



MICHAEL R. KEHS, ESQ.
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

JOHN E. SAVOTH, ESQ.
DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR,
SPECIAL COURTS

JENNIFER SALDUTTI
FINANCIAL MANAGER

MATTHEW G. HONEYMAN
FACILITIES MANAGER

PHONE: 610-278-3058
FAX: 610-278-5916

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATION
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COURT HOUSE
PO Box 311
NORRISTOWN, P.A 19404-0311

NOTICE OF DRAFT PROPOSAL

REESTABLISHMENT OF THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS WITHIN THE 38TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA– MONTGOMERY COUNTY

December 29, 2021

NOTICE is hereby given that a proposal to reestablish the Magisterial Districts within the 38th Judicial District (Montgomery County) has been drafted and is available for in-office examination and review through Monday January 31, 2022 at the following locations:

1. The office of the District Court Administrator, 2nd Floor – Montgomery County Courthouse, Norristown, PA;
2. The office of the Deputy District Court Administrator, 9th Floor – One Montgomery Plaza, Norristown, PA;
3. All Magisterial District Court Offices in Montgomery County.

The draft is also available on the Court's website at www.montcopa.org/285/County-Courts.

Written comments or suggestions regarding the proposal may be directed to John E. Savoth, Esq., Deputy Court Administrator, P.O. Box 311, One Montgomery Plaza, Norristown, PA 19403-0311 or by email to jsavoth@montcopa.org. All written comments or suggestions must be received **no later than Monday, January 31, 2021**.

Hon. Thomas M. DelRicci
President Judge

Hon. Carolyn T. Carluccio
President Judge-Elect

The following pages contain the draft proposal for Reestablishment of the Magisterial Districts within the 38th Judicial District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – Montgomery County.

Details of the proposal are contained in the Recommendations Summary and the individual Magisterial District Reestablishment Worksheets (with maps).

By way of brief summary, please be advised of the following:

- Montgomery County (Class 2A county) currently has 30 Magisterial Districts.
- Other Class 2A counties (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster) average 21 Magisterial Districts.
- The average caseload for Magisterial District Courts in Pennsylvania’s Class 2A counties is 5,525. The average caseload for Magisterial District Courts in Montgomery County is 5,733.
- The average workload (weighted caseload calculation) for Magisterial District Courts in Pennsylvania’s Class 2A counties is 39,310. The average workload for Magisterial District Courts in Montgomery County (Class 2A) is 37,385.
- Since the previous Reestablishment in 2012, Magisterial District Courts in Montgomery County have seen a 14.7% decrease in annual caseload (-28,664 fewer annual cases in 2019 vs. 2012 annual case filing total).
- Since the previous Reestablishment in 2012, Magisterial District Courts in Montgomery County have seen a 19.6% decrease in annual average workload per Magisterial District (46,524 workload per Magisterial District Court in 2012 vs. 37,385 workload per Magisterial District Court in 2019).
- The draft proposal recommends that **15** Magisterial Districts within Montgomery County be **Reestablished** (no change to boundaries).
- The draft proposal recommends that **13** Magisterial Districts within Montgomery County be **Realigned** (change to boundaries).
- The draft proposal recommends that **2** Magisterial Districts within Montgomery County be **Eliminated**.
- Additional “case reassignments” are proposed, unrelated to district boundaries.
- The draft proposal recommends that Montgomery County reduce to 28 Magisterial Districts.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DISTRICT COURTS
REESTABLISHMENT RECOMMENDATIONS – 2021

REESTABLISHED (15) MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS
(NO CHANGES IN BOUNDARIES – EFFECTIVE 1/1/2024)

- **38-1-01** Judge Marc A. Alfarano – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,864
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 36,881

 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 4,601 and 34,643 respectively.

- **38-1-08** Judge Katherine E. McGill Magid – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,363
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 23,246

 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,224 and 23,597 respectively.

- **38-1-10** Judge Patricia A. Zaffarano – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,195
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 27,737

 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,174 and 27,426 respectively.

- **38-1-11** Judge Scott T. Palladino – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,323
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 56,333

 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,289 and 55,687 respectively.

- **38-1-12** Judge Edward C. Kropp, Sr. – current term expires 1/2/2028

 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,821
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 55,906
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,926 and 57,106 respectively.

- **38-1-15** Judge Francis J. Lawrence, Jr. – current term expires 1/2/2022

 - Denise Ashe – term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 6,596
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 41,402
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,052 and 32,411 respectively.

- **38-1-16** Judge Margaret A. Hunsicker-Fleischer – current term expires 12/31/2023

 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 7,754
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 46,957
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 6,273 and 39,262 respectively.

- **38-1-18** Judge Andrea D. Duffy – current term expires 12/31/2023

 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 7,869
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 49,051
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 7,849 and 49,266 respectively.

- **38-1-21** Judge Suzan Leonard – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 6,605
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 39,133
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 6,646 and 38,344 respectively.

- **38-1-24** Judge Albert J. Augustine – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,362
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 38,423
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 3,853 and 35,922 respectively.

- **38-1-25** Judge James P. Gallagher – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,106
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 32,051
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,009 and 33,133 respectively.

- * **Notes:** The continued development in Upper Merion Township (King of Prussia) thus far has not increased the caseload of court 38-1-25 as was anticipated during the previous decennial review. Therefore, it is anticipated that **all** Montgomery County East/West Turnpike cases are to be transferred to District Court 38-1-25 effective January 1, 2024 (no change in boundaries). Average annual case filings of 1,080 (included in above projections). This proposed change is projected is create a more equitable balance with adjacent districts.

- **38-1-28** Judge Edward J. Levine – current term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 6,617
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 51,998
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 6,820 and 51,486 respectively.

- **38-2-02** Judge Maureen C. Coggins – current term expires 12/31/2023

- Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,280
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 34,764
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,344 and 33,532 respectively.

- **38-2-03** Judge Maurice H. Saylor – current term expires 1/4/2026
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,415
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 28,859
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 4,435 and 28,905 respectively.

- * **Note:** District Courts 38-2-02 and 38-2-03 have maintained consistent caseloads and workloads. Though both are below average for this Magisterial District, combining these two courts into one new District would create a travel burden for both the police departments and the public residing in the municipalities of these districts.

- **38-2-09** Judge Gregory Scott – current term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 3,577
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 27,620
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,291 and 38,998 respectively.

REALIGNED (13) MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS
(CHANGES IN BOUNDARIES – EFFECTIVE 1/1/2024)

- **38-1-03** Judge Christopher J. Cerski – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,460
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 39,028

 - **Transfer Cheltenham Voting Districts 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 7-1, 7-2, and 7-3 from District Court 38-1-02 upon its elimination. This also brings all of Cheltenham Township within the same Magisterial District.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 8,582 and 54,358 respectively.

- **38-1-04** Judge John D. Kessler – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,668
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 36,611

 - **Transfer Abington Voting Districts 7-1, 7-3, 11-1, and 11-3 from District Court 38-1-05 to maintain continued balance between adjacent districts, both of which service Abington Township.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,433 and 36,625 respectively.

- **38-1-05** Judge Juanita A. Price – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,260
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 38,138

 - **Transfer Jenkintown Borough from District Court 38-1-02 upon its elimination.**
 - **Transfer Abington Voting Districts 7-1, 7-3, 11-1, and 11-3 to District Court 38-1-04 to offset expected increase from the addition of Jenkintown Borough, and to maintain continued balance between adjacent districts.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 6,176 and 41,460 respectively.

- **38-1-06** Judge Henry J. Schireson – current term expires 12/31/2025
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 7,984
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 30,365
 - **Transfer West Conshohocken Borough from District Court 38-1-09 to create improved balance between adjacent districts.**
 - **Transfer Lower Merion Voting Districts 10-3 and 11-2 to District Court 38-1-07, and transfer Lower Merion Voting Districts 3-2 and 3-3 to District Court 38-2-04. These changes are to offset expected increase from the addition of West Conshohocken Borough, and to maintain continued balance among the 3 Lower Merion Magisterial Districts.**
 - **All Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) cases for Lower Merion Township will remain with court 38-1-06.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 7,679 and 29,827 respectively.

- **38-1-07** Judge Michael P. Quinn – current term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 6,913
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 26,784
 - **Transfer Lower Merion Voting Districts 10-3 and 11-2 from District Court 38-1-06 to maintain continued balance among the 3 Lower Merion Magisterial Districts.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 7,302 and 27,339 respectively.

- **38-1-09** Judge Patrick O. Krouse – current term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 6,125
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 49,093
 - **Transfer West Conshohocken Borough to District Court 38-1-06 to create improved balance between adjacent districts.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 4,635 and 42,076 respectively.

- **38-1-13** Judge Francis J. Bernhardt – current term expires 1/2/2022
 - Jodi Lukens Griffis - term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 7,078
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 43,821
 - **Transfer Conshohocken Borough Voting Districts 1, 4, 6 to District Court 38-1-23 to create improved balance between adjacent districts, and to have all of Conshohocken Borough within the same Magisterial District.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,905 and 42,447 respectively.

- **38-1-19** Judge Richard H. Welsh – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 7,134
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 49,665
 - **Transfer Upper Providence Voting District Monte Clare to District Court 38-1-20 to create improved balance between adjacent districts, both of which service Upper Providence Township.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 6,571 and 46,763 respectively.

- **38-1-20** Judge Cathleen Kelly Rebar – current term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,978
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 41,796
 - **Transfer Upper Providence Voting District Monte Clare from District Court 38-1-19 to create improved balance between adjacent districts, both of which service Upper Providence Township.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,530 and 44,824 respectively.

- **38-1-22** Judge Harry J. Nesbitt, III – current term expires 12/31/2023

- Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 3,664
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 19,596
 - **Transfer Horsham Voting Districts 3-2, 3-3, and Hatboro Borough from District Court 38-1-14 upon its elimination. This also brings all of Horsham Township within the same Magisterial District.**
 - **This proposed change will create a more equitable balance between this court and adjacent districts.**
 - **Need exception to contiguous requirement. There is one Upper Moreland Voting District (+/- 1/10 of a mile) that separates Horsham and Hatboro.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 5,524 and 30,904 respectively.

- **38-1-23** Judge Deborah A. Lukens – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,495
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 27,560
 - **Transfer Conshohocken Borough Voting Districts 1, 4, and 6 from District Court 38-1-13 to create improved balance between adjacent districts, and to have all of Conshohocken Borough within the same Magisterial District.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 6,194 and 31,622 respectively.

- **38-2-04** Judge Karen Eisner Zucker – current term expires 1/2/2028
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 6,952
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 31,146
 - **Transfer Lower Merion Voting Districts 3-2 and 3-3 from District Court 38-1-06 to maintain continued balance among the 3 Lower Merion Magisterial Districts.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 7,274 and 32,290 respectively.

- **38-2-08** Judge Jay S. Friedenbergl – current term expires 12/31/2023

- Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 5,324
- Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 36,595

- **Transfer Upper Moreland Voting Districts 2-1, 2-2, 3-2, 5-1, 5-2, 7-1, and 7-2 from District Court 38-1-14 upon its elimination. This also brings all of Upper Moreland within the same Magisterial District.**
 - Based on most recent (pre-pandemic 2016-2019) caseload and workload data, future caseload and workload is expected be approximately 7,516 and 50,629 respectively.

ELIMINATED (2) MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS
(EFFECTIVE 1/1/2024)

- **38-1-02** Judge Elizabeth A. McHugh-Casey – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,214 (26th of 30 courts)
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 27,043 (28% below average for Magisterial Districts in Montgomery County)

 - **Magisterial District elimination will take effect 1/1/2024 upon the retirement of Judge McHugh-Casey.**
 - **Transfer Cheltenham Voting Districts 5-1, 5-2, 5-3, 5-4, 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, 7-1, 7-2, and 7-3 to District Court 38-1-03. This brings all of Cheltenham Township within the same Magisterial District.**
 - **Transfer Jenkintown Borough to District Court 38-1-05.**

* **Note:** From 2012-2019 this District Court has consistently been in the bottom 1/3 of all Montgomery County Magisterial Districts with their annual caseloads, and has lost 1,286 annuals cases (21% decrease) within this same time period.

- **38-1-14** Judge Paul N. Leo – current term expires 12/31/2023
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average caseload of 4,594 (25th of 30 courts)
 - Current 6-yr. (2014-2019) average workload of 29,151 (22% below average for Magisterial Districts in Montgomery County)

 - **Magisterial District elimination will take effect 1/1/2024 upon the retirement of Judge Leo.**
 - **Transfer Horsham Voting Districts 3-2, 3-3, and Hatboro Borough to District Court 38-1-22. This also brings all of Horsham Township within the same Magisterial District.**
 - **Transfer Upper Moreland Voting Districts 2-1, 2-2, 3-2, 5-1, 5-2, 7-1, and 7-2 to District Court 38-2-08. This also brings all of Upper Moreland within the same Magisterial District.**

* **Note:** From 2012-2019 this District Court has had a consistently decreasing caseload, going from 8th of 30 in 2012 (7,193 annual case filings) to 28th of 30 in 2019 (4,048 case filings). This decrease has created a disparity with adjacent districts, and that disparity can best be remedied by elimination of this District Court.

