

**As Reported by the Senate Judiciary--Civil Justice Committee**

**127th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2007-2008**

**Sub. S. B. No. 155**

**Senator Faber**

**Cosponsors: Senators Schuler, Grendell, Spada, Kearney**

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**A B I L L**

To amend sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 and 1  
to enact section 2101.025 of the Revised Code to 2  
create a Domestic Relations-Juvenile-Probate 3  
Division of the Champaign County Court of Common 4  
Pleas, to designate the Champaign County Probate 5  
and Juvenile Judge as a judge of that division, 6  
and to add a judge to that division to be elected 7  
in 2008. 8

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

**Section 1.** That sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 be 9  
amended and section 2101.025 of the Revised Code be enacted to 10  
read as follows: 11

**Sec. 2101.025.** Effective February 9, 2009, the probate judge 12  
of the court of common pleas of Champaign county shall have all 13  
the powers relating to the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 14  
division of the court of common pleas of Champaign county, as 15  
established pursuant to division (DD)(1) of section 2301.03 of the 16  
Revised Code, and shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction with the 17  
judges of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of the 18  
court of common pleas of Champaign county over matters that are 19

within the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 20  
division, as set forth in division (DD)(1) of section 2301.03 of 21  
the Revised Code. 22

**Sec. 2151.07.** The juvenile court is a court of record within 23  
the court of common pleas. The juvenile court has and shall 24  
exercise the powers and jurisdiction conferred in Chapters 2151. 25  
and 2152. of the Revised Code. 26

Whenever the juvenile judge of the juvenile court is sick, is 27  
absent from the county, or is unable to attend court, or the 28  
volume of cases pending in court necessitates it, upon the request 29  
of the administrative juvenile judge, the presiding judge of the 30  
court of common pleas pursuant to division ~~(DD)~~(EE) of section 31  
2301.03 of the Revised Code shall assign a judge of any division 32  
of the court of common pleas of the county to act in the juvenile 33  
judge's place or in conjunction with the juvenile judge. If no 34  
judge of the court of common pleas is available for that purpose, 35  
the chief justice of the supreme court shall assign a judge of the 36  
court of common pleas, a juvenile judge, or a probate judge from a 37  
different county to act in the place of that juvenile judge or in 38  
conjunction with that juvenile judge. The assigned judge shall 39  
receive the compensation and expenses for so serving that is 40  
provided by law for judges assigned to hold court in courts of 41  
common pleas. 42

**Sec. 2301.02.** The number of judges of the court of common 43  
pleas for each county, the time for the next election of the 44  
judges in the several counties, and the beginning of their terms 45  
shall be as follows: 46

(A) In Adams, Ashland, Fayette, and Pike counties, one judge, 47  
elected in 1956, term to begin February 9, 1957; 48

In Brown, Crawford, Defiance, Highland, Holmes, Morgan, 49

Ottawa, and Union counties, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term 50  
to begin February 9, 1955; 51

In Auglaize county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to 52  
begin January 9, 1957; 53

In Coshocton, Darke, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Hardin, 54  
Jackson, Knox, Madison, Mercer, Monroe, Paulding, Vinton, and 55  
Wyandot counties, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to begin 56  
January 1, 1957; 57

In Morrow county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 58  
to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2006, term to 59  
begin January 1, 2007; 60

In Logan county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 61  
to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, term to 62  
begin January 2, 2005; 63

In Carroll, ~~Champaign~~, Clinton, Hocking, Meigs, Pickaway, 64  
Preble, Shelby, Van Wert, and Williams counties, one judge, to be 65  
elected in 1952, term to begin January 1, 1953; 66

In Champaign county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 67  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in 2008, term 68  
to begin February 10, 2009. 69

In Harrison and Noble counties, one judge, to be elected in 70  
1954, term to begin April 18, 1955; 71

In Henry county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 72  
to begin May 9, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, term to begin 73  
January 1, 2005; 74

In Putnam county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to 75  
begin May 9, 1957; 76

In Huron county, one judge, to be elected in 1952, term to 77  
begin May 14, 1953; 78

In Perry county, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term to 79

begin July 6, 1956;	80
In Sandusky county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	81
term to begin February 10, 1955, and one to be elected in 1978,	82
term to begin January 1, 1979;	83
(B) In Allen county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956,	84
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in 1958,	85
term to begin January 1, 1959, and the third to be elected in	86
1992, term to begin January 1, 1993;	87
In Ashtabula county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954,	88
term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1960, term to	89
begin January 1, 1961, and one to be elected in 1978, term to	90
begin January 2, 1979;	91
In Athens county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, term	92
to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1990, term to	93
begin July 1, 1991;	94
In Erie county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956, term	95
to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1970, term	96
to begin January 2, 1971, the third to be elected in 2004, term to	97
begin January 2, 2005, and the fourth to be elected in 2008, term	98
to begin February 9, 2009;	99
In Fairfield county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954,	100
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 1970,	101
term to begin January 1, 1971, and the third to be elected in	102
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995;	103
In Geauga county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term	104
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1976,	105
term to begin January 6, 1977;	106
In Greene county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956,	107
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960,	108
term to begin January 1, 1961, the third to be elected in 1978,	109

term to begin January 2, 1979, and the fourth to be elected in	110
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995;	111
In Hancock county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952,	112
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in	113
1978, term to begin January 1, 1979;	114
In Lawrence county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	115
term to begin February 9, 1955, and the second to be elected in	116
1976, term to begin January 1, 1977;	117
In Marion county, three judges, one to be elected in 1952,	118
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1976,	119
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the third to be elected in	120
1998, term to begin February 9, 1999;	121
In Medina county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956,	122
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1966,	123
term to begin January 1, 1967, and the third to be elected in	124
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995;	125
In Miami county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, term	126
to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1970, term to	127
begin on January 1, 1971;	128
In Muskingum county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968,	129
term to begin August 9, 1969, one to be elected in 1978, term to	130
begin January 1, 1979, and one to be elected in 2002, term to	131
begin January 2, 2003;	132
In Portage county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956,	133
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960,	134
term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected in	135
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987;	136
In Ross county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term	137
to begin February 9, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1976,	138
term to begin January 1, 1977;	139

In Scioto county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 140  
term to begin February 10, 1955, the second to be elected in 1960, 141  
term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected in 142  
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995; 143

In Seneca county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 144  
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1986, 145  
term to begin January 2, 1987; 146

In Warren county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954, 147  
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 1970, 148  
term to begin January 1, 1971, the third to be elected in 1986, 149  
term to begin January 1, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in 150  
2004, term to begin January 2, 2005; 151

In Washington county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 152  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in 1986, term 153  
to begin January 1, 1987; 154

In Wood county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968, term 155  
beginning January 1, 1969, the second to be elected in 1970, term 156  
to begin January 2, 1971, and the third to be elected in 1990, 157  
term to begin January 1, 1991; 158

In Belmont and Jefferson counties, two judges, to be elected 159  
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 160  
respectively; 161

In Clark county, four judges, one to be elected in 1952, term 162  
to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1956, term 163  
to begin January 2, 1957, the third to be elected in 1986, term to 164  
begin January 3, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in 1994, term 165  
to begin January 2, 1995. 166

In Clermont county, five judges, one to be elected in 1956, 167  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1964, 168  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the third to be elected in 1982, 169  
term to begin January 2, 1983, the fourth to be elected in 1986, 170

term to begin January 2, 1987; and the fifth to be elected in 171  
2006, term to begin January 3, 2007; 172

In Columbiana county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 173  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in 174  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; 175

In Delaware county, two judges, one to be elected in 1990, 176  
term to begin February 9, 1991, the second to be elected in 1994, 177  
term to begin January 1, 1995; 178

In Lake county, six judges, one to be elected in 1958, term 179  
to begin January 1, 1959, the second to be elected in 1960, term 180  
to begin January 2, 1961, the third to be elected in 1964, term to 181  
begin January 3, 1965, the fourth and fifth to be elected in 1978, 182  
terms to begin January 4, 1979, and January 5, 1979, respectively, 183  
and the sixth to be elected in 2000, term to begin January 6, 184  
2001; 185

In Licking county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954, 186  
term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1964, term to 187  
begin January 1, 1965, one to be elected in 1990, term to begin 188  
January 1, 1991, and one to be elected in 2004, term to begin 189  
January 1, 2005; 190

In Lorain county, ten judges, two to be elected in 1952, 191  
terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, respectively, 192  
one to be elected in 1958, term to begin January 3, 1959, one to 193  
be elected in 1968, term to begin January 1, 1969, two to be 194  
elected in 1988, terms to begin January 4, 1989, and January 5, 195  
1989, respectively, two to be elected in 1998, terms to begin 196  
January 2, 1999, and January 3, 1999, respectively; one to be 197  
elected in 2006, term to begin January 6, 2007; and one to be 198  
elected in 2008, term to begin February 9, 2009, as described in 199  
division (C)(1)(c) of section 2301.03 of the Revised Code; 200

In Butler county, eleven judges, one to be elected in 1956, 201

term to begin January 1, 1957; two to be elected in 1954, terms to 202  
begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; one to 203  
be elected in 1968, term to begin January 2, 1969; one to be 204  
elected in 1986, term to begin January 3, 1987; two to be elected 205  
in 1988, terms to begin January 1, 1989, and January 2, 1989, 206  
respectively; one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 4, 207  
1993; two to be elected in 2002, terms to begin January 2, 2003, 208  
and January 3, 2003, respectively; and one to be elected in 2006, 209  
term to begin January 3, 2007; 210

In Richland county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956, 211  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960, 212  
term to begin February 9, 1961, the third to be elected in 1968, 213  
term to begin January 2, 1969, and the fourth to be elected in 214  
2004, term to begin January 3, 2005; 215

In Tuscarawas county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 216  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 217  
1960, term to begin January 2, 1961; 218

In Wayne county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 219  
beginning January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 1968, term to 220  
begin January 2, 1969; 221

In Trumbull county, six judges, one to be elected in 1952, 222  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1954, 223  
term to begin January 1, 1955, the third to be elected in 1956, 224  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the fourth to be elected in 1964, 225  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the fifth to be elected in 1976, 226  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the sixth to be elected in 227  
1994, term to begin January 3, 1995; 228

(C) In Cuyahoga county, thirty-nine judges; eight to be 229  
elected in 1954, terms to begin on successive days beginning from 230  
January 1, 1955, to January 7, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 231  
respectively; eight to be elected in 1956, terms to begin on 232



successive days beginning from January 1, 1957, to January 8, 233  
1957; three to be elected in 1952, terms to begin from January 1, 234  
1953, to January 3, 1953; two to be elected in 1960, terms to 235  
begin on January 8, 1961, and January 9, 1961, respectively; two 236  
to be elected in 1964, terms to begin January 4, 1965, and January 237  
5, 1965, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to begin on 238  
January 10, 1967; four to be elected in 1968, terms to begin on 239  
successive days beginning from January 9, 1969, to January 12, 240  
1969; two to be elected in 1974, terms to begin on January 18, 241  
1975, and January 19, 1975, respectively; five to be elected in 242  
1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning January 6, 1977, 243  
to January 10, 1977; two to be elected in 1982, terms to begin 244  
January 11, 1983, and January 12, 1983, respectively; and two to 245  
be elected in 1986, terms to begin January 13, 1987, and January 246  
14, 1987, respectively; 247

In Franklin county, twenty-two judges; two to be elected in 248  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 249  
respectively; four to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 250  
1, 1957, to January 4, 1957; four to be elected in 1958, terms to 251  
begin January 1, 1959, to January 4, 1959; three to be elected in 252  
1968, terms to begin January 5, 1969, to January 7, 1969; three to 253  
be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning 254  
January 5, 1977, to January 7, 1977; one to be elected in 1982, 255  
term to begin January 8, 1983; one to be elected in 1986, term to 256  
begin January 9, 1987; two to be elected in 1990, terms to begin 257  
July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, respectively; one to be elected in 258  
1996, term to begin January 2, 1997; and one to be elected in 259  
2004, term to begin July 1, 2005; 260

In Hamilton county, twenty-one judges; eight to be elected in 261  
1966, terms to begin January 1, 1967, January 2, 1967, and from 262  
February 9, 1967, to February 14, 1967, respectively; five to be 263  
elected in 1956, terms to begin from January 1, 1957, to January 264

5, 1957; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 1, 1965; 265  
one to be elected in 1974, term to begin January 15, 1975; one to 266  
be elected in 1980, term to begin January 16, 1981; two to be 267  
elected at large in the general election in 1982, terms to begin 268  
April 1, 1983; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin July 1, 269  
1991; and two to be elected in 1996, terms to begin January 3, 270  
1997, and January 4, 1997, respectively; 271

In Lucas county, fourteen judges; two to be elected in 1954, 272  
terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 273  
respectively; two to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 1, 274  
1957, and October 29, 1957, respectively; two to be elected in 275  
1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, 276  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 3, 277  
1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 4, 1969; 278  
two to be elected in 1976, terms to begin January 4, 1977, and 279  
January 5, 1977, respectively; one to be elected in 1982, term to 280  
begin January 6, 1983; one to be elected in 1988, term to begin 281  
January 7, 1989; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin January 282  
2, 1991; and one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 2, 283  
1993; 284

In Mahoning county, seven judges; three to be elected in 285  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and 286  
February 9, 1955, respectively; one to be elected in 1956, term to 287  
begin January 1, 1957; one to be elected in 1952, term to begin 288  
January 1, 1953; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 289  
2, 1969; and one to be elected in 1990, term to begin July 1, 290  
1991; 291

In Montgomery county, fifteen judges; three to be elected in 292  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and January 293  
3, 1955, respectively; four to be elected in 1952, terms to begin 294  
January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, July 1, 1953, and July 2, 1953, 295  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 3, 296

1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 3, 1969; 297  
three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days 298  
beginning January 4, 1977, to January 6, 1977; two to be elected 299  
in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, 300  
respectively; and one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 301  
1, 1993. 302

In Stark county, eight judges; one to be elected in 1958, 303  
term to begin on January 2, 1959; two to be elected in 1954, terms 304  
to begin on January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; 305  
two to be elected in 1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and 306  
April 16, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to 307  
begin on January 4, 1967; and two to be elected in 1992, terms to 308  
begin January 1, 1993, and January 2, 1993, respectively; 309

In Summit county, thirteen judges; four to be elected in 310  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, January 3, 311  
1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; three to be elected in 312  
1958, terms to begin January 1, 1959, January 2, 1959, and May 17, 313  
1959, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to begin 314  
January 4, 1967; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 315  
5, 1969; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin May 1, 1991; one 316  
to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 6, 1993; and two to 317  
be elected in 2008, terms to begin January 5, 2009, and January 6, 318  
2009, respectively. 319

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, in any county 320  
having two or more judges of the court of common pleas, in which 321  
more than one-third of the judges plus one were previously elected 322  
at the same election, if the office of one of those judges so 323  
elected becomes vacant more than forty days prior to the second 324  
general election preceding the expiration of that judge's term, 325  
the office that that judge had filled shall be abolished as of the 326  
date of the next general election, and a new office of judge of 327  
the court of common pleas shall be created. The judge who is to 328

fill that new office shall be elected for a six-year term at the 329  
next general election, and the term of that judge shall commence 330  
on the first day of the year following that general election, on 331  
which day no other judge's term begins, so that the number of 332  
judges that the county shall elect shall not be reduced. 333

Judges of the probate division of the court of common pleas 334  
are judges of the court of common pleas but shall be elected 335  
pursuant to sections 2101.02 and 2101.021 of the Revised Code, 336  
except in Adams, Harrison, Henry, Morgan, Noble, and Wyandot 337  
counties in which the judge of the court of common pleas elected 338  
pursuant to this section also shall serve as judge of the probate 339  
division, except in Lorain county in which the judges of the 340  
domestic relations division of the Lorain county court of common 341  
pleas elected pursuant to this section also shall perform the 342  
duties and functions of the judge of the probate division, and 343  
except in Morrow county in which the judges of the court of common 344  
pleas elected pursuant to this section also shall perform the 345  
duties and functions of the judge of the probate division. 346

**Sec. 2301.03.** (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the court 347  
of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 348  
1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1997, and 349  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 350  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 351  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Franklin county and 352  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 353  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 354  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 355  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings 356  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 357  
court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 358  
legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. 359  
In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is senior 360

in point of service shall serve on the children services board and 361  
the county advisory board and shall be the administrator of the 362  
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments. 363

364

(B) In Hamilton county: 365

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term begins 366  
on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the court of 367  
common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, and 368  
successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 369  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and 370  
jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. 371

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 372  
on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, and 373  
successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 374  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall have 375  
assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 376  
separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. On or 377  
after the first day of July and before the first day of August of 378  
1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the judges of the 379  
division of domestic relations shall elect one of the judges of 380  
the division as administrative judge of that division. If a 381  
majority of the judges of the division of domestic relations are 382  
unable for any reason to elect an administrative judge for the 383  
division before the first day of August, a majority of the judges 384  
of the Hamilton county court of common pleas, as soon as possible 385  
after that date, shall elect one of the judges of the division of 386  
domestic relations as administrative judge of that division. The 387  
term of the administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the 388  
first day of August of the year in which the administrative judge 389  
is elected or the date on which the administrative judge is 390  
elected by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court 391  
of common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 392

administrative judge's successor is elected in the following year. 393

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the administrative 394  
judge of the division of domestic relations shall be the 395  
administrator of the domestic relations division and its 396  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 397  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 398  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 399  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 400  
including any referees considered necessary by the judges in the 401  
discharge of their various duties. 402

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 403  
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 404  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 405  
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 406  
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 407  
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall include 408  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution 409  
of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 410  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 411  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 412  
action pending in the division. 413

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the sum 414  
of money each year as will meet all the administrative expenses of 415  
the division of domestic relations, including reasonable expenses 416  
of the domestic relations judges and the division counselors and 417  
other employees designated to conduct the handling, servicing, and 418  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 419  
separation, and annulment cases, conciliation and counseling, and 420  
all matters relating to those cases and counseling, and the 421  
expenses involved in the attendance of division personnel at 422  
domestic relations and welfare conferences designated by the 423  
division, and the further sum each year as will provide for the 424

adequate operation of the division of domestic relations. 425

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the salary 426  
and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county treasurer 427  
from the money appropriated for the operation of the division, 428  
upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to by the 429  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations. 430

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 431  
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or staff 432  
investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any county or 433  
any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the provisions of 434  
law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in other cases shall 435  
apply insofar as they are applicable. When a summons, warrant, 436  
citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to an officer, other 437  
than a bailiff, constable, or staff investigator of the division, 438  
the expense of serving it shall be assessed as a part of the costs 439  
in the case involved. 440

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county 441  
whose term begins on January 3, 1997, and the successor to that 442  
judge whose term begins on January 3, 2003, shall each be elected 443  
and designated for one term only as the drug court judge of the 444  
court of common pleas of Hamilton county. The successors to the 445  
judge whose term begins on January 3, 2003, shall be elected and 446  
designated as judges of the general division of the court of 447  
common pleas of Hamilton county and shall not have the authority 448  
granted by division (B)(3) of this section. The drug court judge 449  
may accept or reject any case referred to the drug court judge 450  
under division (B)(3) of this section. After the drug court judge 451  
accepts a referred case, the drug court judge has full authority 452  
over the case, including the authority to conduct arraignment, 453  
accept pleas, enter findings and dispositions, conduct trials, 454  
order treatment, and if treatment is not successfully completed 455  
pronounce and enter sentence. 456

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 457  
of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county municipal 458  
court may refer to the drug court judge any case, and any 459  
companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria described 460  
under divisions (B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section. If the drug 461  
court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the case, and any 462  
companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug court judge. A 463  
judge may refer a case meeting the criteria described in divisions 464  
(B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section that involves a violation of a 465  
condition of a community control sanction to the drug court judge, 466  
and, if the drug court judge accepts the referral, the referring 467  
judge and the drug court judge have concurrent jurisdiction over 468  
the case. 469

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 470  
of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county municipal 471  
court may refer a case to the drug court judge under division 472  
(B)(3) of this section if the judge determines that both of the 473  
following apply: 474

(a) One of the following applies: 475

(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in 476  
section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third 477  
or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 478  
1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the 479  
offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor. 480

(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in section 481  
2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third or 482  
fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1996, a 483  
felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the offense is 484  
committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor, and the 485  
defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of becoming 486  
drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from treatment. 487



(b) All of the following apply:	488
(i) The case involves an offense for which a community control sanction may be imposed or is a case in which a mandatory prison term or a mandatory jail term is not required to be imposed.	489 490 491 492
(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior.	493
(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness.	494
(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is drug or alcohol driven.	495 496
(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to participate in a fifteen-month treatment process.	497 498
(vi) The defendant has no acute health condition.	499
(vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor approves of the referral.	500 501
(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.	502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512
(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.	513 514 515 516
(C)(1) In Lorain county:	517

(a) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 518  
on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, January 2, 1999, and February 519  
9, 2009, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 520  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 521  
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 522  
Lorain county and shall be elected and designated as the judges of 523  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They 524  
shall have all of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all 525  
cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all 526  
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 527  
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 528  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except 529  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to some other 530  
judge of the court of common pleas. 531

(b) On and after January 1, 2006, the judges of the court of 532  
common pleas, division of domestic relations, in addition to the 533  
powers and jurisdiction set forth in division (C)(1)(a) of this 534  
section, shall have jurisdiction over matters that are within the 535  
jurisdiction of the probate court under Chapter 2101. and other 536  
provisions of the Revised Code. From January 1, 2006, through 537  
February 8, 2009, the judges of the court of common pleas, 538  
division of domestic relations, shall exercise probate 539  
jurisdiction concurrently with the probate judge. 540

(c) The judge of the court of common pleas, division of 541  
domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, is the 542  
successor to the probate judge who was elected in 2002 for a term 543  
that began on February 9, 2003. 544

(2)(a) From January 1, 2006, through February 8, 2009, with 545  
respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the probate 546  
court shall be construed as references to both the probate court 547  
and the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 548  
all references in law to the probate judge shall be construed as 549

references to both the probate judge and the judges of the court 550  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations. On and after 551  
February 9, 2009, with respect to Lorain county, all references in 552  
law to the probate court shall be construed as references to the 553  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and all 554  
references to the probate judge shall be construed as references 555  
to the judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 556  
relations. 557

(b) On and after February 9, 2009, with respect to Lorain 558  
county, all references in law to the clerk of the probate court 559  
shall be construed as references to the judge who is serving 560  
pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts 561  
of Ohio as the administrative judge of the court of common pleas, 562  
division of domestic relations. 563

(D) In Lucas county: 564

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 565  
on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, shall 566  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 567  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 568  
the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be elected and 569  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 570  
domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 571  
separation, and annulment cases shall be 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 all 577  
other personnel of the domestic relations division. 578

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 579  
on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors shall have 580

the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 581  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 582  
the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected and 583  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 584  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 585  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 586  
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the 587  
judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, 588  
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the 589  
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 590  
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment, 591  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 592  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 593  
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division in 594  
the discharge of their various duties. 595

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 596  
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title, 597  
compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and 598  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties 599  
of the personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 600  
addition to other statutory duties include the handling, 601  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and 602  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons 603  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 604  
action pending in the division. 605

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 606  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 607  
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 608  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that 609  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed by 610  
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 began 613  
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 the 620  
court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 621  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall be 622  
the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 623  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 624  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 625  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 626  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 627  
including any referees considered necessary in the discharge of 628  
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 the 631  
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 marriage, 635  
legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling and 636  
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 began 640  
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 division, 649  
shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and its 650  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 651  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 652  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile 653  
cases, including any referees considered necessary by the judge in 654  
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 the 657  
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 and 661  
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 of 669  
common pleas. 670

(F) In Montgomery county: 671

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 672  
on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, shall 673  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 674  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 675  
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 assignment 682  
and division of the work of the division and shall have charge of 683  
the employment and supervision of the personnel of the division 684  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 685  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 686  
including any necessary referees, except those employees who may 687  
be appointed by the judge, junior in point of service, under this 688  
section and sections 2301.12, 2301.18, and 2301.19 of the Revised 689  
Code. The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 690  
point of service, also shall designate the title, compensation, 691  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 692  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. 693

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 694  
on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 695  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 696  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 697  
the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be elected 698  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 699  
division, and shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, 700  
the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 701  
Revised Code. 702

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 703  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 704  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 705  
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 706  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 707  
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 708

engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 709  
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 710  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, 711  
and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 712  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 713  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 714  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 715  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons, 716  
whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the 717  
division. 718

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, division 719  
of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the court of common 720  
pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform 721  
that judge's duties or the volume of cases pending in that judge's 722  
division necessitates it, the duties of that judge may be 723  
performed by the judge or judges of the other of those divisions. 724

(G) In Richland county: 725

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 726  
on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall have the same 727  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 728  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 729  
common pleas of Richland county and shall be elected and 730  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 731  
domestic relations. That judge shall be assigned and hear all 732  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 733  
cases, all domestic violence cases arising under section 3113.31 734  
of the Revised Code, and all post-decree proceedings arising from 735  
any case pertaining to any of those matters. The division of 736  
domestic relations has concurrent jurisdiction with the juvenile 737  
division of the court of common pleas of Richland county to 738  
determine the care, custody, or control of any child not a ward of 739  
another court of this state, and to hear and determine a request 740



for an order for the support of any child if the request is not 741  
ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, 742  
annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil action 743  
involving an allegation of domestic violence, or an action for 744  
support brought under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. Except in 745  
cases that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of 746  
the juvenile court, the judge of the division of domestic 747  
relations shall be assigned and hear all cases pertaining to 748  
paternity or parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, 749  
parenting time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of 750  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children, all 751  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 752  
proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support 753  
act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, and all 754  
post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of 755  
those matters. 756

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 757  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall be 758  
the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 759  
subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the 760  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 761  
domestic relations division, including any magistrates the judge 762  
considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's duties. The 763  
judge shall also designate the title, compensation, expense 764  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, vacation, and other 765  
employment-related matters of the personnel of the division and 766  
shall fix their duties. 767

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 768  
on January 3, 2005, and successors, shall have the same 769  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 770  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 771  
common pleas of Richland county, shall be elected and designated 772

as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 773  
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 774  
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. 775  
Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 776  
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 777  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 778  
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity or 779  
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 780  
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 781  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children or any 782  
post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any of 783  
those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not have 784  
jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be assigned, any 785  
proceeding under the uniform interstate family support act 786  
contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 787

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 788  
juvenile division shall be the administrator of the juvenile 789  
division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall 790  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 791  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 792  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 793  
magistrates whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge 794  
of the judge's various duties. 795

The judge of the juvenile division also shall designate the 796  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, 797  
and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 798  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 799  
statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 800  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling, 801  
conciliation, and mediation services that the court makes 802  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an 803  
action pending in the court, who request the services. 804

(H) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common pleas 805  
whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and January 806  
1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 807  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 808  
compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Stark 809  
county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 810  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 811  
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 812  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 813  
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 814  
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 815  
annulment cases, except cases that are assigned to some other 816  
judge of the court of common pleas for some special reason, shall 817  
be assigned to the judges. 818

The judge of the division of domestic relations, second most 819  
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment 820  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 821  
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of 822  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary 823  
referees required for the judge's respective court. 824

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 825  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the 826  
administration of sections 2151.13, 2151.16, 2151.17, and 2152.71 827  
of the Revised Code and with the assignment and division of the 828  
work of the division and the employment and supervision of all 829  
other personnel of the division, including, but not limited to, 830  
that judge's necessary referees, but excepting those employees who 831  
may be appointed by the judge second most senior in point of 832  
service. The senior judge further shall serve in every other 833  
position in which the statutes permit or require a juvenile judge 834  
to serve. 835

(I) In Summit county: 836

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 837  
on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, shall 838  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 839  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 840  
the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be elected 841  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 842  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic 843  
relations shall have assigned to them and hear all divorce, 844  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 845  
that come before the court. Except in cases that are subject to 846  
the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the 847  
judges of the division of domestic relations shall have assigned 848  
to them and hear all cases pertaining to paternity, custody, 849  
visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental rights 850  
and responsibilities for the care of children and all post-decree 851  
proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those 852  
matters. The judges of the division of domestic relations shall 853  
have assigned to them and hear all proceedings under the uniform 854  
interstate family support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the 855  
Revised Code. 856

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 857  
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 858  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 859  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 860  
personnel of the division, including any necessary referees, who 861  
are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 862  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases. 863  
That judge also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 864  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 865  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 866  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 867  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 868  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 869

of any counseling and conciliation services that are available 870  
upon request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 871  
action pending in the division. 872

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 873  
on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 874  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 875  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 876  
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated as 877  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 878  
be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as 879  
provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. Except 880  
in cases that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction 881  
of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile division shall 882  
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 883  
assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, custody, visitation, 884  
child support, or the allocation of parental rights and 885  
responsibilities for the care of children or any post-decree 886  
proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any of those 887  
matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not have 888  
jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be assigned, any 889  
proceeding under the uniform interstate family support act 890  
contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 891

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the juvenile 892  
division and its subdivisions and departments and shall have 893  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 894  
personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 895  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 896  
juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the title, 897  
compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and 898  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 899  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 900  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 901

investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 902  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons, 903  
whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the 904  
division. 905

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 906  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 907  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 908  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 909  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county and 910  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 911  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 912  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 913  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings 914  
over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 915  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 916  
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special 917  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 918  
pleas. 919

(K) In Butler county: 920

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 921  
on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, shall 922  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 923  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 924  
the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be elected 925  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 926  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic 927  
relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of 928  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 929  
court, except in cases that for some special reason are assigned 930  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas. The judge senior 931  
in point of service shall be charged with the assignment and 932  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 933

supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 934  
division. 935

The judge senior in point of service also shall designate the 936  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, 937  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 938  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 939  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 940  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 941  
separation, and annulment cases and providing any counseling and 942  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 943  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 944  
pending in the division, who request the services. 945

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 946  
on January 3, 1987, and January 2, 2003, and successors, shall 947  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 948  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 949  
the court of common pleas of Butler county, shall be elected and 950  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 951  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 952  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and 953  
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. The judge of the court 954  
of common pleas, juvenile division, who is senior in point of 955  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 956  
its subdivisions and departments. The judge, senior in point of 957  
service, shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and 958  
supervision of the personnel of the juvenile division who are 959  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, 960  
including any referees whom the judge considers necessary for the 961  
discharge of the judge's various duties. 962

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate 963  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 964  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 965

fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 966  
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 967  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling and 968  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 969  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 970  
pending in the division, who request the services. 971

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 972  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 973  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 974  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties 975  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the 976  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 977

(L)(1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of common 978  
pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 1961, 979  
January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, and 980  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 981  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 982  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county and 983  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 984  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 985  
powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 986  
separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are assigned 987  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some special 988  
reason. 989

(2) The administrative judge is administrator of the domestic 990  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and has 991  
the following powers concerning division personnel: 992

(a) Full charge of the employment, assignment, and 993  
supervision; 994

(b) Sole determination of compensation, duties, expenses, 995  
allowances, hours, leaves, and vacations. 996



(3) "Division personnel" include persons employed or referees 997  
engaged in hearing, servicing, investigating, counseling, or 998  
conciliating divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation 999  
and annulment matters. 1000

(M) In Lake county: 1001

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1002  
on January 2, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1003  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1004  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 1005  
common pleas of Lake county and shall be elected and designated as 1006  
judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1007  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all the divorce, 1008  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1009  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1010  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1011  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 1012  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 1013  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1014  
division. 1015

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1016  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1017  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1018  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1019  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1020  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1021  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1022  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1023  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1024  
services. 1025

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1026  
on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 1027  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1028

receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1029  
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 1030  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 1031  
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1032  
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by 1033  
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1034  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 1035  
its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of 1036  
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 1037  
the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 1038  
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the 1039  
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's various 1040  
duties. 1041

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1042  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 1043  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1044  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include 1045  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 1046  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1047  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1048  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1049  
services. 1050

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1051  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1052  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 1053  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties 1054  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the 1055  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 1056

(N) In Erie county: 1057

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1058  
on January 2, 1971, and the successors to that judge whose terms 1059  
begin before January 2, 2007, shall have the same qualifications, 1060

exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1061  
compensation as the other judge of the court of common pleas of 1062  
Erie county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the 1063  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge 1064  
shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and shall 1065  
be assigned all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1066  
Revised Code, parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court 1067  
has jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1068  
separation, and annulment cases, except cases that for some 1069  
special reason are assigned to some other judge. 1070

On or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the court of common 1071  
pleas who is elected in 2006 shall be the successor to the judge 1072  
of the domestic relations division whose term expires on January 1073  
1, 2007, shall be designated as judge of the court of common 1074  
pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge as 1075  
provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the 1076  
powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. 1077

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general division, 1078  
whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, the judge of 1079  
the court of common pleas, general division whose term begins on 1080  
January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of the court of 1081  
common pleas, general division, whose term begins February 9, 1082  
2009, and successors, shall have assigned to them, in addition to 1083  
all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the general 1084  
division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, dissolution of 1085  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 1086  
court, and all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the 1087  
probate court under Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the 1088  
Revised Code. 1089

(0) In Greene county: 1090

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1091  
on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1092

qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1093  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 1094  
common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and designated 1095  
as the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1096  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1097  
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support 1098  
enforcement, and domestic violence cases and all other cases 1099  
related to domestic relations, except cases that for some special 1100  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1101  
pleas. 1102

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 1103  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 1104  
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge also 1105  
shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of absence, 1106  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 1107  
duties. The duties of the personnel of the division, in addition 1108  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 1109  
and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1110  
separation, and annulment cases and the provision of counseling 1111  
and conciliation services that the division considers necessary 1112  
and makes available to persons who request the services, whether 1113  
or not the persons are parties in an action pending in the 1114  
division. The compensation for the personnel shall be paid from 1115  
the overall court budget and shall be included in the 1116  
appropriations for the existing judges of the general division of 1117  
the court of common pleas. 1118

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1119  
on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same 1120  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1121  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 1122  
common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and designated as 1123  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and, on or 1124

after January 1, 1995, shall be the juvenile judge as provided in 1125  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 1126  
jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. The judge of the court 1127  
of common pleas, juvenile division, shall be the administrator of 1128  
the juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The 1129  
judge shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and 1130  
supervision of the personnel of the juvenile division who are 1131  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, 1132  
including any referees whom the judge considers necessary for the 1133  
discharge of the judge's various duties. 1134

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1135  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 1136  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1137  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include 1138  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 1139  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the court 1140  
makes available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties 1141  
to an action pending in the court, who request the services. 1142

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 1143  
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 1144  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 1145  
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of the 1146  
general division shall be performed by the judge of the division 1147  
of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile division. 1148

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common 1149  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1150  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1151  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1152  
judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall be 1153  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1154  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1155  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1156

cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some 1157  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 1158  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1159  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1160  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1161  
division. 1162

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1163  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1164  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1165  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1166  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1167  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1168  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1169  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1170  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1171  
services. 1172

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 1173  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1174  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1175  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1176  
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 1177  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1178  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1179  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1180  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some 1181  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 1182  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1183  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1184  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1185  
division. 1186

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1187  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1188

personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1189  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1190  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1191  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1192  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1193  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1194  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1195  
services. 1196

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1197  
whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall have the 1198  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1199  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1200  
of common pleas of Warren county and shall be elected and 1201  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1202  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1203  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1204  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1205  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1206  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 1207  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 1208  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1209  
division. 1210

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1211  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1212  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1213  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1214  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1215  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1216  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1217  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1218  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1219  
services. 1220

(S) In Licking county, the judges of the court of common 1221  
pleas, whose terms begin on January 1, 1991, and January 1, 2005, 1222  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1223  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 1224  
the other judges of the court of common pleas of Licking county 1225  
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 1226  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judges shall be 1227  
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1228  
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1229  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1230  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of 1231  
children and the designation for the children of a place of 1232  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and 1233  
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1234  
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason are 1235  
assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The 1236  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall 1237  
be charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1238  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 1239  
of the division. 1240

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 1241  
relations shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1242  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1243  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1244  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1245  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1246  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1247  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1248  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1249  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1250  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1251  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1252  
parenting time, and visitation and providing any counseling and 1253



conciliation services that the division makes available to 1254  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1255  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1256

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1257  
whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the 1258  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1259  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1260  
of common pleas of Allen county and shall be elected and 1261  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1262  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1263  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1264  
all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 1265  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1266  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1267  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1268  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 1269  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 1270  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 1271  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be 1272  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1273  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 1274  
of the division. 1275

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1276  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1277  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1278  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1279  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1280  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1281  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1282  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1283  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1284  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1285

the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1286  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 1287  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1288  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1289  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1290

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1291  
whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the 1292  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1293  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1294  
common pleas of Medina county and shall be elected and designated 1295  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1296  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1297  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 1298  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1299  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1300  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1301  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1302  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 1303  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 1304  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 1305  
of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1306  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1307  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1308

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1309  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1310  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1311  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1312  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1313  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1314  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 1315  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 1316  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1317

for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1318  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1319  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 1320  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1321  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1322  
request the services. 1323

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 1324  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1325  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1326  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1327  
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and shall 1328  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1329  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1330  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1331  
cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, 1332  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1333  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and 1334  
the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1335  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 1336  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 1337  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 1338  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge also has 1339  
concurrent jurisdiction with the probate-juvenile division of the 1340  
court of common pleas of Fairfield county with respect to and may 1341  
hear cases to determine the custody of a child, as defined in 1342  
section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of 1343  
another court of this state, cases that are commenced by a parent, 1344  
guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 1345  
of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the 1346  
child to pay child support for that child when the request for 1347  
that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution 1348  
of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 1349  
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for 1350

support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action that 1351  
is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1352  
probate-juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1353  
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child is 1354  
an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 1355  
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 1356

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be charged 1357  
with the assignment and division of the work of the division and 1358  
with the employment and supervision of the personnel of the 1359  
division. 1360

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1361  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1362  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1363  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1364  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1365  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1366  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1367  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1368  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1369  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1370  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1371  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 1372  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1373  
persons, regardless of whether the persons are parties to an 1374  
action pending in the division, who request the services. When the 1375  
judge hears a case to determine the custody of a child, as defined 1376  
in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of 1377  
another court of this state or a case that is commenced by a 1378  
parent, guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 1379  
2151.011 of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a 1380  
parent of the child to pay child support for that child when the 1381  
request for that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 1382

dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a 1383  
criminal or civil action involving an allegation of domestic 1384  
violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised 1385  
Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original 1386  
jurisdiction of the probate-juvenile division of the court of 1387  
common pleas of Fairfield county and that involves an allegation 1388  
that the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the 1389  
duties of the personnel of the domestic relations division also 1390  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of those types 1391  
of cases. 1392

(W)(1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 1393  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1394  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1395  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1396  
the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be elected and 1397  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, domestic 1398  
relations division. The judge shall have all the powers relating 1399  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 1400  
of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings under Chapter 1401  
3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has 1402  
jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the division of 1403  
domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1404  
separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support enforcement, and 1405  
other cases related to domestic relations shall be assigned to the 1406  
domestic relations division, and the presiding judge of the court 1407  
of common pleas shall assign the cases to the judge of the 1408  
domestic relations division and the judges of the general 1409  
division. 1410

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 1411  
the division of domestic relations shall serve on the children 1412  
services board and the county advisory board. 1413

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 1414

county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or unable 1415  
to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the presiding judge 1416  
of the court of common pleas of Clark county determines that the 1417  
volume of cases pending in the division of domestic relations 1418  
necessitates it, the duties of the judge of the division of 1419  
domestic relations shall be performed by the judges of the general 1420  
division or probate division of the court of common pleas of Clark 1421  
county, as assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of 1422  
that court, and the judges so assigned shall act in conjunction 1423  
with the judge of the division of domestic relations of that 1424  
court. 1425

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1426  
whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall have the 1427  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1428  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1429  
common pleas of Scioto county and shall be elected and designated 1430  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1431  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1432  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 1433  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1434  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1435  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1436  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1437  
parenting time, visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and 1438  
matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in cases 1439  
that for some special reason are assigned to another judge of the 1440  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1441  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1442  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1443

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1444  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1445  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1446

personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1447  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1448  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1449  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 1450  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 1451  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1452  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1453  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1454  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 1455  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1456  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1457  
request the services. 1458

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and juvenile 1459  
divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas also shall 1460  
be the administrative judge of the domestic relations division of 1461  
the court and shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1462  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 1463  
court. The judge shall have all powers as administrator of the 1464  
domestic relations division and shall have charge of the personnel 1465  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 1466  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1467  
including any referees considered necessary for the discharge of 1468  
the judge's various duties. 1469

(Z)(1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 1470  
pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 1471  
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 1472  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the 1473  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion county and 1474  
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1475  
pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as 1476  
otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and the 1477  
successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to 1478

juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1479  
the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1480  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1481  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1482  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1483  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1484  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1485  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1486  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1487  
and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division 1488  
(Z)(2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of 1489  
any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 2003, 1490  
the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county whose term 1491  
begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to that judge, 1492  
shall have all the powers relating to the probate division of the 1493  
court of common pleas of Marion county in addition to the powers 1494  
previously specified in this division, and shall exercise 1495  
concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the probate division of 1496  
that court over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 1497  
the probate division of that court under Chapter 2101., and other 1498  
provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of 1499  
the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of that court 1500  
otherwise specified in division (Z)(1) of this section. 1501

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1502  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the 1503  
judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 1504  
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total length 1505  
of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county, 1506  
regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve as 1507  
the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 1508  
Marion county. 1509

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to 1510



"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or 1511  
"the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect 1512  
to Marion county, as being references to both "the probate 1513  
division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" 1514  
and as being references to both "the judge of the probate 1515  
division" and "the judge of the domestic relations- 1516  
juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all 1517  
references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be 1518  
construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to 1519  
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this 1520  
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of 1521  
common pleas of Marion county. 1522

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common 1523  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, shall 1524  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1525  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1526  
judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and shall 1527  
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1528  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned 1529  
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1530  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1531  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1532  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of 1533  
children and the designation for the children of a place of 1534  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and 1535  
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1536  
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason are 1537  
assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge 1538  
shall be charged with the assignment and division of the work of 1539  
the division and with the employment and supervision of the 1540  
personnel of the division. 1541

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1542

allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1543  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1544  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1545  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1546  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1547  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1548  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1549  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1550  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1551  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1552  
parenting time, and visitation and providing any counseling and 1553  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1554  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1555  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1556

(BB) In Henry county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1557  
whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, shall have 1558  
the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1559  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judge 1560  
of the court of common pleas of Henry county and shall be elected 1561  
and designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 1562  
of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of the powers 1563  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. or 1564  
2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings arising under 1565  
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court 1566  
has jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1567  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1568  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1569  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1570  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1571  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1572  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, 1573  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to the 1574  
other judge of the court of common pleas. 1575

(CC)(1) In Logan county, the judge of the court of common 1576  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 2005, and the successors to 1577  
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 1578  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the 1579  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Logan county and 1580  
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1581  
pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as 1582  
otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and the 1583  
successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to 1584  
juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1585  
the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1586  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1587  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1588  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1589  
for the care of children and designation for the children of a 1590  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1591  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1592  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1593  
and the successors to that judge. Notwithstanding any other 1594  
provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after January 1595  
2, 2005, the judge of the court of common pleas of Logan county 1596  
whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and the successors to that 1597  
judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate division 1598  
of the court of common pleas of Logan county in addition to the 1599  
powers previously specified in this division and shall exercise 1600  
concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the probate division of 1601  
that court over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 1602  
the probate division of that court under Chapter 2101., and other 1603  
provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of 1604  
the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of that court 1605  
otherwise specified in division (CC)(1) of this section. 1606

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1607  
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county or the 1608

probate judge of the court of common pleas of Logan county who is 1609  
elected as the administrative judge of the probate division of the 1610  
court of common pleas of Logan county pursuant to Rule 4 of the 1611  
Rules of Superintendence shall be the clerk of the probate 1612  
division and juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1613  
Logan county. The clerk of the court of common pleas who is 1614  
elected pursuant to section 2303.01 of the Revised Code shall keep 1615  
all of the journals, records, books, papers, and files pertaining 1616  
to the domestic relations cases. 1617

(3) On and after January 2, 2005, all references in law to 1618  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or 1619  
"the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect 1620  
to Logan county, as being references to both "the probate 1621  
division" and the "domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" 1622  
and as being references to both "the judge of the probate 1623  
division" and the "judge of the domestic 1624  
relations-juvenile-probate division." On and after January 2, 1625  
2005, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" 1626  
shall be construed, with respect to Logan county, as being 1627  
references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division 1628  
(CC)(2) of this section as the clerk of the probate division of 1629  
the court of common pleas of Logan county. 1630

(DD)(1) In Champaign county, the judge of the court of common 1631  
pleas whose term begins February 9, 2003, and the judge of the 1632  
court of common pleas whose term begins February 10, 2009, and the 1633  
successors to those judges, shall have the same qualifications, 1634  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1635  
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 1636  
Champaign county and shall be elected and designated as judges of 1637  
the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1638  
division. Except as otherwise specified in this division, those 1639  
judges, and the successors to those judges, shall have all the 1640

powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 1641  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all cases arising under 1642  
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of 1643  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings 1644  
involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1645  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1646  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1647  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 1648  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings shall be 1649  
assigned to those judges and the successors to those judges. 1650  
Notwithstanding any other provision of any section of the Revised 1651  
Code, on and after February 9, 2009, the judges designated by this 1652  
division as judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign 1653  
county, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division, and the 1654  
successors to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to 1655  
probate courts in addition to the powers previously specified in 1656  
this division and shall exercise jurisdiction over all matters 1657  
that are within the jurisdiction of probate courts under Chapter 1658  
2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to 1659  
the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1660  
division otherwise specified in division (DD)(1) of this section. 1661

(2) On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law to 1662  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or 1663  
"the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed with respect 1664  
to Champaign county as being references to the "domestic 1665  
relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being references to 1666  
the "judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division." 1667  
On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law to "the clerk 1668  
of the probate court" shall be construed with respect to Champaign 1669  
county as being references to the judge who is serving pursuant to 1670  
Rule 4 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as 1671  
the administrative judge of the court of common pleas, domestic 1672  
relations-juvenile-probate division. 1673

(EE) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1674  
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 1675  
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 1676  
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 1677  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge shall 1678  
be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas of that 1679  
county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of the 1680  
court of common pleas of that county to act in place of or in 1681  
conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 1682

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 1683  
2301.03 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1684