



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF COURTS  
300 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, Alabama 36104-3741  
(334) 954-5000

Lyn Stuart  
Chief Justice

Randy Helms  
Administrative Director of Courts

July 23, 2018

The Honorable Kay Ivey  
Governor of Alabama  
State Capitol  
600 Dexter Avenue  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Members of the Alabama Senate  
c/o Mr. D. Patrick Harris  
Secretary of the Senate  
Alabama State House, Senate Chamber  
11 South Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130-4600

Members of the Alabama House of Representatives  
c/o Mr. Jeff Woodard  
Clerk, Alabama House of Representatives  
Alabama Statehouse, Room 504  
11 South Union Street  
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Governor Ivey and Members of the Legislature,

As the Chair of the Judicial Resources Allocation Commission, I am pleased to report that on Thursday, June 14, 2018, the Commission conducted an educational, working meeting to learn how the Judicial Weighted Caseload Studies are created and how this Commission can best fulfill its directive from the legislature to meet the needs of the judiciary.

After the educational segment of the meeting, the Commission discussed the judicial needs in the various judicial circuits and how to address them. The Commission then discussed the Alabama 2017 Circuit Court Judicial

Weighted Caseload Study. The Commission recognizes that the FY 2017 Judicial Weighted Caseload Studies are the first studies produced after the Supreme Court adopted a formula on June 21, 2017, and is mindful that "[n]o judgeship shall be reallocated until three years of data is available after the revision of the factors considered in the Judicial Weighted Caseload Study." However, in accordance with the Legislature's charge to determine the need for increasing judgeships, the Commission recognizes that the provisions in the judicial resources allocation act do not timely meet the current needs of five judicial circuits that each have a critical need for at least two additional judgeships. **Therefore, the Commission, in a unanimous vote with one abstention, recommends that the Legislature create one circuit court judgeship with accompanying staff in each of the following circuits:**

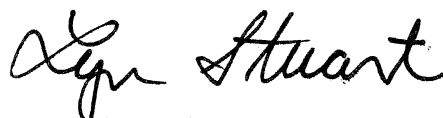
**the Twenty-third (Madison),  
the Thirteenth (Mobile),  
the Nineteenth (Autauga, Chilton, Elmore);  
the Sixth (Tuscaloosa); and  
the Twenty-Eighth (Baldwin).**

The approximate cost of a circuit judgeship with accompanying staff/benefits is \$400,000.00; therefore the approximate cost for five additional circuit judgeships is \$2,000,000.00.

The above-listed judicial circuits have immediate, critical needs and the addition of one circuit court judge with staff in each of these judicial circuits will help substantially in meeting the current judicial need and place these judicial circuits more in line with the needs of the rest of the State. I have attached a copy of the Alabama FY 2017 Circuit Court Judicial Weighted Caseload Study in support of this recommendation.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. If you have any questions about the meeting or the Commission's recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Lyn Stuart  
Chief Justice

cc:

Senator Del Marsh, President Pro Tempore  
Representative Mac McCutcheon, Speaker of the House  
Representative Victor Gaston, Speaker Pro Tempore  
Senator Arthur Orr  
Representative Jim Hill  
Mr. Randy Helms, Administrative Director of Courts  
Mr. Nathan Wilson, Assistant Administrative Director of Courts  
& Legal Director

## Alabama FY2017 District Court Judicial Weighted Caseload Time Study

County Number	County	Workload (minutes)	Judge Year Value (minutes)	Overall Judicial Officer Need (FTE)	District Court Judges assigned to Circuit (FTE)	Referees (FTE)	District Judge Implied Need (FTE)	Actual District Court Judges	Difference (+ = surplus; - = deficit)	Rank
	Alabama	9,136,724		101.18	10.00	1.70	109.48	106	-3.48	
58	Shelby	356,231	90,300	3.94	0.00	0.10	3.84	2	-1.84	1
5	Baldwin	254,564	90,300	2.82	0.80	0.00	3.62	2	-1.62	2
2	Mobile	499,615	90,300	5.53	1.00	0.00	6.53	5	-1.53	3
31	Etowah	297,332	90,300	3.29	0.30	0.10	3.49	2	-1.49	4
28	Dekalb	183,229	90,300	2.03	0.10	0.00	2.13	1	-1.13	5
47	Madison	535,290	90,300	5.93	0.20	1.00	5.13	4	-1.13	6
63	Tuscaloosa	280,521	90,300	3.11	0.00	0.00	3.11	2	-1.11	7
38	Houston	195,714	90,300	2.17	0.80	0.00	2.97	2	-0.97	8
39	Jackson	155,885	90,300	1.73	0.00	0.00	1.73	1	-0.73	9
25	Cullman	242,752	90,300	2.69	0.00	0.00	2.69	2	-0.69	10
61	Talladega	182,992	90,300	2.03	0.60	0.00	2.63	2	-0.63	11
50	Marshall	236,756	90,300	2.62	0.00	0.00	2.62	2	-0.62	12
20	Colbert	140,349	90,300	1.55	0.00	0.00	1.55	1	-0.55	13
59	St. Clair	201,118	90,300	2.23	0.40	0.10	2.53	2	-0.53	14
68	Jefferson- Bessemer	135,326	90,300	1.50	1.00	0.00	2.50	2	-0.50	15
19	Coffee	125,304	90,300	1.39	0.10	0.00	1.49	1	-0.49	16
49	Marion	106,963	90,300	1.18	0.30	0.00	1.48	1	-0.48	17
12	Chambers	131,797	90,300	1.46	0.00	0.00	1.46	1	-0.46	18
30	Escambia	127,678	90,300	1.41	0.00	0.00	1.41	1	-0.41	19
8	Blount	126,499	90,300	1.40	0.00	0.00	1.40	1	-0.40	20
41	Lauderdale	125,694	90,300	1.39	0.00	0.00	1.39	1	-0.39	21
14	Chilton	127,539	90,300	1.41	0.00	0.10	1.31	1	-0.31	22
11	Calhoun	206,754	90,300	2.29	1.00	0.00	3.29	3	-0.29	23
43	Lee	160,522	90,300	1.78	0.50	0.00	2.28	2	-0.28	24
3	Montgomery	292,745	90,300	3.24	0.00	0.00	3.24	3	-0.24	25
4	Autauga	121,045	90,300	1.34	0.00	0.10	1.24	1	-0.24	26
23	Covington	106,782	90,300	1.18	0.00	0.00	1.18	1	-0.18	27
62	Tallapoosa	101,710	90,300	1.13	0.00	0.00	1.13	1	-0.13	28
13	Cherokee	95,225	90,300	1.05	0.00	0.00	1.05	1	-0.05	29
7	Bibb	93,058	90,300	1.03	0.00	0.00	1.03	1	-0.03	30
52	Morgan	272,201	90,300	3.01	0.00	0.00	3.01	3	-0.01	31
42	Lawrence	91,463	90,300	1.01	0.00	0.00	1.01	1	-0.01	32
27	Dallas	99,527	90,300	1.10	0.00	0.10	1.00	1	0.00	33
18	Cleburne	88,543	90,300	0.98	0.00	0.00	0.98	1	0.02	34
67	Winston	65,843	90,300	0.73	0.20	0.00	0.93	1	0.07	35
34	Geneva	83,052	90,300	0.92	0.00	0.00	0.92	1	0.08	36
33	Franklin	81,815	90,300	0.91	0.00	0.00	0.91	1	0.09	37
37	Henry	71,612	90,300	0.79	0.10	0.00	0.89	1	0.11	38
10	Butler	70,540	90,300	0.78	0.10	0.00	0.88	1	0.12	39
29	Elmore	168,216	90,300	1.86	0.10	0.10	1.86	2	0.14	40
55	Pike	74,915	90,300	0.83	0.00	0.00	0.83	1	0.17	41
44	Limestone	164,627	90,300	1.82	0.00	0.00	1.82	2	0.18	42
6	Barbour	59,821	90,300	0.66	0.10	0.00	0.76	1	0.24	43
65	Washington	63,627	90,300	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.70	1	0.30	44
64	Walker	150,628	90,300	1.67	0.00	0.00	1.67	2	0.33	45
24	Crenshaw	41,639	90,300	0.46	0.20	0.00	0.66	1	0.34	46
56	Randolph	56,689	90,300	0.63	0.00	0.00	0.63	1	0.37	47
32	Fayette	46,926	90,300	0.52	0.10	0.00	0.62	1	0.38	48
48	Marengo	54,972	90,300	0.61	0.00	0.00	0.61	1	0.39	49
40	Lamar	36,589	90,300	0.41	0.20	0.00	0.61	1	0.39	50
57	Russell	134,410	90,300	1.49	0.10	0.00	1.59	2	0.41	51
16	Clarke	50,619	90,300	0.56	0.00	0.00	0.56	1	0.44	52
54	Pickens	39,257	90,300	0.43	0.10	0.00	0.53	1	0.47	53
51	Monroe	47,365	90,300	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.52	1	0.48	54
46	Macon	46,668	90,300	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.52	1	0.48	55
45	Lowndes	33,976	90,300	0.38	0.10	0.00	0.48	1	0.52	56
36	Hale	40,289	90,300	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.45	1	0.55	57
21	Conecuh	39,975	90,300	0.44	0.00	0.00	0.44	1	0.56	58
22	Coosa	38,095	90,300	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.42	1	0.58	59
17	Clay	27,664	90,300	0.31	0.10	0.00	0.41	1	0.59	60
66	Wilcox	31,315	90,300	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.35	1	0.65	61
15	Choctaw	30,365	90,300	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.34	1	0.66	62
35	Greene	27,846	90,300	0.31	0.00	0.00	0.31	1	0.69	63
53	Perry	21,476	90,300	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.24	1	0.76	64
26	Dale	109,003	90,300	1.21	0.00	0.00	1.21	2	0.79	65
60	Sumter	17,986	90,300	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	1	0.80	66
9	Bullock	17,668	90,300	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.20	1	0.80	67
1	Jefferson- Birmingham	592,513	90,300	6.56	1.40	0.00	7.96	10	2.04	68

**Alabama FY2017 Circuit Court Judicial Weighted Caseload Implied Need**

Cir	County	Region	Workload (minutes)	Judge Year Value (minutes)	Overall Judicial Officer Need (FTE)	District Court Judges (FTE)	Referees (FTE)	Circuit Judge Implied Need (FTE)	Actual Circuit Court Judges	Difference (+ = surplus; - = deficit)	Rank
	Alabama		15,354,490		173.3	10.0	7.3	156.0	146	-10.01	
23	Madison	Single	1,002,261	90,300	11.1	0.2	0.0	10.9	7	-3.90	1
13	Mobile	Single	1,638,168	90,300	18.1	1.0	3.0	14.1	11	-3.14	2
19	Elmore	Multiple	493,509	83,850	5.9	0.1	0.0	5.8	3	-2.79	3
6	Tuscaloosa	Single	852,823	90,300	9.4	0.0	1.0	8.4	6	-2.44	4
28	Baldwin	Single	741,965	90,300	8.2	0.8	0.1	7.3	5	-2.32	5
11	Lauderdale	Single	412,289	90,300	4.6	0.0	0.1	4.5	3	-1.47	6
20	Henry, Houston	Multiple	578,422	83,850	6.9	0.9	0.0	6.0	5	-1.00	7
37	Lee	Single	397,350	90,300	4.4	0.5	0.1	3.8	3	-0.80	8
5	Randolph,	Multiple	314,597	83,850	3.8	0.0	0.0	3.8	3	-0.75	9
24	Pickens	Multiple	161,497	83,850	1.9	0.4	0.0	1.5	1	-0.53	10
8	Morgan	Single	307,912	90,300	3.4	0.0	0.0	3.4	3	-0.41	11
33	Dale, Geneva	Multiple	198,860	83,850	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4	2	-0.37	12
39	Limestone	Single	213,631	90,300	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4	2	-0.37	13
1	Washington	Multiple	198,067	83,850	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.4	2	-0.36	14
25	Marion, Winston	Multiple	236,220	83,850	2.8	0.5	0.0	2.3	2	-0.32	15
32	Cullman	Single	208,992	90,300	2.3	0.0	0.0	2.3	2	-0.31	16
41	Blount	Single	118,001	90,300	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.3	1	-0.31	17
4	Perry, Wilcox	Multiple	275,594	83,850	3.3	0.0	0.0	3.3	3	-0.29	18
34	Franklin	Single	110,947	90,300	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2	1	-0.23	19
36	Lawrence	Single	106,685	90,300	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2	1	-0.18	20
18	Shelby	Single	377,357	90,300	4.2	0.0	0.0	4.2	4	-0.18	21
35	Conecuh, Monroe	Multiple	94,716	83,850	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.1	1	-0.13	22
7	Calhoun, Cleburne	Multiple	516,160	83,850	6.2	1.0	0.1	5.1	5	-0.06	23
16	Etowah	Single	389,316	90,300	4.3	0.3	0.0	4.0	4	-0.01	24
17	Greene, Marengo, Sumter	Multiple	81,536	83,850	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1	0.03	25
2	Butler, Crenshaw, Lowndes	Multiple	113,438	83,850	1.4	0.4	0.0	1.0	1	0.05	26
3	Barbour, Bullock	Multiple	88,274	83,850	1.1	0.1	0.0	1.0	1	0.05	27
30	St. Clair	Single	209,422	90,300	2.3	0.4	0.0	1.9	2	0.08	28
38	Jackson	Single	156,247	90,300	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7	2	0.27	29
31	Colbert	Single	156,087	90,300	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7	2	0.27	30
21	Escambia	Single	155,561	90,300	1.7	0.0	0.0	1.7	2	0.28	31
15	Montgomery	Single	875,235	90,300	9.7	0.0	1.0	8.7	9	0.31	32
26	Russell	Single	161,713	90,300	1.8	0.1	0.0	1.7	2	0.31	33
27	Marshall	Single	240,135	90,300	2.7	0.0	0.0	2.7	3	0.34	34
9	Cherokee, DeKalb	Multiple	226,657	83,850	2.7	0.1	0.0	2.6	3	0.40	35
40	Clay, Coosa	Multiple	54,112	83,850	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.5	1	0.45	36
12	Coffee, Pike	Multiple	209,453	83,850	2.5	0.1	0.0	2.4	3	0.60	37
22	Covington	Single	122,083	90,300	1.4	0.0	0.0	1.4	2	0.65	38
29	Talladega	Single	166,548	90,300	1.8	0.6	0.0	1.2	2	0.76	39
14	Walker	Single	182,253	90,300	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	3	0.98	40
10	Jefferson	Single	2,210,397	90,300	24.5	2.4	1.9	20.2	27	6.82	41