

**West Virginia Legislature
Judicial Compensation Commission**

August 22, 2018
2:00 p.m.
Room 208-W

The Judicial Compensation Commission met at 2:00 p.m. in the Senate Judiciary Committee Room, Room 208-W, of the West Virginia State Capitol, on August 22, 2018. Gregory Bowman, Dean of WVU Law School, Chairman, called the meeting to order and the Clerk took a roll to establish a quorum.

Members present: Gregory Bowman, Chairman, Virginia King, Dr. Edwin Welch, Phillip “Ben” Robertson and John “Danny” Martin.

Chairman Bowman recognized Phillip “Ben” Robertson for the purpose of a motion to approve the minutes from July 19, 2018, 2:00 p.m. meeting. The motion was adopted.

Anne B. Ellison, Counsel to the Commission and Assistant Director of Legislative Services, distributed copies of the 2018 draft report and explained the updated information to the Commission and responded to questions.

Discussion ensued regarding the updates made to the report and the Commission’s new recommendations.

Mrs. Ellison reviewed with the Commission the final changes and recommendations made.

Chairman Bowman recognized Virginia King for the purpose of a motion to adopt the revised version of the final report. By a vote of 5/0, the motion was adopted.

The recommendations from the Commission are as follows:

- That salaries of the justices, circuit judges, family court judges, and magistrates be adjusted annually by 3% or the rate of inflation, whichever is greater.
- That, in order to incorporate the 3.11% national mean and median increases to judicial salaries, and thus prevent West Virginia’s judicial salaries from falling farther behind what this Commission recommended in its revised 2017 Report, the current salaries of the justices, circuit court judges, and magistrates be increased by 8.27% in 2019, and the salaries of the family court judges be increased by 10.33% in 2019.
- Based upon a unanimous vote, that salaries of the justices, circuit judges, and magistrates be increased by 8.27% in 2019.
- Based upon a unanimous vote, that salaries of family court judges be increased by 10.33% in 2019.
- Based upon a unanimous vote, that salaries of justices, circuit judges, family court judges, and magistrates be increased by 3% each year in 2020, 2021, and 2022.
- That a multi-year plan for salary adjustments be adopted, *as follows*:

Judicial Officer	Current Salary	2019 Increase	2019 Salary	Increase for the next 3 Years	2020 Salary	2021 Salary	2022 Salary
Justice	\$136,000	8.27%	\$147,241	3%	\$151,658	\$156,208	\$160,894
Circuit judge	\$126,000	8.27%	\$136,420	3%	\$140,513	\$144,728	\$149,069
Family Court judge	\$94,500	10.33%	\$104,262	3%	\$107,390	\$110,612	\$113,930
Magistrate	\$57,500	8.27%	\$62,253	3%	\$64,123	\$66,047	\$68,028

Chairman Bowman recognized Mr. Robertson for the purpose of a motion to adjourn. The motion was adopted.

Gregory Bowman, Chair

Date

Felisha Sutherland, Clerk

Date