

PUBLIC NOTICE of

CARBON COUNTY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT REESTABLISHMENT

The Carbon County Court of Common Pleas hereby notifies the public that it has completed its review of the boundaries for Magisterial District Courts 56-3-01 (Jim Thorpe), 56-3-02 (Palmerton), 56-3-03 (Lansford), and 56-3-04 (Weatherly) based upon the following factors: Final results of the 2021 U.S. Census, caseload and workload data provided by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and consultation with the respective Magisterial District Judges.

Pennsylvania statute requires the Court to review the boundaries of the Magisterial District Courts every ten (10) years after the U.S. Census is completed. At this time, President Judge Roger N. Nanovic is recommending to the PA Supreme Court that the boundaries of the four (4) District Courts in Carbon County should be reestablished in their current configuration for the next ten-year period of 2023-2032. Following is a list of the respective townships and boroughs within each District Court's jurisdiction.

56-3-01 (Jim Thorpe): Carbon County, Jim Thorpe Borough, Lehighon Borough, Mahoning Township (Packer-Jamestown), Penn Forest Township, Weissport Borough.

56-3-02 (Palmerton): Bowmanstown Borough, Carbon County, Franklin Township, Lower Towamensing Township, Palmerton Borough, Parryville Borough, Towamensing Township.

56-3-03 (Lansford): Carbon County, East Penn Township, Lansford Borough, Mahoning Township (Mahoning, New Mahoning), Nesquehoning Borough, Summit Hill Borough.

56-3-04 (Weatherly): Banks Township, Beaver Meadows Borough, Carbon County, East Side Borough, Kidder Township, Lausanne Township, Lehigh Township, Packer Township, Weatherly Borough.

The proposed plan is published on the websites of the Court, www.carboncourts.com, and the County, www.carboncounty.net for the next thirty (30) days to allow for public comments to be submitted to the Court. Comments may be emailed to info@carboncourts.com or mailed to: Gregory T. Armstrong, District Court Administrator, Carbon County Courthouse, P.O. Box 131, 4 Broadway, Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania. All comments must be submitted in writing by Thursday, February 17th, 2022.

Plan Memorandum

Re: Magisterial District Reestablishment 2022
Carbon County
56th Judicial District

Date: January 18, 2022

As part of the decennial magisterial district reestablishment process for 2022, the 56th Judicial District (i.e., Carbon County) has prepared and evaluated a Judicial District Summary Worksheet for the County and a Magisterial District Summary Worksheet for each of the four magisterial districts within the County. Copies of these worksheets are attached to this Memorandum.

Carbon County is a sixth class county with a population, according to the most recent federal decennial census, of 64,749, which has remained relatively constant since the previous decennial count. The average total caseload for the County, as stated on the attached Judicial District Summary Worksheet, is 5,497. The average total caseload range for counties of the sixth class is 2,133 at the low end and 5,497 at the high end, with an average total caseload of 3,230. At 5,497, Carbon County has the highest caseload of all sixth class counties within the State.

Expounding upon the District's caseload, which is a numerical count of case filings, the County's average annual workload per magisterial district court - a "weighted caseload" computed by assigning a weight based on the average amount of judge time required to process each type of case - is 38,398. This also places Carbon County first among the twenty-four (24) counties in the sixth class which has a workload range varying from 15,937 to 38,398. The average annual workload for magisterial district courts in sixth class counties is 23,838.

The caseload and workload studies for the District support and justify the need for four magisterial district courts within the 56th Judicial District and, to some

extent, lend support for the creation of a fifth magisterial district court as the case filings in the District increase.

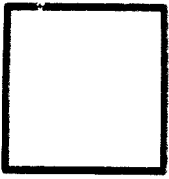
The four magisterial district courts which currently exist in Carbon County are Magisterial District No. 56-3-01 (Jim Thorpe), Magisterial District No. 56-3-02 (Palmerton), Magisterial District No. 56-3-03 (Lansford), and Magisterial District No. 56-3-04 (Weatherly). In the magisterial district reestablishment for 2012, a realignment for Magisterial Districts 56-3-01, 56-3-02, and 56-3-03 took place, with reestablishment of Magisterial District 56-3-04. This realignment occurred in order to equitably distribute the workload among the magisterial district judges within the County.

As depicted on the Magisterial District Summary Worksheets for each of the four magisterial districts within Carbon County, the workload within each of these districts is within 7.3% of the Judicial District's average total workload. When rounded to the nearest whole percentage, no magisterial district has a total workload which is 15% higher or lower than the workload of any other district. While the workload for District 56-3-04 is the lowest among Carbon County's magisterial districts, this workload has continued to increase since the last magisterial district reestablishment in large part due to the increased number of traffic citations resulting from trucking enforcement units set up by the Pennsylvania State Police on Interstate 80. It is also important to keep in mind that the geography and topography of Carbon County, combined with the existing roadways, cause the district court in this district to be more difficult to access from other areas in the County and would cause greater inconvenience to the public if cases from other municipalities or parts of municipalities were assigned to this district to shift workload from the other district courts in the County. See attached mapping of the four magisterial districts within the County. Even so, the average workload for District 56-3-04 at 35,674 is far in excess of the overall average workload in counties of the sixth class.

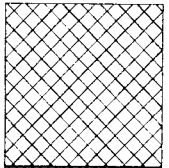
After consideration of all the data assembled and the summary of this data appearing on the attached worksheets for the County and for each magisterial district court within the County, as well as comparison with the case and work loads of other counties of the sixth class, the proposal being submitted

to the Supreme Court for the 2022 magisterial district reestablishment is that the number of magisterial district courts within the 56th District and the boundaries of these district courts remain the same, that is that each magisterial district court be reestablished.

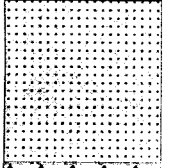
Carbon County 56th Judicial District Magisterial Districts



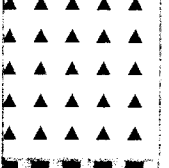
Municipal Boundaries



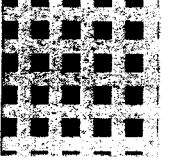
DISTRICT COURT 56-03-01
District Judge Eric M. Schrantz
340 Center Avenue
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
(P) 570-325-2751
(F) 570-325-5538



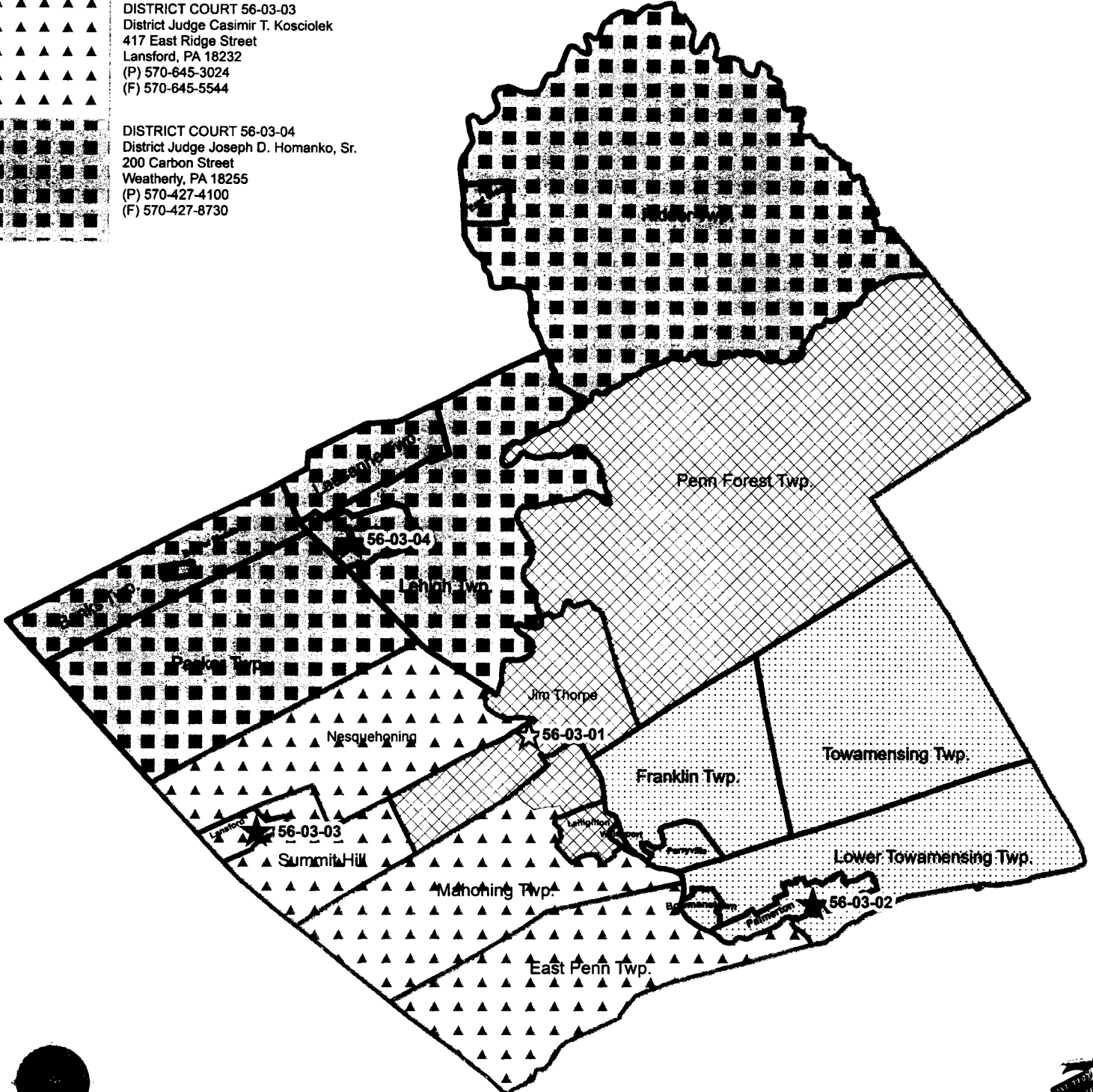
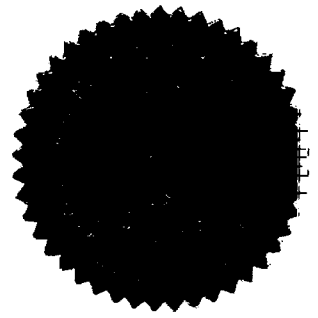
DISTRICT COURT 56-03-02
District Judge William J. Kissner
401 Delaware Avenue, 2nd Floor
Palmerton, PA 18071
(P) 610-826-3707
(F) 610-826-6914



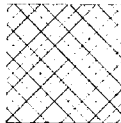
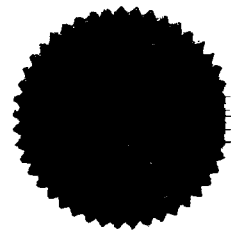
DISTRICT COURT 56-03-03
District Judge Casimir T. Kosciolk
417 East Ridge Street
Lansford, PA 18232
(P) 570-645-3024
(F) 570-645-5544



DISTRICT COURT 56-03-04
District Judge Joseph D. Homanko, Sr.
200 Carbon Street
Weatherly, PA 18255
(P) 570-427-4100
(F) 570-427-8730



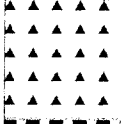
Carbon County 56th Judicial District Magisterial Districts



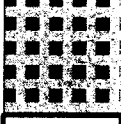
DISTRICT COURT 56-03-01
District Judge Eric M. Schrantz
340 Center Avenue
Jim Thorpe, PA 18229
(P) 570-326-2751
(F) 570-325-5538



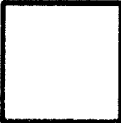
DISTRICT COURT 56-03-02
District Judge William J. Kiesner
401 Delaware Avenue, 2nd Floor
Palmerton, PA 18071
(P) 610-826-3707
(F) 610-826-6914



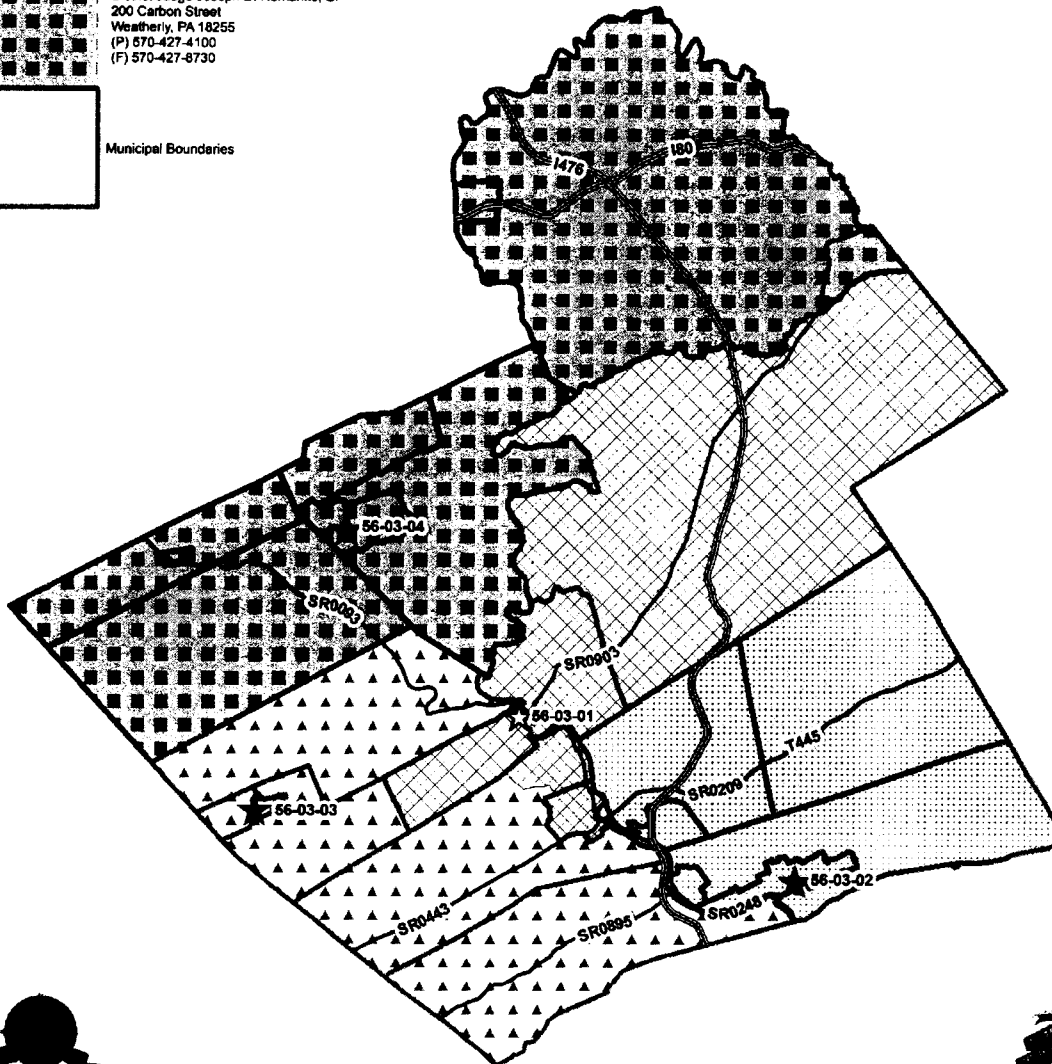
DISTRICT COURT 56-03-03
District Judge Casimir T. Kosciolok
417 East Ridge Street
Lansford, PA 18232
(P) 570-645-3024
(F) 570-645-5544



DISTRICT COURT 56-03-04
District Judge Joseph D. Homanko, Sr
200 Carbon Street
Weatherly, PA 18255
(P) 570-427-4100
(F) 570-427-8730



Municipal Boundaries



Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	56-3-01	County:	Carbon
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>	<i>Class of County</i>
	4,719	5,497	3,230
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		-778	3rd out of 4
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		1489	46 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the petition that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:		<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>
		41,220	38,398
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Total Difference</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		2,822	7.3 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the petition</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Eric M. Schrantz</p> <p><i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>12/31/23</p> <p><i>Term Expiration Date</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p></p> <p><i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i></p> </div> </div>	
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">340 Center Avenue Jim Thorpe, PA 18229</p>	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES, please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Jim Thorpe, Lehighon, Mahoning Township, Pennsylvania State Police (Fern Ridge, Lehighon, Pocono),</p>	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">I-476, PA Routes 209, 443, 903</p>	
18. List the <u>current</u> municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click <u>HERE</u> for Realignment Orders submitted in the past. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Carbon County, Jim Thorpe Boro, Lehighon Boro, Mahoning Township (Packer-Jamestown voting district), Penn Forest Township, Weissport Boro</p>	
19. Are the <u>proposed</u> municipalities the same as above? If NO, please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	Yes
20. Additional Comments: <div style="height: 100px;"></div>	

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	56-3-02	County:	Carbon
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023	
Caseload Analysis			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>	<i>Class of County</i>
	4,930	5,497	3,230
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>Ranking</i> <i>Total</i>
		-567	2nd out of 4
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		1700	52 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the petition that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
Workload Analysis			
7. Average total workloads:		<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>
		39,132	38,398
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Total Difference</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		734	1.9 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the petition</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>William J. Kissner <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>12/31/23 <i>Term Expiration Date</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><i>Birthdate</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i></p> </div> </div>	
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location: <p>401 Delaware Avenue 2nd Floor Palmerton, PA 18071</p>	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	<p>Yes</p>
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	<p>Yes</p>
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	<p>Yes</p>
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES, please summarize your response below. <p>St. Luke's Hospital Network will open a new hospital in this district in 2022. The effect is unknown at this time. Also, Beltzville State Park saw exceptionally high enforcement efforts during the past two years.</p>	
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district. <p>Franklin Township, Palmerton Borough, PA State Police (Lehighton, Pocono)</p>	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district. <p>I-476, PA Routes 209, 248, 895</p>	
18. List the <u>current</u> municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past. <p>Bowmanstown Boro, Carbon County, Franklin Twp, Lower Towamensing Twp, Palmerton Boro, Parryville Boro, Towamensing Twp</p>	
19. Are the <u>proposed</u> municipalities the same as above? If NO, please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	<p>Yes</p>
20. Additional Comments: 	

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

Start by saving the fillable worksheet template locally on your system as a PDF form. Then, open and complete the worksheets in a PDF browser (not a web browser) to ensure all options and functionality are available. Answer the questions by typing or selecting responses. Press TAB or click on a field to advance. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	56-3-03	County:	Carbon	
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023		
Caseload Analysis				
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>	<i>Class of County</i>	
	3,081	5,497	3,230	
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Total</i>
		-2416	4th	out of 4
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>	
		-149	-5 %	
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the petition that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.				
Workload Analysis				
7. Average total workloads:		<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>	
		37,567	38,398	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Total Difference</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>	
		-831	-2 %	
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the petition</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.				

Magisterial District Information									
<p>10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px;">Casimir T. Kosciolk</td> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px; text-align: right;">12/31/23</td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"><i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"><i>Birthdate</i></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"><i>Term Expiration Date</i></td> <td style="padding: 5px;"><i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i></td> </tr> </table>		Casimir T. Kosciolk	12/31/23			<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
Casimir T. Kosciolk	12/31/23								
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>						
<p>11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">417 East Ridge Street Lansford, PA 18232</p>									
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes								
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	Yes								
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	Yes								
<p>15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES, please summarize your response below.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">A Lehigh Valley Hospital facility is planned for Mahoning Township. The effect is unknown at this time.</p>									
<p>16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Lansford Boro, Mahoning Twp, Nesquehoning Boro, Summit Hill Boro, PA State Police (Lehighon, Pocono)</p>									
<p>17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">PA Routes 54, 209, 443, 902, 895</p>									
<p>18. List the current municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Carbon County, East Penn Twp, Lansford Boro, Mahoning Twp (Mahoning, New Mahoning), Nesquehoning Boro, Summit Hill Boro</p>									
19. Are the proposed municipalities the same as above? If NO , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	Yes								
<p>20. Additional Comments:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">District Court 56-3-03's case filings decreased 8.6% from 2012 to 2019. However, workload increased 26.9% over the same time period due to increased criminal filings in the jurisdiction.</p>									

Magisterial District Summary Worksheet - Reestablishment 2021-2022

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Magisterial District Court Number:	56-3-04	County:	Carbon	
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish		2. Effective date: 1/1/2023		
Caseload Analysis				
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>	<i>Class of County</i>	
	9,232	5,497	3,230	
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Total</i>
		3735	1st	out of 4
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i># of Cases</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>	
		6002	185 %	
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range and you are proposing to reestablish (no changes), please summarize your response from the petition that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.				
Workload Analysis				
7. Average total workloads:		<i>Magisterial District</i>	<i>Judicial District</i>	
		35,674	38,398	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Total Difference</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>	
		-2,724	-7 %	
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload and you are proposing to reestablish this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the petition</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.				

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Joseph D. Homanko, Sr.</p> <p><i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>12/31/28</p> <p><i>Term Expiration Date</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p></p> <p><i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i></p> </div> </div>	
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">71 W. Main Street Weatherly, PA 18225</p>	
12. Is this court within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
13. Is the MDJ's residence within the boundaries of the magisterial district?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
14. Are all portions of the magisterial district contiguous?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
15. To the best of your knowledge, are there any planned developments such as a mall, highway expansion or gas drilling that will likely cause an increase in the case filings for this office? If YES, please summarize your response below. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Kidder Township Industrial Park is under construction. The likely impact will be in Traffic enforcement due to increased truck traffic through the Township.</p>	
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Beaver Meadows Boro, Kidder Twp, Weatherly Boro, PA State Police (Fern Ridge, Hazleton, Pocono, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">I-80, I-476, PA Routes 93, 534, 903, 940,</p>	
18. List the <u>current</u> municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Banks Twp, Beaver Meadows Boro, Carbon County, East Side Boro, Kidder Twp, Lausanne Twp, Lehigh Twp, Packer Twp, Weatherly Boro</p>	
19. Are the <u>proposed</u> municipalities the same as above? If NO, please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
20. Additional Comments: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Pennsylvania State Police traffic enforcement in Kidder Township has increased noticeably since 2016 which continues to drive increased Traffic caseloads, particularly for trucking violation enforcement. The Traffic caseload is among the largest of all district courts in the Commonwealth.</p>	