

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

**130th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2013-2014**

**H. B. No. 595**

**Representatives Brenner, Ruhl**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Anielski, Rogers, Sheehy, Sprague, Stebelton  
Speaker Batchelder**

**—**

**A B I L L**

To amend sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 of 1  
the Revised Code to create a domestic relations 2  
division of the Delaware County Court of Common 3  
Pleas and to create a judgeship for that division. 4

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

**Section 1.** That sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 2301.03 of the 5  
Revised Code be amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 2151.07.** The juvenile court is a court of record within 7  
the court of common pleas. The juvenile court has and shall 8  
exercise the powers and jurisdiction conferred in Chapters 2151. 9  
and 2152. of the Revised Code. 10

Whenever the juvenile judge of the juvenile court is sick, is 11  
absent from the county, or is unable to attend court, or the 12  
volume of cases pending in court necessitates it, upon the request 13  
of the administrative juvenile judge, the presiding judge of the 14  
court of common pleas pursuant to division ~~(EE)~~(FF) of section 15  
2301.03 of the Revised Code shall assign a judge of any division 16  
of the court of common pleas of the county to act in the juvenile 17  
judge's place or in conjunction with the juvenile judge. If no 18

judge of the court of common pleas is available for that purpose, 19  
the chief justice of the supreme court shall assign a judge of the 20  
court of common pleas, a juvenile judge, or a probate judge from a 21  
different county to act in the place of that juvenile judge or in 22  
conjunction with that juvenile judge. The assigned judge shall 23  
receive the compensation and expenses for so serving that is 24  
provided by law for judges assigned to hold court in courts of 25  
common pleas. 26

**Sec. 2301.02.** The number of judges of the court of common 27  
pleas for each county, the time for the next election of the 28  
judges in the several counties, and the beginning of their terms 29  
shall be as follows: 30

(A) In Adams, Ashland, Fayette, and Pike counties, one judge, 31  
elected in 1956, term to begin February 9, 1957; 32

In Brown, Crawford, Defiance, Highland, Holmes, Morgan, 33  
Ottawa, and Union counties, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term 34  
to begin February 9, 1955; 35

In Auglaize county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to 36  
begin January 9, 1957; 37

In Coshocton, Darke, Fulton, Gallia, Guernsey, Hardin, 38  
Jackson, Knox, Madison, Mercer, Monroe, Paulding, Vinton, and 39  
Wyandot counties, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to begin 40  
January 1, 1957; 41

In Morrow county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 42  
to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2006, term to 43  
begin January 1, 2007; 44

In Logan county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 45  
to begin January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, term to 46  
begin January 2, 2005; 47

In Carroll, Clinton, Hocking, Meigs, Pickaway, Preble, 48

Shelby, Van Wert, and Williams counties, one judge, to be elected	49
in 1952, term to begin January 1, 1953;	50
In Champaign county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952,	51
term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in 2008, term	52
to begin February 10, 2009;	53
In Harrison and Noble counties, one judge, to be elected in	54
1954, term to begin April 18, 1955;	55
In Henry county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term	56
to begin May 9, 1957, and one to be elected in 2004, term to begin	57
January 1, 2005;	58
In Putnam county, one judge, to be elected in 1956, term to	59
begin May 9, 1957;	60
In Huron county, one judge, to be elected in 1952, term to	61
begin May 14, 1953;	62
In Perry county, one judge, to be elected in 1954, term to	63
begin July 6, 1956;	64
In Sandusky county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954,	65
term to begin February 10, 1955, and one to be elected in 1978,	66
term to begin January 1, 1979.	67
(B) In Allen county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956,	68
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in 1958,	69
term to begin January 1, 1959, and the third to be elected in	70
1992, term to begin January 1, 1993;	71
In Ashtabula county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954,	72
term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1960, term to	73
begin January 1, 1961, and one to be elected in 1978, term to	74
begin January 2, 1979;	75
In Athens county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, term	76
to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1990, term to	77
begin July 1, 1991;	78

In Erie county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 79  
to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1970, term 80  
to begin January 2, 1971, the third to be elected in 2004, term to 81  
begin January 2, 2005, and the fourth to be elected in 2008, term 82  
to begin February 9, 2009; 83

In Fairfield county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 84  
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 1970, 85  
term to begin January 1, 1971, and the third to be elected in 86  
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995; 87

In Geauga county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 88  
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1976, 89  
term to begin January 6, 1977; 90

In Greene county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956, 91  
term to begin February 9, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960, 92  
term to begin January 1, 1961, the third to be elected in 1978, 93  
term to begin January 2, 1979, and the fourth to be elected in 94  
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995; 95

In Hancock county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 96  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in 97  
1978, term to begin January 1, 1979; 98

In Lawrence county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, 99  
term to begin February 9, 1955, and the second to be elected in 100  
1976, term to begin January 1, 1977; 101

In Marion county, three judges, one to be elected in 1952, 102  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1976, 103  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the third to be elected in 104  
1998, term to begin February 9, 1999; 105

In Medina county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956, 106  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1966, 107  
term to begin January 1, 1967, and the third to be elected in 108  
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995; 109

In Miami county, two judges, one to be elected in 1954, term 110  
to begin February 9, 1955, and one to be elected in 1970, term to 111  
begin on January 1, 1971; 112

In Muskingum county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968, 113  
term to begin August 9, 1969, one to be elected in 1978, term to 114  
begin January 1, 1979, and one to be elected in 2002, term to 115  
begin January 2, 2003; 116

In Portage county, three judges, one to be elected in 1956, 117  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960, 118  
term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected in 119  
1986, term to begin January 2, 1987; 120

In Ross county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 121  
to begin February 9, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1976, 122  
term to begin January 1, 1977; 123

In Scioto county, three judges, one to be elected in 1954, 124  
term to begin February 10, 1955, the second to be elected in 1960, 125  
term to begin January 1, 1961, and the third to be elected in 126  
1994, term to begin January 2, 1995; 127

In Seneca county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 128  
to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 1986, 129  
term to begin January 2, 1987; 130

In Warren county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954, 131  
term to begin February 9, 1955, the second to be elected in 1970, 132  
term to begin January 1, 1971, the third to be elected in 1986, 133  
term to begin January 1, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in 134  
2004, term to begin January 2, 2005; 135

In Washington county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 136  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and one to be elected in 1986, term 137  
to begin January 1, 1987; 138

In Wood county, three judges, one to be elected in 1968, term 139

beginning January 1, 1969, the second to be elected in 1970, term 140  
to begin January 2, 1971, and the third to be elected in 1990, 141  
term to begin January 1, 1991; 142

In Belmont and Jefferson counties, two judges, to be elected 143  
in 1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 144  
respectively; 145

In Clark county, four judges, one to be elected in 1952, term 146  
to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1956, term 147  
to begin January 2, 1957, the third to be elected in 1986, term to 148  
begin January 3, 1987, and the fourth to be elected in 1994, term 149  
to begin January 2, 1995; 150

In Clermont county, five judges, one to be elected in 1956, 151  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1964, 152  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the third to be elected in 1982, 153  
term to begin January 2, 1983, the fourth to be elected in 1986, 154  
term to begin January 2, 1987, and the fifth to be elected in 155  
2006, term to begin January 3, 2007; 156

In Columbiana county, two judges, one to be elected in 1952, 157  
term to begin January 1, 1953, and the second to be elected in 158  
1956, term to begin January 1, 1957; 159

In Delaware county, ~~two~~ three judges, one to be elected in 160  
1990, term to begin February 9, 1991, the second to be elected in 161  
1994, term to begin January 1, 1995, and the third to be elected 162  
in 2016, term to begin January 1, 2017; 163

In Lake county, six judges, one to be elected in 1958, term 164  
to begin January 1, 1959, the second to be elected in 1960, term 165  
to begin January 2, 1961, the third to be elected in 1964, term to 166  
begin January 3, 1965, the fourth and fifth to be elected in 1978, 167  
terms to begin January 4, 1979, and January 5, 1979, respectively, 168  
and the sixth to be elected in 2000, term to begin January 6, 169  
2001; 170

In Licking county, four judges, one to be elected in 1954, 171  
term to begin February 9, 1955, one to be elected in 1964, term to 172  
begin January 1, 1965, one to be elected in 1990, term to begin 173  
January 1, 1991, and one to be elected in 2004, term to begin 174  
January 1, 2005; 175

In Lorain county, nine judges, two to be elected in 1952, 176  
terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, respectively, 177  
one to be elected in 1958, term to begin January 3, 1959, one to 178  
be elected in 1968, term to begin January 1, 1969, two to be 179  
elected in 1988, terms to begin January 4, 1989, and January 5, 180  
1989, respectively, two to be elected in 1998, terms to begin 181  
January 2, 1999, and January 3, 1999, respectively; and one to be 182  
elected in 2006, term to begin January 6, 2007; 183

In Butler county, eleven judges, one to be elected in 1956, 184  
term to begin January 1, 1957; two to be elected in 1954, terms to 185  
begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; one to 186  
be elected in 1968, term to begin January 2, 1969; one to be 187  
elected in 1986, term to begin January 3, 1987; two to be elected 188  
in 1988, terms to begin January 1, 1989, and January 2, 1989, 189  
respectively; one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 4, 190  
1993; two to be elected in 2002, terms to begin January 2, 2003, 191  
and January 3, 2003, respectively; and one to be elected in 2006, 192  
term to begin January 3, 2007; 193

In Richland county, four judges, one to be elected in 1956, 194  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the second to be elected in 1960, 195  
term to begin February 9, 1961, the third to be elected in 1968, 196  
term to begin January 2, 1969, and the fourth to be elected in 197  
2004, term to begin January 3, 2005; 198

In Tuscarawas county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, 199  
term to begin January 1, 1957, and the second to be elected in 200  
1960, term to begin January 2, 1961; 201

In Wayne county, two judges, one to be elected in 1956, term 202  
beginning January 1, 1957, and one to be elected in 1968, term to 203  
begin January 2, 1969; 204

In Trumbull county, six judges, one to be elected in 1952, 205  
term to begin January 1, 1953, the second to be elected in 1954, 206  
term to begin January 1, 1955, the third to be elected in 1956, 207  
term to begin January 1, 1957, the fourth to be elected in 1964, 208  
term to begin January 1, 1965, the fifth to be elected in 1976, 209  
term to begin January 2, 1977, and the sixth to be elected in 210  
1994, term to begin January 3, 1995; 211

(C) In Cuyahoga county, thirty-nine judges; eight to be 212  
elected in 1954, terms to begin on successive days beginning from 213  
January 1, 1955, to January 7, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 214  
respectively; eight to be elected in 1956, terms to begin on 215  
successive days beginning from January 1, 1957, to January 8, 216  
1957; three to be elected in 1952, terms to begin from January 1, 217  
1953, to January 3, 1953; two to be elected in 1960, terms to 218  
begin on January 8, 1961, and January 9, 1961, respectively; two 219  
to be elected in 1964, terms to begin January 4, 1965, and January 220  
5, 1965, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to begin on 221  
January 10, 1967; four to be elected in 1968, terms to begin on 222  
successive days beginning from January 9, 1969, to January 12, 223  
1969; two to be elected in 1974, terms to begin on January 18, 224  
1975, and January 19, 1975, respectively; five to be elected in 225  
1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning January 6, 1977, 226  
to January 10, 1977; two to be elected in 1982, terms to begin 227  
January 11, 1983, and January 12, 1983, respectively; and two to 228  
be elected in 1986, terms to begin January 13, 1987, and January 229  
14, 1987, respectively; 230

In Franklin county, twenty-two judges; two to be elected in 231  
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 232  
respectively; four to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 233



1, 1957, to January 4, 1957; four to be elected in 1958, terms to 234  
begin January 1, 1959, to January 4, 1959; three to be elected in 235  
1968, terms to begin January 5, 1969, to January 7, 1969; three to 236  
be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days beginning 237  
January 5, 1977, to January 7, 1977; one to be elected in 1982, 238  
term to begin January 8, 1983; one to be elected in 1986, term to 239  
begin January 9, 1987; two to be elected in 1990, terms to begin 240  
July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991, respectively; one to be elected in 241  
1996, term to begin January 2, 1997; and one to be elected in 242  
2004, term to begin July 1, 2005; 243

In Hamilton county, twenty-one judges; eight to be elected in 244  
1966, terms to begin January 1, 1967, January 2, 1967, and from 245  
February 9, 1967, to February 14, 1967, respectively; five to be 246  
elected in 1956, terms to begin from January 1, 1957, to January 247  
5, 1957; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 1, 1965; 248  
one to be elected in 1974, term to begin January 15, 1975; one to 249  
be elected in 1980, term to begin January 16, 1981; two to be 250  
elected at large in the general election in 1982, terms to begin 251  
April 1, 1983; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin July 1, 252  
1991; and two to be elected in 1996, terms to begin January 3, 253  
1997, and January 4, 1997, respectively; 254

In Lucas county, fourteen judges; two to be elected in 1954, 255  
terms to begin January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, 256  
respectively; two to be elected in 1956, terms to begin January 1, 257  
1957, and October 29, 1957, respectively; two to be elected in 258  
1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1953, 259  
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 3, 260  
1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 4, 1969; 261  
two to be elected in 1976, terms to begin January 4, 1977, and 262  
January 5, 1977, respectively; one to be elected in 1982, term to 263  
begin January 6, 1983; one to be elected in 1988, term to begin 264  
January 7, 1989; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin January 265

2, 1991; and one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 2,	266
1993;	267
In Mahoning county, seven judges; three to be elected in	268
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and	269
February 9, 1955, respectively; one to be elected in 1956, term to	270
begin January 1, 1957; one to be elected in 1952, term to begin	271
January 1, 1953; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January	272
2, 1969; and one to be elected in 1990, term to begin July 1,	273
1991;	274
In Montgomery county, fifteen judges; three to be elected in	275
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, and January	276
3, 1955, respectively; four to be elected in 1952, terms to begin	277
January 1, 1953, January 2, 1953, July 1, 1953, and July 2, 1953,	278
respectively; one to be elected in 1964, term to begin January 3,	279
1965; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 3, 1969;	280
three to be elected in 1976, terms to begin on successive days	281
beginning January 4, 1977, to January 6, 1977; two to be elected	282
in 1990, terms to begin July 1, 1991, and July 2, 1991,	283
respectively; and one to be elected in 1992, term to begin January	284
1, 1993;	285
In Stark county, eight judges; one to be elected in 1958,	286
term to begin on January 2, 1959; two to be elected in 1954, terms	287
to begin on January 1, 1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively;	288
two to be elected in 1952, terms to begin January 1, 1953, and	289
April 16, 1953, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to	290
begin on January 4, 1967; and two to be elected in 1992, terms to	291
begin January 1, 1993, and January 2, 1993, respectively;	292
In Summit county, thirteen judges; four to be elected in	293
1954, terms to begin January 1, 1955, January 2, 1955, January 3,	294
1955, and February 9, 1955, respectively; three to be elected in	295
1958, terms to begin January 1, 1959, January 2, 1959, and May 17,	296
1959, respectively; one to be elected in 1966, term to begin	297

January 4, 1967; one to be elected in 1968, term to begin January 298  
5, 1969; one to be elected in 1990, term to begin May 1, 1991; one 299  
to be elected in 1992, term to begin January 6, 1993; and two to 300  
be elected in 2008, terms to begin January 5, 2009, and January 6, 301  
2009, respectively. 302

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, in any county 303  
having two or more judges of the court of common pleas, in which 304  
more than one-third of the judges plus one were previously elected 305  
at the same election, if the office of one of those judges so 306  
elected becomes vacant more than forty days prior to the second 307  
general election preceding the expiration of that judge's term, 308  
the office that that judge had filled shall be abolished as of the 309  
date of the next general election, and a new office of judge of 310  
the court of common pleas shall be created. The judge who is to 311  
fill that new office shall be elected for a six-year term at the 312  
next general election, and the term of that judge shall commence 313  
on the first day of the year following that general election, on 314  
which day no other judge's term begins, so that the number of 315  
judges that the county shall elect shall not be reduced. 316

Judges of the probate division of the court of common pleas 317  
are judges of the court of common pleas but shall be elected 318  
pursuant to sections 2101.02 and 2101.021 of the Revised Code, 319  
except in Adams, Harrison, Henry, Morgan, Noble, and Wyandot 320  
counties in which the judge of the court of common pleas elected 321  
pursuant to this section also shall serve as judge of the probate 322  
division, except in Lorain county in which the judges of the 323  
domestic relations division of the Lorain county court of common 324  
pleas elected pursuant to this section also shall perform the 325  
duties and functions of the judge of the probate division from 326  
February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, and except in Morrow 327  
county in which the judges of the court of common pleas elected 328  
pursuant to this section also shall perform the duties and 329

functions of the judge of the probate division. 330

**Sec. 2301.03.** (A) In Franklin county, the judges of the court 331  
of common pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 332  
1953, January 5, 1969, January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1997, and 333  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 334  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 335  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Franklin county and 336  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 337  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 338  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 339  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings 340  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile 341  
court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, 342  
legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. 343  
In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge who is senior 344  
in point of service shall serve on the children services board and 345  
the county advisory board and shall be the administrator of the 346  
domestic relations division and its subdivisions and departments. 347

348

(B) In Hamilton county: 349

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas, whose term begins 350  
on January 1, 1957, and successors, and the judge of the court of 351  
common pleas, whose term begins on February 14, 1967, and 352  
successors, shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 353  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and 354  
jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. 355

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 356  
on January 5, 1957, January 16, 1981, and July 1, 1991, and 357  
successors, shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 358  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and shall have 359  
assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 360

separation, and annulment cases coming before the court. On or 361  
after the first day of July and before the first day of August of 362  
1991 and each year thereafter, a majority of the judges of the 363  
division of domestic relations shall elect one of the judges of 364  
the division as administrative judge of that division. If a 365  
majority of the judges of the division of domestic relations are 366  
unable for any reason to elect an administrative judge for the 367  
division before the first day of August, a majority of the judges 368  
of the Hamilton county court of common pleas, as soon as possible 369  
after that date, shall elect one of the judges of the division of 370  
domestic relations as administrative judge of that division. The 371  
term of the administrative judge shall begin on the earlier of the 372  
first day of August of the year in which the administrative judge 373  
is elected or the date on which the administrative judge is 374  
elected by a majority of the judges of the Hamilton county court 375  
of common pleas and shall terminate on the date on which the 376  
administrative judge's successor is elected in the following year. 377

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the administrative 378  
judge of the division of domestic relations shall be the 379  
administrator of the domestic relations division and its 380  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 381  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 382  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 383  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 384  
including any referees considered necessary by the judges in the 385  
discharge of their various duties. 386

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 387  
relations also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 388  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 389  
personnel of the division, and shall fix the duties of its 390  
personnel. The duties of the personnel, in addition to those 391  
provided for in other sections of the Revised Code, shall include 392

the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution 393  
of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling 394  
and conciliation services that may be made available to persons 395  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 396  
action pending in the division. 397

The board of county commissioners shall appropriate the sum 398  
of money each year as will meet all the administrative expenses of 399  
the division of domestic relations, including reasonable expenses 400  
of the domestic relations judges and the division counselors and 401  
other employees designated to conduct the handling, servicing, and 402  
investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 403  
separation, and annulment cases, conciliation and counseling, and 404  
all matters relating to those cases and counseling, and the 405  
expenses involved in the attendance of division personnel at 406  
domestic relations and welfare conferences designated by the 407  
division, and the further sum each year as will provide for the 408  
adequate operation of the division of domestic relations. 409

The compensation and expenses of all employees and the salary 410  
and expenses of the judges shall be paid by the county treasurer 411  
from the money appropriated for the operation of the division, 412  
upon the warrant of the county auditor, certified to by the 413  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations. 414

The summonses, warrants, citations, subpoenas, and other 415  
writs of the division may issue to a bailiff, constable, or staff 416  
investigator of the division or to the sheriff of any county or 417  
any marshal, constable, or police officer, and the provisions of 418  
law relating to the subpoenaing of witnesses in other cases shall 419  
apply insofar as they are applicable. When a summons, warrant, 420  
citation, subpoena, or other writ is issued to an officer, other 421  
than a bailiff, constable, or staff investigator of the division, 422  
the expense of serving it shall be assessed as a part of the costs 423  
in the case involved. 424

(3) The judge of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county 425  
whose term begins on January 3, 1997, and the successors to that 426  
judge shall each be elected and designated as the drug court judge 427  
of the court of common pleas of Hamilton county. The drug court 428  
judge may accept or reject any case referred to the drug court 429  
judge under division (B)(3) of this section. After the drug court 430  
judge accepts a referred case, the drug court judge has full 431  
authority over the case, including the authority to conduct 432  
arraignment, accept pleas, enter findings and dispositions, 433  
conduct trials, order treatment, and if treatment is not 434  
successfully completed pronounce and enter sentence. 435

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 436  
of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county municipal 437  
court may refer to the drug court judge any case, and any 438  
companion cases, the judge determines meet the criteria described 439  
under divisions (B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section. If the drug 440  
court judge accepts referral of a referred case, the case, and any 441  
companion cases, shall be transferred to the drug court judge. A 442  
judge may refer a case meeting the criteria described in divisions 443  
(B)(3)(a) and (b) of this section that involves a violation of a 444  
condition of a community control sanction to the drug court judge, 445  
and, if the drug court judge accepts the referral, the referring 446  
judge and the drug court judge have concurrent jurisdiction over 447  
the case. 448

A judge of the general division of the court of common pleas 449  
of Hamilton county and a judge of the Hamilton county municipal 450  
court may refer a case to the drug court judge under division 451  
(B)(3) of this section if the judge determines that both of the 452  
following apply: 453

(a) One of the following applies: 454

(i) The case involves a drug abuse offense, as defined in 455  
section 2925.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third 456

or fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 457  
1996, a felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the 458  
offense is committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor. 459

(ii) The case involves a theft offense, as defined in section 460  
2913.01 of the Revised Code, that is a felony of the third or 461  
fourth degree if the offense is committed prior to July 1, 1996, a 462  
felony of the third, fourth, or fifth degree if the offense is 463  
committed on or after July 1, 1996, or a misdemeanor, and the 464  
defendant is drug or alcohol dependent or in danger of becoming 465  
drug or alcohol dependent and would benefit from treatment. 466

(b) All of the following apply: 467

(i) The case involves an offense for which a community 468  
control sanction may be imposed or is a case in which a mandatory 469  
prison term or a mandatory jail term is not required to be 470  
imposed. 471

(ii) The defendant has no history of violent behavior. 472

(iii) The defendant has no history of mental illness. 473

(iv) The defendant's current or past behavior, or both, is 474  
drug or alcohol driven. 475

(v) The defendant demonstrates a sincere willingness to 476  
participate in a fifteen-month treatment process. 477

(vi) The defendant has no acute health condition. 478

(vii) If the defendant is incarcerated, the county prosecutor 479  
approves of the referral. 480

(4) If the administrative judge of the court of common pleas 481  
of Hamilton county determines that the volume of cases pending 482  
before the drug court judge does not constitute a sufficient 483  
caseload for the drug court judge, the administrative judge, in 484  
accordance with the Rules of Superintendence for Courts of Common 485  
Pleas, shall assign individual cases to the drug court judge from 486



the general docket of the court. If the assignments so occur, the 487  
administrative judge shall cease the assignments when the 488  
administrative judge determines that the volume of cases pending 489  
before the drug court judge constitutes a sufficient caseload for 490  
the drug court judge. 491

(5) As used in division (B) of this section, "community 492  
control sanction," "mandatory prison term," and "mandatory jail 493  
term" have the same meanings as in section 2929.01 of the Revised 494  
Code. 495

(C)(1) In Lorain county: 496

(a) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 497  
on January 3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, and 498  
successors, and the judge of the court of common pleas whose term 499  
begins on February 9, 2009, shall have the same qualifications, 500  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 501  
compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of 502  
Lorain county and shall be elected and designated as the judges of 503  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The 504  
judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 505  
3, 1959, January 4, 1989, and January 2, 1999, and successors, 506  
shall have all of the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all 507  
cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all 508  
parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court has 509  
jurisdiction, and all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 510  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them, except 511  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to some other 512  
judge of the court of common pleas. From February 9, 2009, through 513  
September 28, 2009, the judge of the court of common pleas whose 514  
term begins on February 9, 2009, shall have all the powers 515  
relating to juvenile courts, and cases under Chapters 2151. and 516  
2152. of the Revised Code, parentage proceedings over which the 517  
juvenile court has jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of 518

marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned 519  
to that judge, except cases that for some special reason are 520  
assigned to some other judge of the court of common pleas. 521

(b) From January 1, 2006, through September 28, 2009, the 522  
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 523  
relations, in addition to the powers and jurisdiction set forth in 524  
division (C)(1)(a) of this section, shall have jurisdiction over 525  
matters that are within the jurisdiction of the probate court 526  
under Chapter 2101. and other provisions of the Revised Code. 527

(c) The judge of the court of common pleas, division of 528  
domestic relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, is the 529  
successor to the probate judge who was elected in 2002 for a term 530  
that began on February 9, 2003. After September 28, 2009, the 531  
judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 532  
relations, whose term begins on February 9, 2009, shall be the 533  
probate judge. 534

(2)(a) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, 535  
with respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the 536  
probate court shall be construed as references to the court of 537  
common pleas, division of domestic relations, and all references 538  
to the probate judge shall be construed as references to the 539  
judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 540  
relations. 541

(b) From February 9, 2009, through September 28, 2009, with 542  
respect to Lorain county, all references in law to the clerk of 543  
the probate court shall be construed as references to the judge 544  
who is serving pursuant to Rule 4 of the Rules of Superintendence 545  
for the Courts of Ohio as the administrative judge of the court of 546  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. 547

(D) In Lucas county: 548

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 549

on January 1, 1955, and January 3, 1965, and successors, shall 550  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 551  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 552  
the court of common pleas of Lucas county and shall be elected and 553  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 554  
domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 555  
separation, and annulment cases shall be assigned to them. 556

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 557  
point of service, shall be considered as the presiding judge of 558  
the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, and 559  
shall be charged exclusively with the assignment and division of 560  
the work of the division and the employment and supervision of all 561  
other personnel of the domestic relations division. 562

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 563  
on January 5, 1977, and January 2, 1991, and successors shall have 564  
the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 565  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 566  
the court of common pleas of Lucas county, shall be elected and 567  
designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 568  
division, and shall be the juvenile judges as provided in Chapters 569  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 570  
jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. In addition to the 571  
judge's regular duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, 572  
juvenile division, senior in point of service, shall be the 573  
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 574  
departments and shall have charge of the employment, assignment, 575  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 576  
handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including 577  
any referees considered necessary by the judges of the division in 578  
the discharge of their various duties. 579

The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 580  
senior in point of service, also shall designate the title, 581

compensation, expense allowance, hours, leaves of absence, and 582  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix the duties 583  
of the personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 584  
addition to other statutory duties include the handling, 585  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and 586  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons 587  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 588  
action pending in the division. 589

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 590  
division of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the 591  
juvenile division is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 592  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in that 593  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties shall be performed by 594  
the judges of the other of those divisions. 595

(E) In Mahoning county: 596

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term began 597  
on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 598  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 599  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 600  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 601  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 602  
relations, and shall be assigned all the divorce, dissolution of 603  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 604  
court. In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 605  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall be 606  
the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 607  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 608  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 609  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 610  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 611  
including any referees considered necessary in the discharge of 612  
the various duties of the judge's office. 613

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 614  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 615  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 616  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 617  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 618  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 619  
legal separation, and annulment cases and counseling and 620  
conciliation services that may be made available to persons 621  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 622  
action pending in the division. 623

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term began 624  
on January 2, 1969, and successors, shall have the same 625  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 626  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 627  
common pleas of Mahoning county, shall be elected and designated 628  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 629  
shall be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 630  
2152. of the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions 631  
conferred by those chapters. In addition to the judge's regular 632  
duties, the judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, 633  
shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and its 634  
subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 635  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 636  
division engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile 637  
cases, including any referees considered necessary by the judge in 638  
the discharge of the judge's various duties. 639

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 640  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 641  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 642  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 643  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 644  
servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and counseling and 645

conciliation services that may be made available to persons 646  
requesting them, whether or not the persons are parties to an 647  
action pending in the division. 648

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 649  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 650  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties, or the volume of 651  
cases pending in that judge's division necessitates it, that 652  
judge's duties shall be performed by another judge of the court of 653  
common pleas. 654

(F) In Montgomery county: 655

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 656  
on January 2, 1953, and January 4, 1977, and successors, shall 657  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 658  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 659  
the court of common pleas of Montgomery county and shall be 660  
elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, 661  
division of domestic relations. These judges shall have assigned 662  
to them all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 663  
and annulment cases. 664

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 665  
point of service, shall be charged exclusively with the assignment 666  
and division of the work of the division and shall have charge of 667  
the employment and supervision of the personnel of the division 668  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 669  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 670  
including any necessary referees, except those employees who may 671  
be appointed by the judge, junior in point of service, under this 672  
section and sections 2301.12 and 2301.18 of the Revised Code. The 673  
judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in point of 674  
service, also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 675  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 676  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. 677

(2) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 678  
on January 1, 1953, and January 1, 1993, and successors, shall 679  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 680  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 681  
the court of common pleas of Montgomery county, shall be elected 682  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, juvenile 683  
division, and shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, 684  
the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 685  
Revised Code. 686

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 687  
court of common pleas, juvenile division, senior in point of 688  
service, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 689  
its subdivisions and departments and shall have charge of the 690  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 691  
juvenile division, including any necessary referees, who are 692  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases. 693  
The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate the 694  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, 695  
and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 696  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 697  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 698  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 699  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons, 700  
whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the 701  
division. 702

If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, division 703  
of domestic relations, or one of the judges of the court of common 704  
pleas, juvenile division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform 705  
that judge's duties or the volume of cases pending in that judge's 706  
division necessitates it, the duties of that judge may be 707  
performed by the judge or judges of the other of those divisions. 708

(G) In Richland county: 709

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 710  
on January 1, 1957, and successors, shall have the same 711  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 712  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 713  
common pleas of Richland county and shall be elected and 714  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 715  
domestic relations. That judge shall be assigned and hear all 716  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 717  
cases, all domestic violence cases arising under section 3113.31 718  
of the Revised Code, and all post-decree proceedings arising from 719  
any case pertaining to any of those matters. The division of 720  
domestic relations has concurrent jurisdiction with the juvenile 721  
division of the court of common pleas of Richland county to 722  
determine the care, custody, or control of any child not a ward of 723  
another court of this state, and to hear and determine a request 724  
for an order for the support of any child if the request is not 725  
ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, 726  
annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil action 727  
involving an allegation of domestic violence, or an action for 728  
support brought under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. Except in 729  
cases that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of 730  
the juvenile court, the judge of the division of domestic 731  
relations shall be assigned and hear all cases pertaining to 732  
paternity or parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, 733  
parenting time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of 734  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children, all 735  
proceedings arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 736  
proceedings arising under the uniform interstate family support 737  
act contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, and all 738  
post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of 739  
those matters. 740

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 741  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations, shall be 742



the administrator of the domestic relations division and its 743  
subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of the 744  
employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of the 745  
domestic relations division, including any magistrates the judge 746  
considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's duties. The 747  
judge shall also designate the title, compensation, expense 748  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, vacation, and other 749  
employment-related matters of the personnel of the division and 750  
shall fix their duties. 751

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 752  
on January 3, 2005, and successors, shall have the same 753  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 754  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 755  
common pleas of Richland county, shall be elected and designated 756  
as judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and 757  
shall be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile 758  
judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. 759  
Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original 760  
jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile 761  
division shall not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and 762  
shall not be assigned, any case pertaining to paternity or 763  
parentage, the care, custody, or control of children, parenting 764  
time or visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental 765  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children or any 766  
post-decree proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any of 767  
those matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not have 768  
jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be assigned, any 769  
proceeding under the uniform interstate family support act 770  
contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 771

In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of the 772  
juvenile division shall be the administrator of the juvenile 773  
division and its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall 774

have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 775  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 776  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any 777  
magistrates whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge 778  
of the judge's various duties. 779

The judge of the juvenile division also shall designate the 780  
title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, 781  
and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 782  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 783  
statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 784  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling, 785  
conciliation, and mediation services that the court makes 786  
available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an 787  
action pending in the court, who request the services. 788

(H) In Stark county, the judges of the court of common pleas 789  
whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, January 2, 1959, and January 790  
1, 1993, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, 791  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 792  
compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Stark 793  
county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court 794  
of common pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have 795  
all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under 796  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage 797  
proceedings over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and 798  
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 799  
annulment cases, except cases that are assigned to some other 800  
judge of the court of common pleas for some special reason, shall 801  
be assigned to the judges. 802

The judge of the division of domestic relations, second most 803  
senior in point of service, shall have charge of the employment 804  
and supervision of the personnel of the division engaged in 805  
handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, dissolution of 806

marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, and necessary referees required for the judge's respective court.

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

(I) In Summit county:

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin on January 4, 1967, and January 6, 1993, and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of common pleas of Summit county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases that come before the court. Except in cases that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile court, the judges of the division of domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all cases pertaining to paternity, custody, visitation, child support, or the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and all post-decree proceedings arising from any case pertaining to any of those matters. The judges of the division of domestic relations shall have assigned to them and hear all proceedings under the uniform

interstate family support act contained in Chapter 3115. of the 839  
Revised Code. 840

The judge of the division of domestic relations, senior in 841  
point of service, shall be the administrator of the domestic 842  
relations division and its subdivisions and departments and shall 843  
have charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 844  
personnel of the division, including any necessary referees, who 845  
are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 846  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases. 847  
That judge also shall designate the title, compensation, expense 848  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 849  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 850  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 851  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 852  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 853  
of any counseling and conciliation services that are available 854  
upon request to all persons, whether or not they are parties to an 855  
action pending in the division. 856

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 857  
on January 1, 1955, and successors, shall have the same 858  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 859  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 860  
common pleas of Summit county, shall be elected and designated as 861  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 862  
be, and have the powers and jurisdiction of, the juvenile judge as 863  
provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code. Except 864  
in cases that are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction 865  
of the juvenile court, the judge of the juvenile division shall 866  
not have jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be 867  
assigned, any case pertaining to paternity, custody, visitation, 868  
child support, or the allocation of parental rights and 869  
responsibilities for the care of children or any post-decree 870

proceeding arising from any case pertaining to any of those 871  
matters. The judge of the juvenile division shall not have 872  
jurisdiction or the power to hear, and shall not be assigned, any 873  
proceeding under the uniform interstate family support act 874  
contained in Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code. 875

The juvenile judge shall be the administrator of the juvenile 876  
division and its subdivisions and departments and shall have 877  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 878  
personnel of the juvenile division, including any necessary 879  
referees, who are engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating 880  
juvenile cases. The judge also shall designate the title, 881  
compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and 882  
vacation of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 883  
duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other 884  
statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, and 885  
investigation of juvenile cases and of any counseling and 886  
conciliation services that are available upon request to persons, 887  
whether or not they are parties to an action pending in the 888  
division. 889

(J) In Trumbull county, the judges of the court of common 890  
pleas whose terms begin on January 1, 1953, and January 2, 1977, 891  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 892  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 893  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Trumbull county and 894  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 895  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 896  
powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 897  
2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings 898  
over which the juvenile court has jurisdiction, and all divorce, 899  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 900  
shall be assigned to them, except cases that for some special 901  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 902

pleas. 903

(K) In Butler county: 904

(1) The judges of the court of common pleas whose terms begin 905  
on January 1, 1957, and January 4, 1993, and successors, shall 906  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 907  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 908  
the court of common pleas of Butler county and shall be elected 909  
and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, division of 910  
domestic relations. The judges of the division of domestic 911  
relations shall have assigned to them all divorce, dissolution of 912  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 913  
court, except in cases that for some special reason are assigned 914  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas. The judges of 915  
the division of domestic relations also have concurrent 916  
jurisdiction with judges of the juvenile division of the court of 917  
common pleas of Butler county with respect to and may hear cases 918  
to determine the custody, support, or custody and support of a 919  
child who is born of issue of a marriage and who is not the ward 920  
of another court of this state, cases commenced by a party of the 921  
marriage to obtain an order requiring support of any child when 922  
the request for that order is not ancillary to an action for 923  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, 924  
a criminal or civil action involving an allegation of domestic 925  
violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised 926  
Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original 927  
jurisdiction of the juvenile division of the court of common pleas 928  
of Butler county and that involves an allegation that the child is 929  
an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 930  
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. The 931  
judge senior in point of service shall be charged with the 932  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 933  
employment and supervision of all other personnel of the domestic 934

relations 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. Except in cases that 954  
are subject to the exclusive original jurisdiction of the juvenile 955  
court, the judges of the juvenile division shall not have 956  
jurisdiction or the power to hear and shall not be assigned, but 957  
shall have the limited ability and authority to certify, any case 958  
commenced by a party of a marriage to determine the custody, 959  
support, or custody and support of a child who is born of issue of 960  
the marriage and who is not the ward of another court of this 961  
state when the request for the order in the case is not ancillary 962  
to an action for divorce, dissolution of marriage, annulment, or 963  
legal separation. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 964  
division, who is senior in point of service, shall be the 965  
administrator of the juvenile division and its subdivisions and 966

departments. The judge, senior in point of service, shall have 967  
charge of the employment, assignment, and supervision of the 968  
personnel of the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, 969  
servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, including any referees 970  
whom the judge considers necessary for the discharge of the 971  
judge's various duties. 972

The judge, senior in point of service, also shall designate 973  
the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of 974  
absence, and vacation of the personnel of the division and shall 975  
fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to 976  
other statutory duties, include the handling, servicing, and 977  
investigation of juvenile cases and providing any counseling and 978  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 979  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 980  
pending in the division, who request the services. 981

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 982  
domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 983  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 984  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties 985  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the 986  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 987

(L)(1) In Cuyahoga county, the judges of the court of common 988  
pleas whose terms begin on January 8, 1961, January 9, 1961, 989  
January 18, 1975, January 19, 1975, and January 13, 1987, and 990  
successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 991  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 992  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga county and 993  
shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common 994  
pleas, division of domestic relations. They shall have all the 995  
powers relating to all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 996  
separation, and annulment cases, except in cases that are assigned 997  
to some other judge of the court of common pleas for some special 998



reason. 999

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

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

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

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

(M) In Lake county:

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

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall

include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1030  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1031  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1032  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1033  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1034  
services. 1035

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1036  
on January 4, 1979, and successors, shall have the same 1037  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1038  
receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1039  
common pleas of Lake county, shall be elected and designated as 1040  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and shall 1041  
be the juvenile judge as provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1042  
the Revised Code, with the powers and jurisdictions conferred by 1043  
those chapters. The judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile 1044  
division, shall be the administrator of the juvenile division and 1045  
its subdivisions and departments. The judge shall have charge of 1046  
the employment, assignment, and supervision of the personnel of 1047  
the juvenile division who are engaged in handling, servicing, or 1048  
investigating juvenile cases, including any referees whom the 1049  
judge considers necessary for the discharge of the judge's various 1050  
duties. 1051

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1052  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 1053  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1054  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include 1055  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 1056  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1057  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1058  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1059  
services. 1060

(3) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1061

domestic relations or juvenile division, is sick, absent, or 1062  
unable to perform that judge's judicial duties or the volume of 1063  
cases pending in the judge's division necessitates it, the duties 1064  
of that judge shall be performed by the other judges of the 1065  
domestic relations and juvenile divisions. 1066

(N) In Erie county: 1067

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1068  
on January 2, 1971, and the successors to that judge whose terms 1069  
begin before January 2, 2007, shall have the same qualifications, 1070  
exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same 1071  
compensation as the other judge of the court of common pleas of 1072  
Erie county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the 1073  
court of common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge 1074  
shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and shall 1075  
be assigned all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the 1076  
Revised Code, parentage proceedings over which the juvenile court 1077  
has jurisdiction, and divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1078  
separation, and annulment cases, except cases that for some 1079  
special reason are assigned to some other judge. 1080

On or after January 2, 2007, the judge of the court of common 1081  
pleas who is elected in 2006 shall be the successor to the judge 1082  
of the domestic relations division whose term expires on January 1083  
1, 2007, shall be designated as judge of the court of common 1084  
pleas, juvenile division, and shall be the juvenile judge as 1085  
provided in Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the 1086  
powers and jurisdictions conferred by those chapters. 1087

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas, general division, 1088  
whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, the judge of 1089  
the court of common pleas, general division whose term begins on 1090  
January 2, 2005, and successors, and the judge of the court of 1091  
common pleas, general division, whose term begins February 9, 1092  
2009, and successors, shall have assigned to them, in addition to 1093

all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the general 1094  
division of the court of common pleas, all divorce, dissolution of 1095  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 1096  
court, and all matters that are within the jurisdiction of the 1097  
probate court under Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the 1098  
Revised Code. 1099

(0) In Greene county: 1100

(1) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1101  
on January 1, 1961, and successors, shall have the same 1102  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1103  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 1104  
common pleas of Greene county and shall be elected and designated 1105  
as the judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1106  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1107  
marriage, legal separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support 1108  
enforcement, and domestic violence cases and all other cases 1109  
related to domestic relations, except cases that for some special 1110  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1111  
pleas. 1112

The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 1113  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 1114  
supervision of all other personnel of the division. The judge also 1115  
shall designate the title, compensation, hours, leaves of absence, 1116  
and vacations of the personnel of the division and shall fix their 1117  
duties. The duties of the personnel of the division, in addition 1118  
to other statutory duties, shall include the handling, servicing, 1119  
and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1120  
separation, and annulment cases and the provision of counseling 1121  
and conciliation services that the division considers necessary 1122  
and makes available to persons who request the services, whether 1123  
or not the persons are parties in an action pending in the 1124  
division. The compensation for the personnel shall be paid from 1125

the overall court budget and shall be included in the 1126  
appropriations for the existing judges of the general division of 1127  
the court of common pleas. 1128

(2) The judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins 1129  
on January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the same 1130  
qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and 1131  
receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of 1132  
common pleas of Greene county, shall be elected and designated as 1133  
judge of the court of common pleas, juvenile division, and, on or 1134  
after January 1, 1995, shall be the juvenile judge as provided in 1135  
Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code with the powers and 1136  
jurisdiction conferred by those chapters. The judge of the court 1137  
of common pleas, juvenile division, shall be the administrator of 1138  
the juvenile division and its subdivisions and departments. The 1139  
judge shall have charge of the employment, assignment, and 1140  
supervision of the personnel of the juvenile division who are 1141  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating juvenile cases, 1142  
including any referees whom the judge considers necessary for the 1143  
discharge of the judge's various duties. 1144

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1145  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacation of the 1146  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1147  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, include 1148  
the handling, servicing, and investigation of juvenile cases and 1149  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the court 1150  
makes available to persons, whether or not the persons are parties 1151  
to an action pending in the court, who request the services. 1152

(3) If one of the judges of the court of common pleas, 1153  
general division, is sick, absent, or unable to perform that 1154  
judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 1155  
general division necessitates it, the duties of that judge of the 1156  
general division shall be performed by the judge of the division 1157

of domestic relations and the judge of the juvenile division. 1158

(P) In Portage county, the judge of the court of common 1159  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1160  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1161  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1162  
judges of the court of common pleas of Portage county and shall be 1163  
elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1164  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1165  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1166  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some 1167  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 1168  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1169  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1170  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1171  
division. 1172

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1173  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1174  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1175  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1176  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1177  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1178  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1179  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1180  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1181  
services. 1182

(Q) In Clermont county, the judge of the court of common 1183  
pleas, whose term begins January 2, 1987, and successors, shall 1184  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1185  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1186  
judges of the court of common pleas of Clermont county and shall 1187  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1188  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1189

divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1190  
cases coming before the court, except in cases that for some 1191  
special reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of 1192  
common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and 1193  
division of the work of the division and with the employment and 1194  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1195  
division. 1196

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1197  
expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1198  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1199  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1200  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1201  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1202  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1203  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1204  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1205  
services. 1206

(R) In Warren county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1207  
whose term begins January 1, 1987, and successors, shall have the 1208  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1209  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1210  
of common pleas of Warren county and shall be elected and 1211  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1212  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1213  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases 1214  
coming before the court, except in cases that for some special 1215  
reason are assigned to some other judge of the court of common 1216  
pleas. The judge shall be charged with the assignment and division 1217  
of the work of the division and with the employment and 1218  
supervision of all other personnel of the domestic relations 1219  
division. 1220

The judge also shall designate the title, compensation, 1221

expense allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1222  
personnel of the division and shall fix their duties. The duties 1223  
of the personnel, in addition to other statutory duties, shall 1224  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, 1225  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases and 1226  
providing any counseling and conciliation services that the 1227  
division makes available to persons, whether or not the persons 1228  
are parties to an action pending in the division, who request the 1229  
services. 1230

(S) In Licking county, the judges of the court of common 1231  
pleas, whose terms begin on January 1, 1991, and January 1, 2005, 1232  
and successors, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the 1233  
same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as 1234  
the other judges of the court of common pleas of Licking county 1235  
and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of 1236  
common pleas, division of domestic relations. The judges shall be 1237  
assigned all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, 1238  
and annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1239  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1240  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of 1241  
children and the designation for the children of a place of 1242  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and 1243  
all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1244  
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason are 1245  
assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The 1246  
administrative judge of the division of domestic relations shall 1247  
be charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1248  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 1249  
of the division. 1250

The administrative judge of the division of domestic 1251  
relations shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1252  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1253



personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1254  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1255  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1256  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1257  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1258  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1259  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1260  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1261  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1262  
parenting time, and visitation and providing any counseling and 1263  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1264  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1265  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1266

(T) In Allen county, the judge of the court of common pleas, 1267  
whose term begins January 1, 1993, and successors, shall have the 1268  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1269  
and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court 1270  
of common pleas of Allen county and shall be elected and 1271  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1272  
domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, 1273  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1274  
all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all 1275  
proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental 1276  
rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the 1277  
designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1278  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 1279  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 1280  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 1281  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be 1282  
charged with the assignment and division of the work of the 1283  
division and with the employment and supervision of the personnel 1284  
of the division. 1285

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1286  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1287  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1288  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1289  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1290  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1291  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1292  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1293  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1294  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1295  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1296  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 1297  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1298  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1299  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1300

(U) In Medina county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1301  
whose term begins January 1, 1995, and successors, shall have the 1302  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1303  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1304  
common pleas of Medina county and shall be elected and designated 1305  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1306  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1307  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 1308  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1309  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1310  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1311  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1312  
parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings 1313  
and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in 1314  
cases that for some special reason are assigned to another judge 1315  
of the court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1316  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1317  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1318

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1319  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1320  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1321  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1322  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1323  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1324  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 1325  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 1326  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1327  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1328  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1329  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 1330  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1331  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1332  
request the services. 1333

(V) In Fairfield county, the judge of the court of common 1334  
pleas whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1335  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1336  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1337  
judges of the court of common pleas of Fairfield county and shall 1338  
be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, 1339  
division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned all 1340  
divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment 1341  
cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, 1342  
all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of 1343  
parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and 1344  
the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal 1345  
custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree 1346  
proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings, 1347  
except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to 1348  
another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge also has 1349  
concurrent jurisdiction with the probate-juvenile division of the 1350  
court of common pleas of Fairfield county with respect to and may 1351

hear cases to determine the custody of a child, as defined in 1352  
section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of 1353  
another court of this state, cases that are commenced by a parent, 1354  
guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 2151.011 1355  
of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a parent of the 1356  
child to pay child support for that child when the request for 1357  
that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, dissolution 1358  
of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a criminal or civil 1359  
action involving an allegation of domestic violence, an action for 1360  
support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised Code, or an action that 1361  
is within the exclusive original jurisdiction of the 1362  
probate-juvenile division of the court of commonpleas of 1363  
Fairfield county and that involves an allegation that the child is 1364  
an abused, neglected, or dependent child, and post-decree 1365  
proceedings and matters arising from those types of cases. 1366

The judge of the domestic relations division shall be charged 1367  
with the assignment and division of the work of the division and 1368  
with the employment and supervision of the personnel of the 1369  
division. 1370

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1371  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1372  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1373  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1374  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1375  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1376  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1377  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1378  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1379  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1380  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1381  
parenting time, and visitation, and providing any counseling and 1382  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1383

persons, regardless of whether the persons are parties to an 1384  
action pending in the division, who request the services. When the 1385  
judge hears a case to determine the custody of a child, as defined 1386  
in section 2151.011 of the Revised Code, who is not the ward of 1387  
another court of this state or a case that is commenced by a 1388  
parent, guardian, or custodian of a child, as defined in section 1389  
2151.011 of the Revised Code, to obtain an order requiring a 1390  
parent of the child to pay child support for that child when the 1391  
request for that order is not ancillary to an action for divorce, 1392  
dissolution of marriage, annulment, or legal separation, a 1393  
criminal or civil action involving an allegation of domestic 1394  
violence, an action for support under Chapter 3115. of the Revised 1395  
Code, or an action that is within the exclusive original 1396  
jurisdiction of the probate-juvenile division of the court of 1397  
common pleas of Fairfield county and that involves an allegation 1398  
that the child is an abused, neglected, or dependent child, the 1399  
duties of the personnel of the domestic relations division also 1400  
include the handling, servicing, and investigation of those types 1401  
of cases. 1402

(W)(1) In Clark county, the judge of the court of common 1403  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 1995, and successors, shall 1404  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1405  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as other judges of 1406  
the court of common pleas of Clark county and shall be elected and 1407  
designated as judge of the court of common pleas, domestic 1408  
relations division. The judge shall have all the powers relating 1409  
to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. 1410  
of the Revised Code and all parentage proceedings under Chapter 1411  
3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court has 1412  
jurisdiction shall be assigned to the judge of the division of 1413  
domestic relations. All divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1414  
separation, annulment, uniform reciprocal support enforcement, and 1415  
other cases related to domestic relations shall be assigned to the 1416

domestic relations division, and the presiding judge of the court 1417  
of common pleas shall assign the cases to the judge of the 1418  
domestic relations division and the judges of the general 1419  
division. 1420

(2) In addition to the judge's regular duties, the judge of 1421  
the division of domestic relations shall serve on the children 1422  
services board and the county advisory board. 1423

(3) If the judge of the court of common pleas of Clark 1424  
county, division of domestic relations, is sick, absent, or unable 1425  
to perform that judge's judicial duties or if the presiding judge 1426  
of the court of common pleas of Clark county determines that the 1427  
volume of cases pending in the division of domestic relations 1428  
necessitates it, the duties of the judge of the division of 1429  
domestic relations shall be performed by the judges of the general 1430  
division or probate division of the court of common pleas of Clark 1431  
county, as assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of 1432  
that court, and the judges so assigned shall act in conjunction 1433  
with the judge of the division of domestic relations of that 1434  
court. 1435

(X) In Scioto county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1436  
whose term begins January 2, 1995, and successors, shall have the 1437  
same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, 1438  
and receive the same compensation as other judges of the court of 1439  
common pleas of Scioto county and shall be elected and designated 1440  
as judge of the court of common pleas, division of domestic 1441  
relations. The judge shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1442  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all cases arising 1443  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all proceedings involving 1444  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1445  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1446  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1447  
parenting time, visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and 1448

matters arising from those cases and proceedings, except in cases 1449  
that for some special reason are assigned to another judge of the 1450  
court of common pleas. The judge shall be charged with the 1451  
assignment and division of the work of the division and with the 1452  
employment and supervision of the personnel of the division. 1453

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1454  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1455  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1456  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel, in 1457  
addition to other statutory duties, include the handling, 1458  
servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of marriage, 1459  
legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising under Chapter 1460  
3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving child 1461  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1462  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1463  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1464  
visitation, and providing counseling and conciliation services 1465  
that the division makes available to persons, whether or not the 1466  
persons are parties to an action pending in the division, who 1467  
request the services. 1468

(Y) In Auglaize county, the judge of the probate and juvenile 1469  
divisions of the Auglaize county court of common pleas also shall 1470  
be the administrative judge of the domestic relations division of 1471  
the court and shall be assigned all divorce, dissolution of 1472  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases coming before the 1473  
court. The judge shall have all powers as administrator of the 1474  
domestic relations division and shall have charge of the personnel 1475  
engaged in handling, servicing, or investigating divorce, 1476  
dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, 1477  
including any referees considered necessary for the discharge of 1478  
the judge's various duties. 1479

(Z)(1) In Marion county, the judge of the court of common 1480

pleas whose term begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to 1481  
that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same 1482  
powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the 1483  
other judges of the court of common pleas of Marion county and 1484  
shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common 1485  
pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as 1486  
otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and the 1487  
successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to 1488  
juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of 1489  
the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1490  
Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1491  
separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child 1492  
support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities 1493  
for the care of children and the designation for the children of a 1494  
place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and 1495  
visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising 1496  
from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge 1497  
and the successors to that judge. Except as provided in division 1498  
(Z)(2) of this section and notwithstanding any other provision of 1499  
any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 2003, 1500  
the judge of the court of common pleas of Marion county whose term 1501  
begins on February 9, 1999, and the successors to that judge, 1502  
shall have all the powers relating to the probate division of the 1503  
court of common pleas of Marion county in addition to the powers 1504  
previously specified in this division, and shall exercise 1505  
concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the probate division of 1506  
that court over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 1507  
the probate division of that court under Chapter 2101., and other 1508  
provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of 1509  
the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of that court 1510  
otherwise specified in division (Z)(1) of this section. 1511

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1512  
division of the court of common pleas of Marion county or the 1513



judge of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 1514  
Marion county, whichever of those judges is senior in total length 1515  
of service on the court of common pleas of Marion county, 1516  
regardless of the division or divisions of service, shall serve as 1517  
the clerk of the probate division of the court of common pleas of 1518  
Marion county. 1519

(3) On and after February 9, 2003, all references in law to 1520  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or 1521  
"the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect 1522  
to Marion county, as being references to both "the probate 1523  
division" and "the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" 1524  
and as being references to both "the judge of the probate 1525  
division" and "the judge of the domestic relations- 1526  
juvenile-probate division." On and after February 9, 2003, all 1527  
references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" shall be 1528  
construed, with respect to Marion county, as being references to 1529  
the judge who is serving pursuant to division (Z)(2) of this 1530  
section as the clerk of the probate division of the court of 1531  
common pleas of Marion county. 1532

(AA) In Muskingum county, the judge of the court of common 1533  
pleas whose term begins on January 2, 2003, and successors, shall 1534  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1535  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1536  
judges of the court of common pleas of Muskingum county and shall 1537  
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1538  
pleas, division of domestic relations. The judge shall be assigned 1539  
all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and 1540  
annulment cases, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the 1541  
Revised Code, all proceedings involving child support, the 1542  
allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of 1543  
children and the designation for the children of a place of 1544  
residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and 1545

all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases 1546  
and proceedings, except in cases that for some special reason are 1547  
assigned to another judge of the court of common pleas. The judge 1548  
shall be charged with the assignment and division of the work of 1549  
the division and with the employment and supervision of the 1550  
personnel of the division. 1551

The judge shall designate the title, compensation, expense 1552  
allowances, hours, leaves of absence, and vacations of the 1553  
personnel of the division and shall fix the duties of the 1554  
personnel of the division. The duties of the personnel of the 1555  
division, in addition to other statutory duties, shall include the 1556  
handling, servicing, and investigation of divorce, dissolution of 1557  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, cases arising 1558  
under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, and proceedings involving 1559  
child support, the allocation of parental rights and 1560  
responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for 1561  
the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, 1562  
parenting time, and visitation and providing any counseling and 1563  
conciliation services that the division makes available to 1564  
persons, whether or not the persons are parties to an action 1565  
pending in the division, who request the services. 1566

(BB) In Henry county, the judge of the court of common pleas 1567  
whose term begins on January 1, 2005, and successors, shall have 1568  
the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1569  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judge 1570  
of the court of common pleas of Henry county and shall be elected 1571  
and designated as the judge of the court of common pleas, division 1572  
of domestic relations. The judge shall have all of the powers 1573  
relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapter 2151. or 1574  
2152. of the Revised Code, all parentage proceedings arising under 1575  
Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code over which the juvenile court 1576  
has jurisdiction, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal 1577

separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge, except in cases that for some special reason are assigned to the other judge of the court of common pleas.

(CC)(1) In Logan county, the judge of the court of common pleas whose term begins January 2, 2005, and the successors to that judge, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Logan county and shall be elected and designated as judge of the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as otherwise specified in this division, that judge, and the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and designation for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to that judge and the successors to that judge. Notwithstanding any other provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after January 2, 2005, the judge of the court of common pleas of Logan county whose term begins on January 2, 2005, and the successors to that judge, shall have all the powers relating to the probate division of the court of common pleas of Logan county in addition to the powers previously specified in this division and shall exercise

concurrent jurisdiction with the judge of the probate division of 1611  
that court over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of 1612  
the probate division of that court under Chapter 2101., and other 1613  
provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of 1614  
the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division of that court 1615  
otherwise specified in division (CC)(1) of this section. 1616

(2) The judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate 1617  
division of the court of common pleas of Logan county or the 1618  
probate judge of the court of common pleas of Logan county who is 1619  
elected as the administrative judge of the probate division of the 1620  
court of common pleas of Logan county pursuant to Rule 4 of the 1621  
Rules of Superintendence shall be the clerk of the probate 1622  
division and juvenile division of the court of common pleas of 1623  
Logan county. The clerk of the court of common pleas who is 1624  
elected pursuant to section 2303.01 of the Revised Code shall keep 1625  
all of the journals, records, books, papers, and files pertaining 1626  
to the domestic relations cases. 1627

(3) On and after January 2, 2005, all references in law to 1628  
"the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or 1629  
"the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed, with respect 1630  
to Logan county, as being references to both "the probate 1631  
division" and the "domestic relations-juvenile-probate division" 1632  
and as being references to both "the judge of the probate 1633  
division" and the "judge of the domestic 1634  
relations-juvenile-probate division." On and after January 2, 1635  
2005, all references in law to "the clerk of the probate court" 1636  
shall be construed, with respect to Logan county, as being 1637  
references to the judge who is serving pursuant to division 1638  
(CC)(2) of this section as the clerk of the probate division of 1639  
the court of common pleas of Logan county. 1640

(DD)(1) In Champaign county, the judge of the court of common 1641  
pleas whose term begins February 9, 2003, and the judge of the 1642

court of common pleas whose term begins February 10, 2009, and the successors to those judges, shall have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign county and shall be elected and designated as judges of the court of common pleas, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division. Except as otherwise specified in this division, those judges, and the successors to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to juvenile courts, and all cases under Chapters 2151. and 2152. of the Revised Code, all cases arising under Chapter 3111. of the Revised Code, all divorce, dissolution of marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, all proceedings involving child support, the allocation of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children and the designation for the children of a place of residence and legal custodian, parenting time, and visitation, and all post-decree proceedings and matters arising from those cases and proceedings shall be assigned to those judges and the successors to those judges. Notwithstanding any other provision of any section of the Revised Code, on and after February 9, 2009, the judges designated by this division as judges of the court of common pleas of Champaign county, domestic relations-juvenile-probate division, and the successors to those judges, shall have all the powers relating to probate courts in addition to the powers previously specified in this division and shall exercise jurisdiction over all matters that are within the jurisdiction of probate courts under Chapter 2101., and other provisions, of the Revised Code in addition to the jurisdiction of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division otherwise specified in division (DD)(1) of this section.

(2) On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law to "the probate court," "the probate judge," "the juvenile court," or "the judge of the juvenile court" shall be construed with respect to Champaign county as being references to the "domestic

relations-juvenile-probate division" and as being references to 1676  
the "judge of the domestic relations-juvenile-probate division." 1677  
On and after February 9, 2009, all references in law to "the clerk 1678  
of the probate court" shall be construed with respect to Champaign 1679  
county as being references to the judge who is serving pursuant to 1680  
Rule 4 of the Rules of Superintendence for the Courts of Ohio as 1681  
the administrative judge of the court of common pleas, domestic 1682  
relations-juvenile-probate division. 1683

(EE) In Delaware county, the judge of the court of common 1684  
pleas whose term begins on January 1, 2017, and successors, shall 1685  
have the same qualifications, exercise the same powers and 1686  
jurisdiction, and receive the same compensation as the other 1687  
judges of the court of common pleas of Delaware county and shall 1688  
be elected and designated as the judge of the court of common 1689  
pleas, division of domestic relations. Divorce, dissolution of 1690  
marriage, legal separation, and annulment cases, including any 1691  
post-decree proceedings, and cases involving questions of 1692  
paternity, custody, visitation, child support, and the allocation 1693  
of parental rights and responsibilities for the care of children, 1694  
regardless of whether those matters arise in post-decree 1695  
proceedings or involve children born between unmarried persons, 1696  
shall be assigned to that judge, except cases that for some 1697  
special reason are assigned to another judge of the court of 1698  
common pleas. 1699

(FF) If a judge of the court of common pleas, division of 1700  
domestic relations, or juvenile judge, of any of the counties 1701  
mentioned in this section is sick, absent, or unable to perform 1702  
that judge's judicial duties or the volume of cases pending in the 1703  
judge's division necessitates it, the duties of that judge shall 1704  
be performed by another judge of the court of common pleas of that 1705  
county, assigned for that purpose by the presiding judge of the 1706  
court of common pleas of that county to act in place of or in 1707

conjunction with that judge, as the case may require. 1708

**Section 2.** That existing sections 2151.07, 2301.02, and 1709

2301.03 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1710