

dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1590  
cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and 1591  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1592  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1593  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1594  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation and providing any 1595  
counseling and conciliation services that the division makes 1596  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to 1597  
an action pending in the division, who request the services. 1598

(BB) In Henry county, the judge of the court of common 1599  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, 1600  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1601  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1602  
judge of the court of common pleas of Henry county and shall be 1603  
elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1604  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall have all 1605  
of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 1606  
Chapter 2151. or 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 1607  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over 1608  
which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, all divorce, 1609  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1610  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1611  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children 1612  
and the designation for the children of a place of residence and 1613  
legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post- 1614  
decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and 1615  
proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases 1616  
that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of 1617  
the court of common pleas. 1618

(CC) (1) In Logan county, the judge of the court of common 1619  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 2005, and the successors to 1620

that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1621  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation 1622  
as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Logan county 1623  
and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of 1624  
common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. 1625  
Except as otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and 1626  
the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating 1627  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 1628  
of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of 1629  
the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1630  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1631  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1632  
for the care of children and designation for the children of a 1633  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1634  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1635  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1636  
and the successors to that judge. Notwithstanding any other 1637  
provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 1638  
January 2, 2005, the judge of the court of common pleas of Logan 1639  
county whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and the successors 1640  
to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate 1641  
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county in 1642  
addition to the powers previously specified in this division and 1643  
shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the 1644  
probate division of that court over all matters that are within 1645  
the jurisdiction of the probate division of that court under 1646  
Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in 1647  
addition to the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1648  
probate division of that court otherwise specified in division 1649  
(CC) (1) of this section. 1650

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1651

division of the court of common pleas of Logan county or the 1652  
probate judge of the court of common pleas of Logan county who 1653  
is elected as the administrative judge of the probate division 1654  
of the court of common pleas of Logan county pursuant to Rule 4 1655  
of the Rules of Superintendence shall be the clerk of the 1656  
probate division and juvenile division of the court of common 1657  
pleas of Logan county. The clerk of the court of common pleas 1658  
who is elected pursuant to section 2303.01 of the Revised Code 1659  
shall keep all of the journals, records, books, papers, and 1660  
files pertaining to the domestic relations cases. 1661

(3) On and after January 2, 2005, all references in law to 1662  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," 1663  
or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with 1664  
respect to Logan county, as being references to both "the 1665  
probate division" and the "domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1666  
division" and as being references to both "the judge of the 1667  
probate division" and the "judge of the domestic relations- 1668  
juvenile-probate division." On and after January 2, 2005, all 1669  
references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be 1670  
construed, with respect to Logan county, as being references to 1671  
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (CC) (2) of this 1672  
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of 1673  
common pleas of Logan county. 1674

(DD) (1) In Champaign county, the judge of the court of 1675  
common pleas whose term begins February 9, 2003, and the judge 1676  
of the court of common pleas whose term begins February 10, 1677  
2009, and the successors to those judges, shall have the same 1678  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1679  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1680  
of common pleas of Champaign county and shall be elected and 1681  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, domestic 1682



relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as otherwise 1683  
specified in this division, those judges, and the successors to 1684  
those judges, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile 1685  
courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1686  
Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1687  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1688  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1689  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1690  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of 1691  
a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1692  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1693  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to those 1694  
judges and the successors to those judges. Notwithstanding any 1695  
other provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after 1696  
February 9, 2009, the judges designated by this division as 1697  
judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign county, 1698  
domestic relations-juvenile-probate division, and the successors 1699  
to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to probate 1700  
courts in addition to the powers previously specified in this 1701  
division and shall exercise jurisdiction over all matters that 1702  
are within the jurisdiction of probate courts under Chapter 1703  
2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to 1704  
the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1705  
division otherwise specified in division (DD)(1) of this 1706  
section. 1707

(2) On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law 1708  
to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile 1709  
court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed 1710  
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 1711  
"domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being 1712  
references to the "judge of the domestic relations-juvenile- 1713

probate division." On and after February 9, 2009, all references 1714  
in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be construed 1715  
with respect to Champaign county as being references to the 1716  
judge who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of 1717  
Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative 1718  
judge of the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile- 1719  
probate division. 1720

(EE) In Delaware county, the judge of the court of common 1721  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2017, and successors, 1722  
shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1723  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1724  
judges of the court of common pleas of Delaware county and shall 1725  
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1726  
pleas, division of domestic relations. Divorce, dissolution of 1727  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, including any 1728  
post-decree proceedings, and cases involving questions of 1729  
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, and the 1730  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care 1731  
of children, regardless of whether those matters arise in post- 1732  
decree proceedings or involve children born between unmarried 1733  
persons, shall be assigned to that judge, except cases that for 1734  
some special reason are assigned to another judge of the court 1735  
of common pleas. 1736

(FF) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1737  
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 1738  
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 1739  
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in 1740  
the judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge 1741  
shall be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas 1742  
of that county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge 1743  
of the court of common pleas of that county to act in place of 1744

or in conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 1745

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 1746  
2301.03 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1747