

FINAL PROPOSAL FOR MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT  
34<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

January 25, 2022

NOTICE:

The Thirty-fourth Judicial District of Pennsylvania will submit to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, a proposed magisterial reestablishment plan which would reestablish the three magisterial districts of Susquehanna County without changes to the magisterial district boundaries.

The draft is available under the Court of Common Pleas department page of the Susquehanna County website at: [www.susqco.com](http://www.susqco.com)

Public comments or suggestions regarding this proposal may be submitted in writing no later than February 25, 2022 directed to: Cathy Hawley, District Court Administrator, P.O. Box 218, Montrose, PA 18801 or by email to [chawley@susqco.com](mailto:chawley@susqco.com)

## 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.

<b>Magisterial District Court Number:</b> 34-3-01		<b>County:</b> Susquehanna	
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish		2. Effective date:	
<b>Caseload Analysis</b>			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 2,454	B. 2,404	C. 3,230
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		50	3 out of 3
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-776	-24 %
<p>6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range <b>and</b> you are proposing to <b>reestablish</b> (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.</p> <p>The caseload in District 34-3-01 is less than both District 34-3-02 and District 34-3-03. However, Interstate 81 does not pass through District 34-3-01. Although 34-3-01 has two policing agencies within its jurisdiction, the Pennsylvania State Police barracks are located just off Interstate 81. The proximity significantly increases the number of traffic filings within District 34-3-02 and District 34-3-03. Also, District 34-3-01 covers almost twice the geographic area of District 34-3-02 and District 34-3-03 together; 406 square miles for 34-3-01 alone versus 428 square miles for District 34-3-02 and District 34-3-03 combined. District 34-3-01 also has the only east-west highway running through the entirety of its district, State Route 706, making it the most convenient office for residents in the western half of the County.</p>			
<b>Workload Analysis</b>			
7. Average total workloads:		<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>
		A. 14,769	B. 17,069
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-2,300	-13 %
<p>9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload <b>and</b> you are proposing to <b>reestablish</b> this magisterial district, please explain (<i>summarize your response from the plan</i>) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.</p> <p>District 34-3-01 will preside over a proportionate share of Central Court workload once established to balance the workload. This proportionate share of the workload will be divided with District 34-3-03 so as to alleviate some of the workload of District 34-3-02.</p>			

Magisterial District Information	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Jeffrey L. Hollister	12/31/23
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i> <i>Term Expiration Date</i> <i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
71 Lake Avenue, Montrose, PA	
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 <b>YES</b> , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
Silver Lake Township Police Dept., Montrose Borough Police Dept., Susquehanna County DUI Task Force	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
State Route 29, State Route 267, State Route 706, State Route 167	
18. List the <b>current</b> municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click <a href="#">HERE</a> for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
Boroughs: Friendsville, Little Meadows, Montrose Townships: Apolacon, Auburn, Bridgewater, Choconut, Dimock, Forest Lake, Franklin, Jessup, Liberty, Middletown, Rush, Silver Lake, Springville	
19. Are the <b>proposed</b> municipalities the same as above? If <b>NO</b> , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	Yes
20. Additional Comments:	

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<b>Magisterial District Court Number:</b> 34-3-02	<b>County:</b> Susquehanna	<input type="button" value="▼"/>	
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish <input type="button" value="▼"/>	2. Effective date:		
<b>Caseload Analysis</b>			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 5,854	B. 2,404	C. 3,230
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.	<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking</i>	<i>Total</i>
	3450	1	out of 3
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.	<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>	
	2624	81 %	
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range <b>and</b> you are proposing to <b>reestablish</b> (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
<b>Workload Analysis</b>			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 22,392	B. 17,069	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.	<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>	
	5,323	31 %	
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload <b>and</b> you are proposing to <b>reestablish</b> this magisterial district, please explain ( <i>summarize your response from the plan</i> ) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			
<p>District 34-3-02 has the highest volume of cases filed. Interstate 81 runs through District 34-3-02 which, as a major Northeast thoroughfare, results in a high number of traffic citations. District 34-3-02 will not preside over Central Court once established to balance the workload amongst the magisterial districts.</p>			

<b>Magisterial District Information</b>	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Jodi L. Corder	12/31/23
<i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	<i>Birthdate</i>
	<i>Term Expiration Date</i>
	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location:	
17544 State Route 11, Suite 1, New Milford, PA 18834	
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 <b>YES</b> , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district.	
<small>Susquehanna Borough Police Dept., Great Bend Borough Police Dept., Lanesborough Borough Police Dept., Thompson Borough Police Dept., Oakland Borough Police Dept., Susquehanna County DUI Task Force</small>	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district.	
State Route 92, State Route 11, State Route 171, Interstate 81	
18. List the <b>current</b> municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click <a href="#">HERE</a> for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.	
Boroughs: Great Bend, Hallstead, Lanesboro, New Milford, Oakland, Susquehanna, Thompson	
Townships: Ararat, Great Bend, Harmony, Jackson, New Milford, Oakland, Thompson	
19. Are the <b>proposed</b> municipalities the same as above?	Yes
If <b>NO</b> , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	
<b>20. Additional Comments:</b>	

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<b>Magisterial District Court Number:</b> 34-3-03		<b>County:</b> Susquehanna	
1. Proposed plan for this magisterial district: Reestablish		2. Effective date:	
<b>Caseload Analysis</b>			
3. Average total caseloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	<i>Avg for Class of County</i>
	A. 3,343	B. 2,404	C. 3,230
4. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your judicial district caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3B)</i>	<i>Ranking Total</i>
		939	2 out of 3
5. Compare the difference between the caseload average of this magisterial district to your class of county caseload average.		<i>Difference (3A - 3C)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		113	3.4 %
6. If this magisterial district is at the lower end of the caseload range <b>and</b> you are proposing to <b>reestablish</b> (no changes), please summarize your response from the plan that explains why you are departing from caseload equity.			
<b>Workload Analysis</b>			
7. Average total workloads:	<i>Avg for Magisterial District</i>	<i>Avg for Judicial District</i>	
	A. 14,046	B. 17,069	
8. Compare the difference between the average total workloads of this magisterial district to the judicial district.		<i>Difference (7A - 7B)</i>	<i>% Above/Below</i>
		-3,023	-17 %
9. If this magisterial district's average workload is fifteen (15%) percent <i>higher or lower than</i> your judicial district average workload <b>and</b> you are proposing to <b>reestablish</b> this magisterial district, please explain ( <i>summarize your response from the plan</i> ) why this does not result in an unwarranted inequity among the judges.			
<p>District 34-3-03 has the second highest case filings. Interstate 81 runs through District 34-3-03 and, as a major Northeast thoroughfare, results in a high number of traffic citations. Both District 34-3-02 and District 34-3-03 are necessary as closing either office would unduly burden the remaining offices with substantially increased caseload.</p> <p>District 34-3-03 will preside over a proportionate share of Central Court workload once established to balance the workload. This proportionate share of the workload will be divided with District 34-3-01 so as to alleviate some of the workload of District 34-3-02.</p>			

<b>Magisterial District Information</b>	
10. Magisterial District Judge (MDJ) Information:	
Suzanne M. Brainard <i>Magisterial District Judge Name</i>	1/4/26 <i>Term Expiration Date</i>
	<i>Mandatory Retirement Date</i>
11. Magisterial District Court Information - Physical Location: 1866 SR 106, Clifford, PA	
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 <b>YES</b> , please summarize your response below.	No/Not Sure
16. List any police departments located within this magisterial district. Forest City Police Dept., Clifford Police Dept., Hop Bottom Borough Police Dept., Uniondale Police Dept., Susquehanna County DUI Task Force	
17. List any major highways within this magisterial district. State Route 92, State Route 11, State Route 171, Interstate 81	
18. List the <b>current</b> municipalities for this magisterial district (alphabetically). For a list, click <a href="#">HERE</a> for Realignment Orders submitted in the past.  Boroughs: Forest City, Hop Bottom, Uniondale Townships: Brooklyn, Clifford, Gibson, Harford, Herrick, Lathrop, Lenox	
19. Are the <b>proposed</b> municipalities the same as above? If <b>NO</b> , please list all proposed municipalities (alphabetically).	Yes
<b>20. Additional Comments:</b>	