HUNTINGDON COUNTY MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT PLAN 2022

HUNTINGDON COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Introduction

Huntingdon County's 20th Judicial District was advised by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts of its requirements under 42 Pa. C.S.A. § 1503, to participate in the reestablishment of the Huntingdon County Magisterial District Courts. This event was last undertaken in 2012, when Magisterial District Court 20-3-03 was eliminated.

The following factors were taken into consideration during the development of this plan:

- Guidelines set forth by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts
- Criminal case filings and workload, non-traffic case filings and workload, private criminal filings and workload, private summary filings and workload, traffic filings and workload, landlord / tenant filings and workload, all from 2014-2019.
- Municipality populations
- Facility limitations

This proposal will be posted on the Huntingdon County Court Website at www.huntingdoncountycourt.net as well as at the Huntingdon County Courthouse and all Huntingdon County Magisterial District Courts for 30 days. (January 1, 2022 until January 31, 2022)

Public comment can be received at:

Huntingdon County Court Administration

Angela Robinson, District Court Administrator

223 Penn Street, Courthouse

Huntingdon, PA 16652

OR

huntingdoncountycourts@huntingdoncounty.net

BACKGROUND

Huntingdon County is a class 6 county with 3 Magisterial District Courts. Huntingdon County ranks 21st out of 24 of the class 6 counties in filings and workload of the Magisterial District Courts. Huntingdon County is a large rural county with a land area of 875 square miles and population of 44,092 according to 2020 census data.

In 2012 Huntingdon County participated in the reestablishment evaluation of the Magisterial District Courts. It was recommended by the District Court Administrator and President Judge, at that time, to eliminated Magisterial District Court 20-3-03 and realign Magisterial District Courts 20-3-01, 20-3-02, and 20-3-04. The recommendation was adopted by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

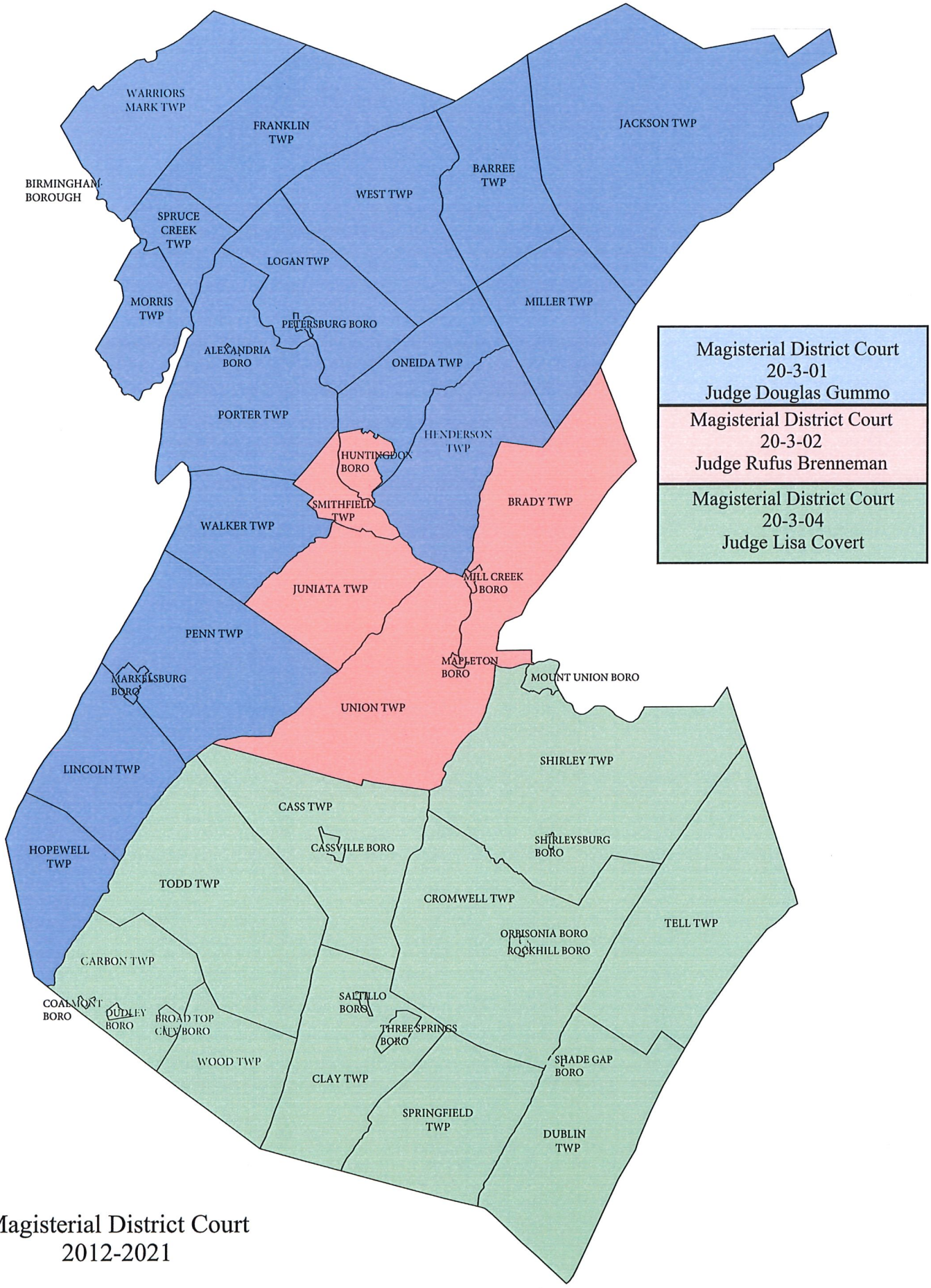
DATA EVALUATION

Case filings statistics by case type for a six-year period (2014-2019) for each magisterial district within your judicial district, for each year and also an average for the six-year period. The statistics are broken down by municipality for criminal, traffic, non-traffic and private summary filings, but we are not able to provide a breakdown by ward within a municipality. Civil, landlord-tenant and miscellaneous docket statistics are only available by magisterial district. Miscellaneous docket data will be provided for 2017-2019 and also an average for the three-year period. Because of the judicial emergency, the 2020 statistics were excluded from the averaging since they are likely not representative of the typical filings in each district.

Average filings per magisterial district are provided by case type by district for each county and class of county statewide.

Workload statistics for each of your magisterial districts, which are a reflection of how much judge time is required to handle the mix of case types each district has. It is calculated by using case weights for each case type which were derived from an empirical study of how much judge time, on average, is needed to handle each type of case. Actual case filings are then adjusted by the weights derived from the study, which enables you to better balance each MDJ's workload, not just the case filings.

All of the data evaluated was provided by the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts.



Magisterial District Court
2012-2021

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Judicial 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 worksheet 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. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint. Complete one worksheet or one for each county if you are a joint judicial district.

Judicial District Number:	20	**County:**	Huntingdon	**Class of County:**	6

1. List the existing magisterial districts in your judicial district (##-#-##):

   20-3-01
   20-3-02
   20-3-04

Caseload Analysis

2. Average total caseloads:	*Avg for Judicial District*	*Avg for Class of County*
	A. 2,230	B. 3,230

3. Compare the difference between the caseload average of your judicial district to the class of county.	*Difference (2A - 2B)*	*Ranking*	*Total*
	-1000	21 *out of*	24

4. Is your judicial district caseload average at the lower end of the caseload range when compared to the other judicial districts in your class of county?	Yes

Proposed Actions

5. Are any magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment? **Yes**

   If **YES**, list the magisterial districts proposed for reestablishment (no changes).

   20-3-04

6. Are any magisterial district proposed for realignment? **Yes**

   If **YES,** list the magisterial districts proposed for realignment (changes).

   20-3-01
   20-3-02

7. Are any magisterial districts proposed for elimination? **No**

   If **YES**, list the magisterial districts proposed for elimination.

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Additional Workload Factors	
8. Do you have a night court operating within the judicial district?	No
9. Do you have a central court within your judicial district?	Yes
10. Do you have any special programs that will entail effort by the MDJs such as truancy programs or drug, DUI, veteran, or mental health diversion programs? If **YES,** briefly explain the types of programs.	No

Final Checklist	
11. Was a request for public comment posted?	Yes
12. Method of posting - electronic, physical copy, or both?	Both
13. Were media outlets notified?	Yes
14. Were public comments received?	
15. Did you include a copy of the posting and public comments in your submission?	Yes
16. Did you complete summary worksheets for all magisterial districts?	Yes
17. Did you include your petition and all supporting documentation, if applicable?	Yes
18. Did you confer with the MDJs in your county?	Yes

19. Additional Remarks

Verification of Submission
20. Date submitted to AOPC:
21. President Judge Name: George N. Zanic
Signature _____

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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. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	20-3-01	**County:**	Huntingdon

1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign

2. Effective date: 3/1/2022

Caseload Analysis

3. Average total caseloads:	*Avg for Magisterial District*	*Avg for Judicial District*	*Avg for Class of County*
	A. 2,692	B. 2,230	C. 3,230

4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.	*Difference (3A - 3B)*	*Ranking*	*Total*
	462	1st	*out of* 3

5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.	*Difference (3A - 3C)*	*% Above/Below*
	-538	-17 %

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 plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.

Workload Analysis

7. Average total workloads:	*Avg for Magisterial District*	*Avg for Judicial District*
	A. 17,389	B. 19,621

8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.	*Difference (7A - 7B)*	*% Above/Below*
	-2,232	-11 %

9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent *higher or lower than* your judicial district average workload **and** you are proposing to **reestablish** this magisterial district, please explain (*summarize your response from the plan*) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.

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Magisterial District Information

10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:

Magisterial District Judge Name	Birthdate	Term Expiration Date	Mandatory Retirement Date
Douglas L. Gummo		1/1/26	1/1/44

11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:

7561 Bridge Street, Alexandria, PA 16611

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.

Pennsylvania State Police

17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.

William Penn Highway (SR 22)

18. List the **current** municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.

Alexandria Borough	Jackson Township	Oneida Township	Warriors Mark Township
Barree Township	Lincoln Township	Penn Township	West Township
Birmingham Borough	Logan Township	Petersburg Borough	
Franklin Township	Marklesburg Borough	Porter Township	
Henderson Township	Miller Township	Spruce Creek Township	
Hopewell Township	Morris Township	Walker Township	

19. Are the **proposed** municipalities the same as above? No

If **NO**, please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).

Alexandria Borough	Jackson Township	Oneida Township	Warriors Mark Township
Barree Township	Lincoln Township	Penn Township	West Township
Birmingham Borough	Logan Township	Petersburg Borough	
Franklin Township	Marklesburg Borough	Porter Township	
Henderson Township	Miller Township	Spruce Creek Township	
	Morris Township	Walker Township	

20. Additional Comments:

Henderson Township would be removed from 20-3-01 and moved into the 20-3-02. This move would make the caseload and workload more equitable but also better serve Huntingdon County residents. Henderson Township is located closer to 20-3-02 than 20-3-01.

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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. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	20-3-02	**County:**	Huntingdon

1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Realign
2. Effective date: 3/1/2022

Caseload Analysis

3. Average total caseloads:	*Avg for Magisterial District*	*Avg for Judicial District*	*Avg for Class of County*
	A. 2,018	B. 2,230	C. 3,230

4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.	*Difference (3A - 3B)*	*Ranking*	*Total*
	-212	2nd	*out of* 3

5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.	*Difference (3A - 3C)*	*% Above/Below*
	-1212	-38 %

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 plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.

Workload Analysis

7. Average total workloads:	*Avg for Magisterial District*	*Avg for Judicial District*
	A. 22,245	B. 19,622

8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.	*Difference (7A - 7B)*	*% Above/Below*
	2,623	+13 %

9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent *higher or lower than* your judicial district average workload **and** you are proposing to **reestablish** this magisterial district, please explain (*summarize your response from the plan*) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.

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Magisterial District Information

10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:

Magisterial District Judge Name	Birthdate	Term Expiration Date	Mandatory Retirement Date
Rufus S. Brenneman		12/31/23	1/1/42

11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:

233 Penn Street, Bailey Building, Huntingdon, PA 16652

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.

Pennsylvania State Police, Huntingdon Borough Police

17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.

Willliam Penn Highway (SR 22)

18. List the **current** municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.

Brady Township
Huntingdon Borough
Juniata Township
Mapleton Borough
Mill Creek Borough
Smithfield Township
Union Township

19. Are the **proposed** municipalities the same as above? If **NO**, please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	No

Brady Township
Henderson Township
Huntingdon Borough
Juniata Township
Mapleton Borough
Mill Creek Borough
Smithfield Township
Union Township

20. Additional Comments:

Henderson Township would be removed from 20-3-01 and moved into the 20-3-02 jurisdiction. This move would make the caseload and workload more equitable but also better serve Huntingdon County Residents. Henderson Township is located closer to 20-3-02 than 20-3-01.

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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. Hover the fields for tips and instructions. Save and upload the completed form to SharePoint.

Magisterial District Court Number:	20-3-04	**County:**	Huntingdon

1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish

2. Effective date: 3/1/2022

Caseload Analysis

	Avg for Magisterial District	*Avg for Judicial District*	*Avg for Class of County*
3. Average total caseloads:	A. 1,980	B. 2,230	C. 3,230

	Difference (3A - 3B)	*Ranking*	*Total*
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.	-250	3	*out of* 3

	Difference (3A - 3C)	*% Above/Below*
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.	-1250	-39 %

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 plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.

land area and workload

Workload Analysis

	Avg for Magisterial District	*Avg for Judicial District*
7. Average total workloads:	A. 19,230	B. 19,622

	Difference (7A - 7B)	*% Above/Below*
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.	-392	-2 %

9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent *higher or lower than* your judicial district average workload **and** you are proposing to **reestablish** this magisterial district, please explain (*summarize your response from the plan*) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.

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Magisterial District Information

10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:

Magisterial District Judge Name	Birthdate	Term Expiration Date	Mandatory Retirement Date
Lisa M. Covert		12/31/23	1/1/42

11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:

550 Cromwell Street, Orbisonia, PA 17243

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.

Pennsylvania State Police, Mount Union Police Department

17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.

SR 522, Pennsylvania Turnpike

18. List the **current** municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click HERE for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.

Broad Top City Borough	Cromwell Township	Saltilo Borough	Three Springs Borough
Carbon Township	Dublin Township	Shade Gap Borough	Todd Township
Cass Township	Dudley Township	Shirley Township	Wood Township
Cassville Borough	Mount Union Borough	Shirleysburg Borough	
Clay Township	Orbisonia Borough	Springfield Township	
Coalmont Borough	Rockhill Furnace Borough	Tell Township	

19. Are the **proposed** municipalities the same as above? If **NO**, please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	Yes

20. Additional Comments:

Huntingdon County Magisterial District Courts
Filings & Workload Averages

Average Filings (Caseload)

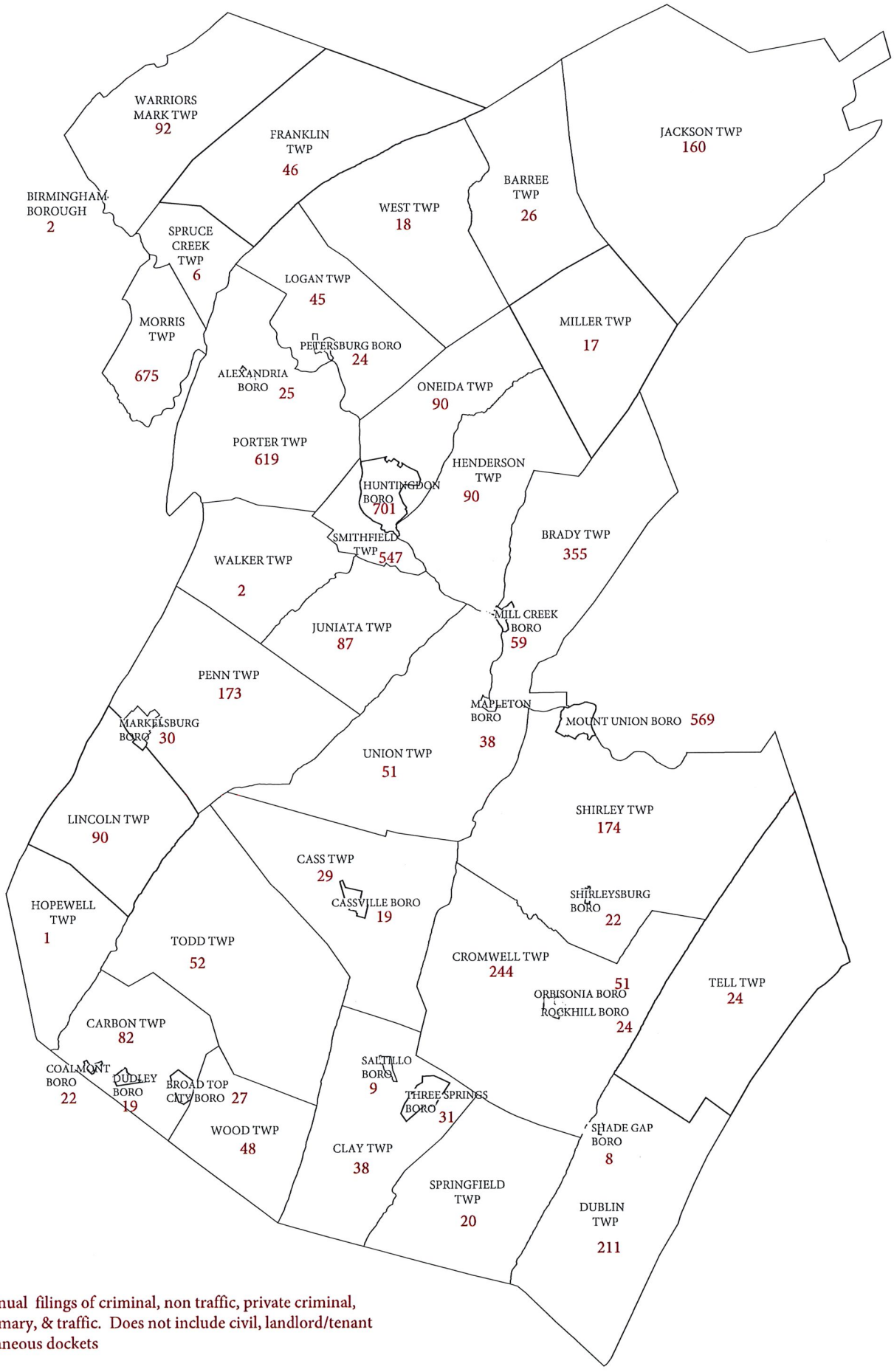
	Criminal	Non-Traffic	Private Criminal	Private Summary	Traffic	Civil	Landlord/Tenant	Misc. Docket	*Annual Average Filings per Court*
20-3-01	171	361	3	8	2002	91	16	40	**2692**
20-3-02	347	383	3	2	1122	81	41	39	**2018**
20-3-04	246	272	6	64	1115	181	66	30	**1980**
Huntingdon County Total	255	338	4	24	1413	117	41	36	**2230**
Class 6 Counties	263	379	5	57	2257	165	53	51	**3230**
Statewide Average	415	545	7	91	3002	225	186	79	**4551**

A six year average (2014-19) is provided for all case types EXCEPT Miscellaneous Docket,which is the average of three years (2017-19).

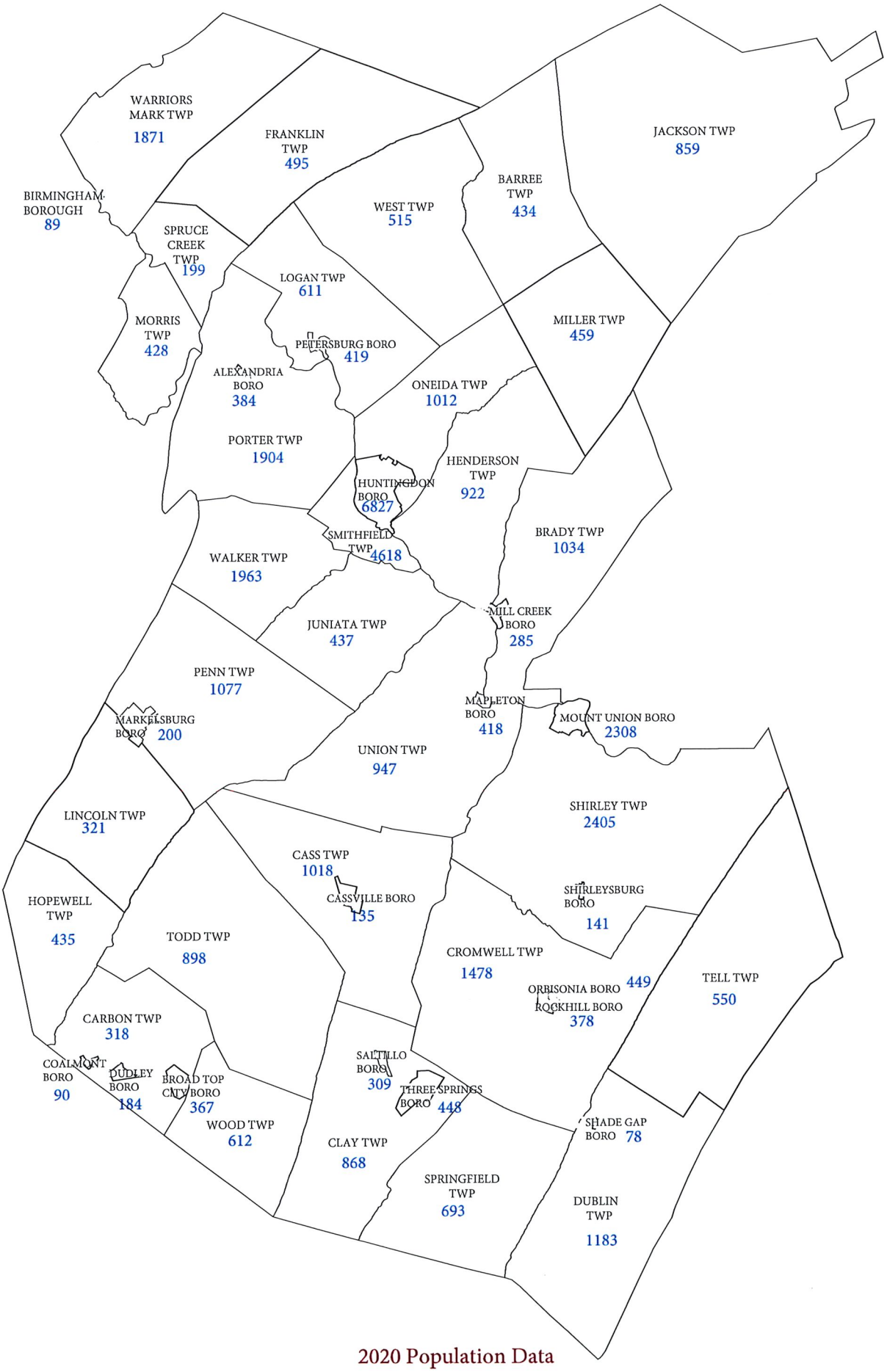
Average Workload

	Criminal	Non-Traffic	Private Criminal	Private Summary	Traffic	Civil	Landlord/Tenant	Misc. Docket	*Annual Average Workload per Court*
20-3-01	6284	3872	27	84	4565	1023	232	1303	*17389*
20-3-02	12742	4115	32	16	2559	912	599	1271	*22245*
20-3-04	9044	2915	65	688	2543	2040	958	978	**19230**
Huntingdon County Average	9357	3634	41	263	3222	1325	596	1184	*19622*

Average Annual Workload per MDC/County = Total Workload/# of years (6, 3 for MD)/# of commissioned MDJs



Average annual filings of criminal, non traffic, private criminal, private summary, & traffic. Does not include civil, landlord/tenant and miscellaneous dockets



2020 Population Data

Magisterial District Court 20-3-01
Case Dispositions and Hearing Rates

MDJ Gummo	New Criminal Cases	215	Private Criminal	3	Private Summary	8	Traffic	2093
	dismissed	1	waiver	1	Dismissed	0	Dismissed	13
	*held for court	19	withdrawn	1	Guilty Plea	9	Guilty Plea	1857
	waiver	171					*Trial Guily	61
2018	warrant	4					*Trial Not Guilty	25
	*other	1					*Other	11
	withdrawn	13					Withdrawn	30
	Hearing Percentage	9.30%		0.00%		0.00%		4.63%

Non-Traffic	316	Civil	113	PFA	13
*Dismissed	9	default judgment Plaintiff	69	Granted	13
Guilty Plea	274	*dismissed	14	Denied	0
Warrant	12	*Hearing for Defendant	2		
*Trial Guilty	16	*Hearing for Plaintiff	7		
*Trial Not Guilty	11	settled	10		
*Other	5	*other	2		
Withdrawn	7	withdrawn	16		
	13.00%		20.40%		

MDJ Gummo	New Criminal Cases	173	Private Criminal	1	Private Summary	11	Traffic	2207
	dismissed	0	waiver	1	Dismissed	0	*Dismissed	13
	*held for court	20	withdrawn	0	Guilty Plea	6	Guilty Plea	2093
	waiver	151	other	1	warrant	1	*Trial Guily	34
2019	warrant	0			withdrawn	1	*Trial Not Guilty	35
	*other	1					*Other	5
	withdrawn	5					Withdrawn	51
							warrant	73
	Hearing Percentage	12.13%		0.00%		0.00%		3.94%

Non-Traffic	297	Civil	108	PFA	18
*Dismissed	26	default judgment Plaintiff	29	Granted	16
Guilty Plea	217	*dismissed	14	Denied	2
Warrant	17	*Hearing for Defendant	3		
*Trial Guilty	16	*Hearing for Plaintiff	6		
*Trial Not Guilty	11	settled	16		
*Other	2	*other	2		
Withdrawn	6	withdrawn	7		
	18.51%		23.14%		

Magisterial District Court 20-3-02
Case Dispositions and Hearing Rates

2018

MDJ Brennema New Criminal Cases	496	Private Criminal	0	Private Summary	5	Traffic	1026
*dismissed	6	waiver	0	Dismissed	3	*Dismissed	12
*held for court	54	withdrawn	0	Guilty Plea	1	Guilty Plea	885
waiver	412			Trial Guilty	1	*Trial Guily	58
warrant	15					*Trial Not Guilty	16
*other	1					*Other	1
withdrawn	8					Withdrawn	44
						warrant	22
Hearing Percentage	12.30%		0.00%		20.00%		6.92%

Non-Traffic	290	Civil	119	PFA	10
*Dismissed	6	default judgment Plaintiff	49	Granted	10
Guilty Plea	218	*dismissed	14	Denied	0
Warrant	1	*Hearing for Defendant	10		
*Trial Guilty	34	*Hearing for Plaintiff	20		
*Trial Not Guilty	8	settled	11		
*Other	1	*other	4		
Withdrawn	70	withdrawn	13		
	16.90%		40.34%		

2019

MDJ Brennema New Criminal Cases	356	Private Criminal	0	Private Summary	2	Traffic	1383
dismissed	5	waiver	0	Dismissed	0	Dismissed	21
held for court	27	withdrawn	0	Guilty Plea	0	Guilty Plea	1117
waiver	317			Trial Guilty	2	Trial Guily	66
warrant	6					Trial Not Guilty	20
other	0					Other	4
withdrawn	10					Withdrawn	46
Hearing Percentage	8.99%		0.00%		100.00%		8.03%

Non-Traffic	331	Civil	90	PFA	9
Dismissed	11	default judgment Plaintiff	38	Granted	9
Guilty Plea	201	dismissed	7	Denied	0
Warrant	14	Hearing for Defendant	1		
Trial Guilty	65	Hearing for Plaintiff	13		
Trial Not Guilty	11	settled	5		
Other	0	other	4		
Withdrawn	59	withdrawn	10		
	26.28%		27.78%		

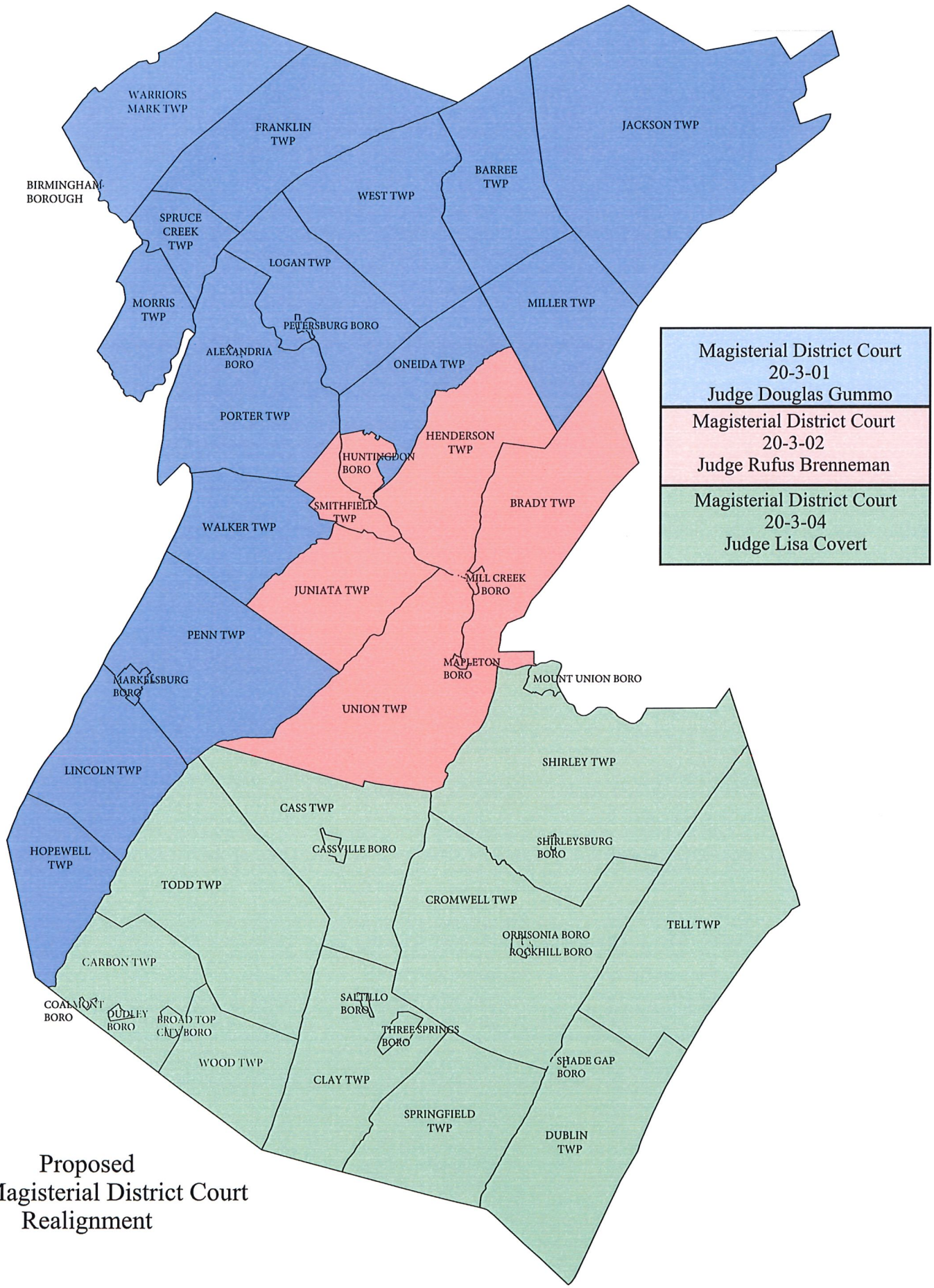
Magisterial District Court 20-3-04
Case Dispositions and Hearing Rates

MDJ Covert	New Criminal Cases	241	Private Criminal	7	Private Summary	52	Traffic	1087
	dismissed	1	waiver	5	Dismissed	5	Dismissed	12
	held for court	21	withdrawn	1	Guilty Plea	31	Guilty Plea	981
	waiver	193	Dismissed	1	warrant	1	Trial Guily	37
2018	warrant	15	Held for Court	1	Trial Guilty	12	Trial Not Guilty	12
	other	0			other	2	Other	6
	withdrawn	8			withdrawn	1	Withdrawn	22
		9.13%		28.57%		36.54%		6.16%

Non-Traffic	224	Civil	183	PFA	15
Dismissed	13	default judgment Plaintiff	119	Granted	14
Guilty Plea	165	dismissed	5	Denied	1
Warrant	6	Hearing for Defendant	0		
Trial Guilty	25	Hearing for Plaintiff	10		
Trial Not Guilty	13	settled	5		
Other	0	other	0		
Withdrawn	9	withdrawn	41		
	22.77%		8.20%		

MDJ Covert	New Criminal Cases	239	Private Criminal	6	Private Summary	34	Traffic	1193
	dismissed	5	waiver	4	Dismissed	4	Dismissed	13
	held for court	24	withdrawn	0	Guilty Plea	28	Guilty Plea	1039
	waiver	222	dismissed	2	Trial Guilty	5	Trial Guily	58
2019	warrant	6			other	1	Trial Not Guilty	23
	other	0			withdrawn	1	Other	0
	withdrawn	6					Withdrawn	24
		12.13%		33.33%		29.41%		7.88%

Non-Traffic	278	Civil	173	PFA	7
Dismissed	12	default judgment Plaintiff	103	Granted	7
Guilty Plea	193	dismissed	8	Denied	0
Warrant	5	Hearing for Defendant	11		
Trial Guilty	30	Hearing for Plaintiff	10		
Trial Not Guilty	26	settled	3		
Other	0	other	0		
Withdrawn		withdrawn	30		
	24.46%		16.76%		



Proposed
2022 Magisterial District Court
Realignment