

# BOARD OF JUDICIAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

**TEAMS Meeting**  
**March 21, 2022**  
**9:00 A.M. – 11:00 a.m.**

## MINUTES

**BJPA Members Present:** Chief Justice Kate Fox (Chair), Justice Lynne Boomgaarden, Justice Kari Gray, Judge Catherine Rogers, Judge Wes Roberts, Judge Wendy Bartlett

**Others Present:** Elisa Butler, Nate Goddard

<p><b>Welcome</b></p>	<p>Chief Justice Fox welcomed the BJPA members and thanked them for attending. She reminded the Board that it had voted to shift the administrative updates to a newsletter rather than including them during the BJPA meeting. Chief Justice Fox asked the Board if any of the members had any interest in discussing the specific topics within the newsletter. There was no discussion.</p> <p><a href="#">Newsletter</a></p>
<p><b>Enhanced Password Security</b> Nate Goddard and Elisa Butler</p>	<p>Chief Justice Fox introduced the subject of password security, and the possible need to update password requirements for the Branch. She indicated that the topic was brought to the BJPA to garner feedback since password requirements can be a source of contention.</p> <p>Elisa Butler explained that recently, the IT Division received a number of alerts regarding the increase in bad actors attempting to hack state governments, which indicate that the Branch should enhance its password requirements.</p> <p>Nate Goddard added that IT has received reports recently regarding an increase in bad actors targeting state and municipal governments, and particularly courts. One tactic used by bad actors to gain access to networks is password spraying attacks. These groups identify usernames and begin trying many different password combinations until one is found. The current Judicial Branch passwords are vulnerable to that tactic.</p> <p>In the past four years, Court Administration has engaged a vendor to attempt to hack the Judicial Branch network. Each year, the vendor reports that the Branch should explore increasing the strength of its password requirements. In the most recent testing, the vendor was able to uncover 800 usernames. Of those accounts, 47% of passwords were compromised.</p> <p>Current best practice within the industry provides that users should shift toward using longer passwords rather than more complex passwords. Experts recommend a pass phrase, such as, “I am so excited for summer.” Longer passwords are easier to remember, and more digits in a password make it more difficult to hack.</p> <p>Nate recommended that that Branch shift toward requiring longer passwords that need to be changed less frequently, for example, every 180 days.</p>

	<p>Nate also walked through the traffic logs for the Judicial Branch network and demonstrated how many times entities attempt to hack the network daily.</p> <p>The Board supported an update of the password requirements for the Judicial Branch.</p> <p>Chief Justice Fox indicated that no formal action was needed by the BJPA, and the password requirement update could be done administratively.</p> <p><a href="#">Password Security</a></p>
<p><b>BJPA Task Force Update</b> Chief Justice Fox</p>	<p>Task Force Membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judge John Perry (ret.) – Chair</li> <li>• Chief Justice Kate Fox</li> <li>• Justice Lynne Boomgaarden</li> <li>• Judge Catherine Wilking</li> <li>• Judge Jason Conder</li> <li>• Judge Wendy Bartlett</li> <li>• Judge Nate Hibben</li> </ul> <p>At the last BJPA meeting, the Board decided to form a task force to explore potential changes to the Branch to increase the effectiveness of courts and ensure qualified Judges will continue to be recruited and retained. The task force is working with a facilitator from the National Center for State Courts (NCSC), David Slayton, who was previously the state court administrator for the Texas judiciary.</p> <p>Chief Justice Fox provided a tentative timeline for the work of the Task Force indicating that the Task Force will provide regular reports to the BJPA, and an interim report by December of this year. The plan is to identify issues that are most pressing for the Judicial Branch and determine how the Judiciary can best deliver justice while making the position more attractive to Judges.</p> <p>Chief Justice Fox indicated that the plan is still broad, and that the Task Force will embark on the project with an open mind, and then narrow the issues. One of the biggest responsibilities of the Task Force members will be keeping open lines of communication with their colleagues.</p>
<p><b>Legislative Update</b> Elisa Butler</p>	<p>Chief Justice Fox indicated that the legislative session was a very good one for the Judicial Branch, and that success was due to the concerted and cooperative effort by the Branch as a whole. She noted that this is a moment to be proud of, and the Judiciary should remember this is how to get things done.</p> <p>Elisa Butler provided an update on the session, in general, and on the following bills:</p> <p><b>SF0001</b> – budget bill <a href="https://wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2022/SF0001">https://wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2022/SF0001</a></p> <p>The budget bill passed with the Judicial Branch requests intact. An additional appropriation was made to authorize three new temporary, time-limited, positions under the Supreme Court budget. However, the funding provided in the bill would only cover the cost of 1.5 positions. Those positions will be used to</p>

provide additional training and support for the circuit court clerk's offices.

**SF0066** – ARPA bill

<https://wyoleg.gov/Legislation/2022/SF0066>

Many, though not all, of the Judicial Branch ARPA requests were funded.

Requests that were approved include:

- Circuit court e-Filing \$ 2,140,000
- PPE (reduced amount) \$ 150,000
- Remote interpretation software \$ 375,000
- EJW Common case management system \$ 242,900
- EJW Legal triage portal \$ 150,000
- EJW Updated website \$ 50,000

Requests that were denied include:

- Courthouse security \$ 2,175,000
- Data Sharing Interfaces \$ 1,500,000
- Position shortage \$ 681,423
- EJW increase to legal aid \$ 3,022,000
- EJW pro-bono coordinator position \$ 493,800

**SF0026** – Authorizes three new district court judge positions and funds two of the three.

Senate File 0026 was signed into law by Governor Gordon on March 15, 2022. The funding provides for the Judge and chambers staff in the 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District, which both have quarters currently available to house new Judges. The legislation authorizes an additional Judge for the 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, but requires the Chief Justice to certify that quarters are available before funding is appropriated. The Branch will likely be looking at requesting that funding during the next legislative session in 2024.

**SF0057** – Extends the deadline to appoint a chancery court judge to January 1, 2024.

Senate File 0057 was signed into law by Governor Gordon on March 8, 2022.

**HJ0001** – Mandatory retirement age for supreme court justices and district court judges.

House Joint Resolution No. 1 proposes an amendment to the Wyoming Constitution to change the mandatory retirement age of Supreme Court Justices and District Court Judges from 70 to 75. Because this is a proposed constitutional amendment, the question will be placed on the ballot in November for the voters to decide.

The Board discussed what can be done to act in support of this change. Generally, there was agreement, that in order to be approved during the election, there would need to be some education of the electorate. The Board determined that a fact sheet should be created that can be provided to different entities to help educate the public.

**HB0040** – Housing allowance for Judges.

This bill failed introduction. The most recent legislative session was a budget session, which requires a 2/3 vote to be introduced. This bill fell just shy of that mark. The Branch may want to consider attempting to run this bill again in a

	<p>general session of the Legislature. The Board agreed that this is a bill that should likely be attempted again in a general session year.</p> <p>Elisa Butler also discussed the interim topics that were proposed at the Joint Judiciary Committee meeting near the end of the session. The next step for interim topics will come on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Each of the committee chairs will present their proposed interim topics to Management Council, which will then assign interim topics to each of the committees.</p>
<p><b>Employee Compensation</b> Elisa Butler</p>	<p>The Legislature appropriated money during this session to fund a raise in employee compensation for state employees. A total of \$64.8 million dollars was appropriated. Of that, the Judicial Branch will receive just over \$2.2 million.</p> <p>The HR team is developing pay tables for the Judicial Branch to provide concrete measures on the market pay that Judicial Branch employees should be receiving. The goal is to have the pay tables in place by June to allow an analysis of how the funding should be allocated among employees. The funding provided is unlikely to bring all employees up to market. As a result, the objective will likely be to bring all employees up to a percentage of market based on the pay tables.</p> <p><a href="#">Budget bill language on employee compensation</a></p>
<p><b>NCSC Mental Health Summit</b> Elisa Butler</p>	<p>The National Center for State Courts has recently focused on mental health in the courts resulting in a number of mental health summits taking place in different areas of the country. The NCSC specifically invited Wyoming to attend upcoming summits. The question presented to the Board was whether there was any interest in sending a team to either of the upcoming summits taking place in May and June.</p> <p>The Board members discussed the benefit of sending a team of Judges, but recognized that, on short notice, getting a team together may be difficult. Judge Rogers volunteered to attempt to gather a team of District Court Judges, and Judge Christensen volunteered to do the same for the Circuit Court Judges. Elisa will reach out to the NCSC about other opportunities in the future.</p> <p><a href="#">Mid-Atlantic Regional Summit</a></p> <p><a href="#">New England Regional Summit</a></p>
<p><b>Court Interpreter Policy</b> Elisa Butler</p>	<p>The Court Interpreter Policy has been updated and is now available on the Judicial Branch website. Administration staff is currently researching and drafting a separate policy for American Sign Language interpreters and people appearing in court who have difficulty hearing or speaking. The goal is to have a draft ready for the Board's consideration at the meeting in June.</p>
<p><b>Natrona County Administrative Judge</b> Chief Justice Fox</p>	<p>Judge Roberts moved to make Judge Christensen the administrative judge in Natrona County Circuit Court. Justice Boomgaarden seconded. All voted in favor with none opposed.</p> <p><a href="#">Letter from Natrona County Circuit Court Judges re Administrative Judge</a></p>
<p><b>For the Good of the Order</b></p>	<p>The Board discussed the possibility amendments to the Wyoming Rules of Disciplinary Procedure. The Board opted to investigate the history of how changes have been made in the past, and revisit at a later meeting.</p> <p>The BJPA also discussed the use of iPads that were purchased with CARES Act</p>

	<p>money and how those iPads can be put to best use. Administration staff will research the possibly uses and report back to the Board on how those iPads can best be utilized.</p> <p>The Board had a discussion regarding the bond schedule and the possibility of making possession of marijuana a forfeitable offense. The question was raised as to whether that could be done through the bond schedule, or whether that would require a statutory change. The BJPA members debated whether it would be wise to make this change through the bond schedule rather than through a statutory change given the politics involved.</p>
<b>Adjourn</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

<b>ACTION TAKEN BY BOARD:</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approval of making Judge Christensen the administrative Judge in Natrona County Circuit Court.</li> </ol>

<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Staff will draft a fact sheet on HJ0001 to be distributed for educational purposes in preparation for the November election.</li> <li>2. Staff will follow up with the NCSC regarding upcoming opportunities for mental health education and networking.</li> <li>3. Staff will explore options for the use of iPads in the courts and discuss at the next meeting.</li> </ol>

<b>APPENDICES:</b>
Appendix A – Newsletter
Appendix B – Password Security
Appendix C – SF0026
Appendix D – SF0057
Appendix E – HJ0001
Appendix F – HB0040

Appendix G – Budget bill language on employee compensation
Appendix H – Mid-Atlantic Regional Summit
Appendix I – New England Regional Summit
Appendix J – Letter from Natrona County Circuit Court Judges re Administrative Judge

In response to BJPA requests, standard administration reports will be made via [newsletter](#) and made in person at the BJPA meeting only upon request.

**Attachments are designated in blue text.**

# Appendix A

## Board of Judicial Policy and Administration

March 21, 2022

### NEWSLETTER

**BJPA Members:** Chief Justice Kate Fox (Chair), Justice Lynne Boomgaarden, Justice Kari Gray, Judge Catherine Wilking, Judge Catherine Rogers, Vacant, Judge Wes Roberts, Judge Wendy Bartlett, Vacant

Board of Judicial Policy and Administration													
March 21, 2022													
NEWSLETTER													
BJPA Members: Chief Justice Kate Fox (Chair), Justice Lynne Boomgaarden, Justice Kari Gray, Judge Catherine Wilking, Judge Catherine Rogers, Vacant, Judge Wes Roberts, Judge Wendy Bartlett, Vacant													
<u>Newsletter Items:</u>	<u>Description:</u>												
<b>Legislation</b>	<p>The following bill status information is as of March 9, 2022:</p> <p><u>SF0001</u> – Budget bill. <b>Signed by President Dockstader and Speaker Barlow SEA0012.</b></p> <p><u>SF0026</u> – Authorizes 3 new District Court Judge positions (3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> JDs) and appropriates funding for two of the three JDs (3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> JDs). <b>Signed by President Dockstader and Speaker Barlow SEA0025.</b></p> <p><u>SF0057</u> – Requires the appointment of a chancery court judge by January 1, 2024. <b>Signed into law by Governor Gordon SEA0009.</b></p> <p><u>SF0066</u> – ARPA bill. <b>Signed by President Dockstader and Speaker Barlow SEA0020.</b></p> <p><u>HEJR0001</u> – Proposes an amendment to the Constitution, to be decided by voters at the next election, to increase the mandatory retirement age for supreme court justices and district court judges to 75. <b>Signed into law by Governor Gordon HEJR0001.</b></p> <p><u>HB0040</u> – Authorizes housing assistance to Judges and Justices who reside in locations where a housing allowance is provided to other state employees. <b>Failed introduction in the House.</b></p>												
<b>Budget</b>	<p>The Judicial Branch budget passed through the House and Senate without substantial change – no changes were made to any of the standard budget or exception requests previously approved by the Joint Appropriations Committee.</p> <p><u>Supreme Court</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Workload study for circuit courts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 250,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Upgrade of C-Track system</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 1,741,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Increase to judicial Nominating Committee budget</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 17,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Copier replacements in Supreme Court and circuit courts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 61,228</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Increased telecommunication costs in various locations</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 15,221</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">Position transfer from library to administration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$ 0</td> </tr> </table>	Workload study for circuit courts	\$ 250,000	Upgrade of C-Track system	\$ 1,741,000	Increase to judicial Nominating Committee budget	\$ 17,000	Copier replacements in Supreme Court and circuit courts	\$ 61,228	Increased telecommunication costs in various locations	\$ 15,221	Position transfer from library to administration	\$ 0
Workload study for circuit courts	\$ 250,000												
Upgrade of C-Track system	\$ 1,741,000												
Increase to judicial Nominating Committee budget	\$ 17,000												
Copier replacements in Supreme Court and circuit courts	\$ 61,228												
Increased telecommunication costs in various locations	\$ 15,221												
Position transfer from library to administration	\$ 0												

	<p>Chancery court salaries and benefits \$ 406,548</p> <p>Chancery court furniture, equipment, and technology \$ 813,793</p> <p><u>District Courts</u></p> <p>Copiers for two courts \$ 12,245</p> <p>Travel for Teton County \$ 20,000</p> <p>Reduction of part-time position (\$ 62,694)</p> <p>Additional funding was provided in footnotes to the budget bill authorizing three temporary time-limited positions through June 30, 2024 (but funding only 1.5) to provide training and support to the Judicial Branch.</p>
<b>American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA)</b>	<p>The final ARPA bill does not include all original Judicial Branch requests.</p> <p>Requests that were approved include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circuit court e-Filing \$ 2,140,000</li> <li>• PPE (reduced amount) \$ 150,000</li> <li>• Remote interpretation software \$ 375,000</li> <li>• EJW Common case management system \$ 242,900</li> <li>• EJW Legal triage portal \$ 150,000</li> <li>• EJW Updated website \$ 50,000</li> </ul> <p>Requests that were denied include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Courthouse security \$ 2,175,000</li> <li>• Data Sharing Interfaces \$ 1,500,000</li> <li>• Position shortage \$ 681,423</li> <li>• EJW increase to legal aid \$ 3,022,000</li> <li>• EJW pro-bono coordinator position \$ 493,800</li> </ul>
<b>Pay Tables</b>	<p>The Judicial Branch pay table project is well underway. The WSC received a grant from the State Justice Institute providing funds to contract with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) for consulting services related to Judicial Branch pay tables. NCSC has subcontracted with a human resources and compensation consulting firm which has led similar projects for other judicial branches throughout the country. The estimated completion date is July 2022.</p>
<b>Chancery Court</b>	<p>The Chancery Court opened on December 1, 2021 with mandatory eFiling. Filings flow from the eFiling system (FSX) to the case management system (FCE). We continue to work with both vendors to improve the eFiling processes. Lessons learned from implementing electronic filing in Chancery Court will prove helpful when electronic filing is rolled out to district courts statewide.</p> <p>In its first three months, the Chancery Court received five cases. This start compares favorably to other states—the Iowa Business Specialty Court attracted 10 cases during its first year and the West Virginia Business Court Division accepted just one case during its first three months.</p> <p>The Legislature passed SF0057 during the budget session. This enrolled act extends the deadline for seating a Chancery Court judge from March 2023 to January 2024.</p>



<p><b>eFiling</b></p>	<p>The Draft eFiling Rules have been submitted to the Bar for public comment. Comments are due by April 1, 2022 and will be presented to the eFiling Committee for consideration. Once that process is complete, the Rules will be presented to the Court for consideration and adoption.</p>
<p><b>Judicial Branch Applications</b></p>	<p><b>District Court FullCourt Enterprise</b></p> <p>The third pilot court (Fremont County District Court) migrated to FCE in February. The full rollout phase of this project is now underway. WSC staff will provide training to Natrona County District Court this month in preparation for its Go-Live in April. First steps for implementations in Teton, Sublette, Lincoln, Uinta, and Sweetwater Counties have begun. These courts will be training in May and July with their transitions to FCE occurring in June and August.</p> <p><b>Training and Support</b></p> <p>The Applications Division is continuing to train and support the Clearview Jury management system and the Chancery and Circuit FCE case management systems.</p>
<p><b>Judicial Branch Technology</b></p>	<p><b>Information Technology</b></p> <p>The Information Technology Division is rolling-out Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) to Office 365 (O365) apps for improved security, and the GovDelivery platform for list-serve and notifications. Of note, all the District Court Clerks' Offices now have MFA for secure access to the Judicial Branch network.</p> <p>The new Public Access Search System (PASS), launched on March 1, 2022. PASS replaced the public access system on the kiosks within courthouses throughout the State.</p> <p>The Judicial Branch recently underwent yearly network penetration testing to test possible security issues with the Judicial Branch network. The testing was completed on February 25, 2022. Some lessons were learned, and the IT staff has worked to mitigate the few security issues that were discovered as part of this process.</p> <p><b>Courtroom Technology</b></p> <p>The Wyoming Supreme Court entered into a three-year Support and Maintenance Contract with Absolute AV. The contract provides for one on-site visit for each courtroom between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2024, along with phone support for any issues that may arise with courtroom technology over the next three years.</p> <p><b>New Hires</b></p> <p>The Information Technology Division is pleased to announce two new hires. Cassidy Hunt joins the Branch as the IT Infrastructure Administrator, and Amanda Nunn as the SQL Developer.</p>
<p><b>Court Security Commission</b></p>	<p>Justice John Fenn is the new chair of the Court Security Commission.</p> <p>The Court Security Commission will be meeting in Worland on March 15, 2022.</p>

	This meeting will include time on the Washakie County Commissioners Agenda, a tour of the court facility and training for Sheriff's Deputies and the Local Court Security Management Committee. The Commission is currently working to schedule meetings in Buffalo, Laramie, Sundance, and Torrington.
<b>New Judges</b>	Judge Melissa M. Owens will be sworn in as the District Court Judge in the Ninth Judicial District in Teton County, Judge Matthew Castano will be sworn in as the District Court Judge in the Sixth Judicial District, and Judge-Select Phillips will be sworn in as the District Court Judge in the Fourth Judicial District in Sheridan County. Vacancies have been announced for Circuit Court Judges in the Sixth Judicial District and in the Seventh Judicial District.
<b>Judicial Education</b>	Judicial Orientation for Judge Matt Castano and Judge-Select Darci Phillips will take place on March 25, 2022.

# PASSWORDS

Average time to hack the password “Summer9!” ?

**8 HOURS**

Average time to hack the password “wish it was summer already” ?

**7 SEPTILLION (1000000000000 BILLION) YEARS**

## CURRENT PRACTICE

### DO USE:

**Complex Characters**

Numbers or Symbols

Expiration of **90 days**

**8+**

Passwords of 8+ characters

### DO NOT USE:

**Childrens** or **Pet** Names

**weak@password.com**

Email Adresse or Phone #

**QWERT1234**

Keyboard Sequences

## IT RECOMENDATIONS:

*25+ Character Passwords*

*180 Day Expiration*

*Ban Common Passwords*

**OR**

*12+ Character Passwords*

*90 Day Expiration*

*Complex Characters*

*Ban Common Passwords*

**NIST 2020: Password length is more important than complexity**

# TIME IT TAKES A HACKER TO BRUTE FORCE YOUR PASSWORD

Number of Characters	Numbers Only	Lowercase Letters	Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters	Numbers, Upper and Lowercase Letters, Symbols
4	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
5	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly
6	Instantly	Instantly	Instantly	1 sec	5 secs
7	Instantly	Instantly	25 secs	1 min	6 mins
8	Instantly	5 secs	22 mins	1 hour	8 hours
9	Instantly	2 mins	19 hours	3 days	3 weeks
10	Instantly	58 mins	1 month	7 months	5 years
11	2 secs	1 day	5 years	41 years	400 years
12	25 secs	3 weeks	300 years	2k years	34k years
13	4 mins	1 year	16k years	100k years	2m years
14	41 mins	51 years	800k years	9m years	200m years
15	6 hours	1k years	43m years	600m years	15 bn years
16	2 days	34k years	2bn years	37bn years	1tn years
17	4 weeks	800k years	100bn years	2tn years	93tn years
18	9 months	23m years	6tn years	100 tn years	7qd years

**Want to know how long it takes to  
hack your password?**

<https://www.security.org/how-secure-is-my-password/>

## Appendix C

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0026

ENROLLED ACT NO. 25, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to the judiciary; providing for an additional district court judge in the third judicial district; providing for an additional district court judge in the seventh judicial district; authorizing an additional district judge position in the sixth judicial district; specifying conditions for the authorization to be effective; providing appropriations; authorizing additional positions; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.** W.S. 5-3-102(a) is amended to read:

**5-3-102. Number of judges; distribution among districts; concurrent jurisdiction; judicial conference to adopt rules.**

(a) There shall be two (2) judges of the district court in the second, fourth, fifth and eighth judicial districts, three (3) judges of the district court in the ~~third, sixth, seventh~~ and ninth judicial districts and four (4) judges of the district court in the first, third and seventh judicial ~~district-districts~~. In the second judicial district, one (1) judge shall reside in Albany county and one (1) shall reside in Carbon county. In the third judicial district two (2) judges shall reside in Sweetwater county. In the fourth judicial district, one (1) judge shall reside in Sheridan county and one (1) shall reside in Johnson county. In the ninth judicial district one (1) judge shall reside in Fremont county, one (1) judge shall reside in Teton county and one (1) judge shall reside in Sublette county. All district judges in the state shall have concurrent jurisdiction throughout the state and for purposes of assignment, shall have concurrent jurisdiction throughout the state with all circuit court judges.

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0026

ENROLLED ACT NO. 25, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

**Section 2.**

(a) There is appropriated from the general fund one million one hundred seventeen thousand six hundred dollars (\$1,117,600.00) to the third judicial district court for the biennium beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024. This appropriation shall only be expended for salaries, benefits, office equipment, supplies and fees necessary to implement the office of the third judicial district court judge in the third judicial district authorized in section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2024.

(b) There are authorized four (4) full-time equivalent positions, one (1) of which shall be the judge authorized in section 1 of this act, for the third judicial district court for personnel necessary to staff and support the additional district judge for the third judicial district authorized by this act for the biennium beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024.

(c) Suitable facilities for the additional district judge for the third judicial district authorized in this act shall be provided in the third judicial district. Suitable facilities shall include a suitable courtroom to accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices and other necessary auxiliary facilities.

**Section 3.**

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0026

ENROLLED ACT NO. 25, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

(a) There is appropriated from the general fund one million one hundred seventeen thousand six hundred dollars (\$1,117,600.00) to the seventh judicial district court for the biennium beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024. This appropriation shall only be expended for salaries, benefits, office equipment, supplies and fees necessary to implement the office of the seventh judicial district court judge in the seventh judicial district authorized in section 1 of this act. This appropriation shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose and any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from this appropriation shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2024.

(b) There are authorized four (4) full-time equivalent positions, one (1) of which shall be the judge authorized in section 1 of this act, for the seventh judicial district court for personnel necessary to staff and support the additional district judge for the seventh judicial district authorized by this act for the biennium beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024.

(c) Suitable facilities for the additional district judge for the seventh judicial district authorized in this section shall be provided in the seventh judicial district. Suitable facilities shall include a suitable courtroom to accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices and other necessary auxiliary facilities.

**Section 4.**

(a) The sixth judicial district shall be authorized an additional district judge position beyond those authorized under W.S. 5-3-102(a) upon completion of all of the following:

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0026

ENROLLED ACT NO. 25, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

(i) Certification by the chief justice of the Wyoming supreme court that adequate and suitable facilities in the sixth judicial district have been completed and are ready for occupancy for the additional district court judge. Adequate facilities shall include a suitable courtroom to accommodate a twelve (12) person jury, offices and other necessary auxiliary facilities. The courtroom, offices and other auxiliary facilities shall be in addition to those existing for district court purposes in the sixth judicial district as of July 1, 2022;

(ii) Delivery of the certification to the joint appropriations committee and the joint judiciary interim committee. Upon receipt of the certification, either committee may sponsor any legislation necessary to implement the additional district court judge position, to make any necessary appropriations and to authorize any necessary additional support positions; and

(iii) Enactment into law of legislation authorizing the filling of the additional district court judge position.



ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0026

ENROLLED ACT NO. 25, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

**Section 5.** This act is effective July 1, 2022.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

## Appendix D

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0057

ENROLLED ACT NO. 9, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

AN ACT relating to courts; amending requirements for filling chancery court vacancies; amending persons qualified for temporary assignment of chancery court duties; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.** W.S. 5-13-109(a)(ii), by creating new paragraphs (iv) and (v) and (b) is amended to read:

**5-13-109. Temporary assignment to fill vacancies; appointments to fill vacancies in office.**

(a) Prior to the appointment of a chancery court judge under subsection (b) of this section or in the event a chancery court judge appointed under W.S. 5-13-107 dies, becomes unable or unwilling to perform the duties of his office, the supreme court may temporarily assign the duties of chancery court judge to be performed by a person who meets the qualifications set forth in W.S. 5-13-108. Any assignment shall be made to:

(ii) A retired district court judge; ~~or~~

(iv) A special master; or

(v) A magistrate.

(b) Beginning ~~March 1, 2023~~ January 1, 2024, the office of judge of the chancery court and any vacancies therein shall be filled as provided by W.S. 5-13-107.

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0057

ENROLLED ACT NO. 9, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

**Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2022.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

# Appendix E

ORIGINAL HOUSE  
JOINT RESOLUTION. HJ0001

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing to amend the Wyoming Constitution by amending the retirement age requirements for Wyoming supreme court justices and district court judges.

*BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING,* two-thirds of all the members of the two houses, voting separately, concurring therein:

**Section 1.** The following proposal to amend the Wyoming Constitution, Article 5, Section 5 is proposed for submission to the electors of the State of Wyoming at the next general election for approval or rejection to become valid as a part of the Constitution if ratified by a majority of the electors at the election:

**Article 5, Section 5. Voluntary retirement and compensation of justices and judges.**

Subject to the further provisions of this section, the legislature shall provide for the voluntary retirement and compensation of justices and judges of the supreme court and district courts, and may do so for any other courts, on account of length of service, age and disability, and for their reassignment to active duty where and when needed. The office of every such justice and judge shall become vacant when the incumbent reaches the age of ~~seventy (70)~~ seventy-five (75) years, as the legislature may prescribe. ~~but, in the case of an incumbent whose term of office includes the effective date of this amendment, this provision shall not prevent him from serving the remainder of said term nor be applicable to him before his period or periods of judicial service shall have reached a total of six (6) years.~~ The legislature may also provide for benefits for dependents of justices and judges.

ORIGINAL HOUSE  
JOINT RESOLUTION. HJ0001

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

**Section 2.** That the Secretary of State shall endorse the following statement on the proposed amendment:

Currently, the Wyoming Constitution requires Wyoming Supreme Court justices and district court judges to retire upon reaching the age of seventy (70). This amendment increases the mandatory retirement age of Supreme Court justices and district court judges from age seventy (70) to age seventy-five (75).

ORIGINAL HOUSE  
JOINT RESOLUTION. HJ0001

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1, HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

The Constitution also currently provides an exception to the mandatory requirement to retire upon reaching age seventy (70) for justices and judges who had not yet completed six (6) years of judicial service as of December 12, 1972. The proposed amendment would remove the now-obsolete six (6) year service guarantee.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the House.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0040

Judges-housing allowance.

Sponsored by: Joint Judiciary Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to courts; authorizing the award of housing  
2 assistance to judges and justices as specified; and  
3 providing for an effective date.

4

5 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 5-1-112 is created to read:

8

9 **5-1-112. Housing assistance for judges.**

10

11 Subject to constitutional and statutory provisions  
12 concerning when salaries can become effective, justices of  
13 the supreme court and judges of the district courts,  
14 chancery courts and circuit courts may receive housing  
15 assistance if the judge or justice resides in a county in  
16 Wyoming where the average cost of housing is significantly

1 higher than the statewide population weighted average cost  
2 of housing. The supreme court shall promulgate rules for  
3 the award of housing assistance under this section.

4

5 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2022.

6

7

(END)



# Appendix G

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0001

ENGROSSED

ENROLLED ACT NO. 12, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

(i) For each year the certificate is valid, the district provides each teacher employed by the district and holding certification by the national board for professional teaching standards a lump sum payment of four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00), except that for school year 2022-2023 and school year 2023-2024 a lump sum payment of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for each school year shall be made, which payment is in addition to the teacher's annual salary as determined by the board, and which is paid to each certified teacher between December 1 and December 31 of the school year for which application is made;

(b) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to prohibit a school district from expending any other funds for purposes of a lump sum payment in the amount of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for each school year to each teacher employed by the district and holding certification by the national board for professional teaching standards.

## [EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION]

### Section 319.

(a) There is appropriated sixty-four million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$64,800,000.00) from the general fund to the state auditor for salary adjustments of generally funded employees whose salary is not prescribed by law for the fiscal period commencing July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024 as specified in this section. From this appropriation, the state auditor shall distribute the following amounts:

(i) Thirty-seven million six hundred ninety thousand four hundred sixty-two dollars (\$37,690,462.00) for distribution among the executive branch agencies, including statewide elected officials, pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the executive branch, the commission on judicial conduct and ethics and the community college commission but not including any agency or entity specified in paragraph (ii) or (iii) of this subsection, the Wyoming business council and Wyoming energy authority;

(ii) Sixteen million two hundred seventy-one thousand four hundred fifty dollars (\$16,271,450.00) to the University of Wyoming pursuant to subsection (b) of this section for employees of the University of Wyoming, the University of Wyoming medical education program, school of energy resources and the enhanced oil recovery commission;

ENROLLED ACT NO. 12, SENATE

SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2022 BUDGET SESSION

(iii) Eight million six hundred sixteen thousand eight hundred thirty-three dollars (\$8,616,833.00) to the community college commission to be allocated among the community colleges in proportion to the state funded payroll of each college relative to the total state funded payroll as submitted by the colleges to the state budget department and further distributed within each college pursuant to subsection (b) of this section among the community colleges for employees of the community colleges and Wyoming public television;

(iv) Two million two hundred twenty-one thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars (\$2,221,255.00) to the supreme court to be further distributed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section among the employees of the supreme court, district courts and circuit courts and related subdivisions.

(b) Funds appropriated under subsection (a) of this section shall be distributed to employees of entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (iv) of this section to provide for salary and employer paid benefit increases consistent with employee performance and occupational market analysis as determined by the specified recipient entities.

(c) For state executive and judicial branch employees whose compensation is paid from nongeneral fund sources, to the extent funds are available, there is appropriated from those accounts and funds amounts necessary to provide payment of comparable salary increases and employer paid benefits as that which is distributed to employees of entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (iv) of this section and subject to the same distribution methodology that is applied by the entities specified in paragraphs (a)(i) through (iv) of this section, respectively. For state executive and judicial branch employees whose compensation is partially funded by general funds, general funds shall be expended for compensation increases in the same proportion as the employee's budgeted salary is paid by state general funds.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the appropriation under this section shall not be transferred or expended for any purpose other than as specified in this section. Any unexpended, unobligated funds remaining from the appropriation under this section shall revert as provided by law on June 30, 2024.

NATIONAL JUDICIAL TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE STATE COURTS' RESPONSE TO MENTAL ILLNESS

## -SAVE THE DATE-

2022 CCJ/COSCA Mid-Atlantic Region Summit

Improving the Court and Community Response to those  
with Mental Illness

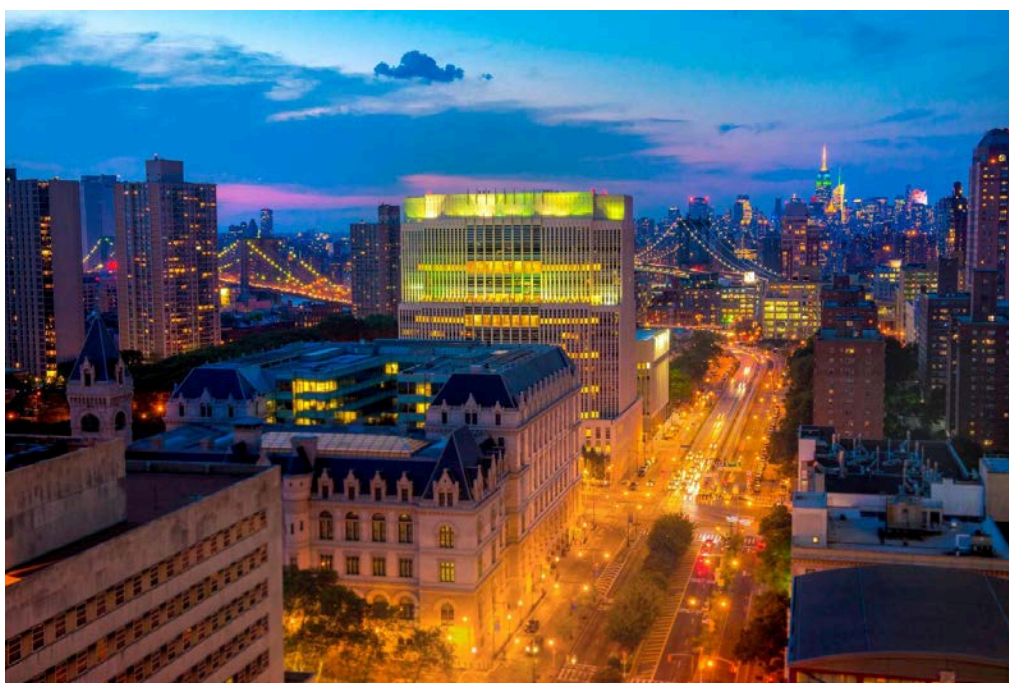


Image via Marriott Hotel Brooklyn Bridge website at <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-photos/nycbk-new-york-marriott-at-the-brooklyn-bridge/>

**June 22-24**

**Brooklyn, New York**

The National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness is pleased to announce dates and plans for the 2022 CCJ/COSCA Mid-Atlantic Region Summit. The event will be held at [The New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge](#). The Summit will include highly regarded national speakers, as well as speakers and programs from your states, and, importantly, opportunities for state team planning and setting state team priorities. Chief Justices and State Court Administrators will be asked to assemble multi-disciplinary state teams to attend this transformational event. Please find attached information on possible team composition. The State Justice Institute (SJI) will announce at the Summit the availability of SJI funding for states to accomplish their state team priorities.

Please stay tuned for further details, including an official invitation and registration and hotel information. We expect both the location and the Summit itself to be spectacular! Please save these dates.

The Summit is planned by the National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness in coordination with the Conferences of Chief Justices and State Court Administrators. On behalf of the Task Force, and in addition to national speakers, I will be reaching out to each state court to obtain your recommendations for programs and speakers to highlight at the summit. If you have any questions or suggestions for this event, please contact me.

**Patti Tobias** | Principal Court Management Consultant | Court Consulting Services  
National Center for State Courts | 707 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900 | Denver, CO 80202  
t 303.308.4307 | c 208.830.7661 | f 303.308.4364 | [ptobias@ncsc.org](mailto:ptobias@ncsc.org) | [www.ncsc.org](http://www.ncsc.org)

# NATIONAL JUDICIAL TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE STATE COURTS' RESPONSE TO MENTAL ILLNESS

## 2022 CCJ/COSCA Mid-Atlantic Region Summit

Delaware | District of Columbia | Maryland | New Jersey | New York | Pennsylvania | West Virginia

### Improving the Court and Community Response to those with Mental Illness

June 22-24 | Brooklyn, New York

### Possible Team Composition

(as designated by the Chief Justice and State Court Administrator)

Up to eight to ten (or more) members per state team, with possible team members to include:

- Chief Justice
- State Court Administrator
- Chair, state behavioral health/justice system task force/commission
- State behavioral health authorities
- Behavioral health provider, state or local, governmental or non-governmental
- Director, state hospital
- Presiding judge
- Trial court executive
- Association of counties/county official
- State Medicaid director
- Representative from psychiatric association or psychiatric hospitals
- Prosecution
- Defense
- Executive branch
- Legislative branch
- Director, corrections
- Sheriff or director, county jail
- NAMI
- Local law enforcement
- Person with lived experience



## -SAVE THE DATE-

### 2022 CCJ/COSCA New England Region Summit Improving the Court and Community Response to those with Mental Illness

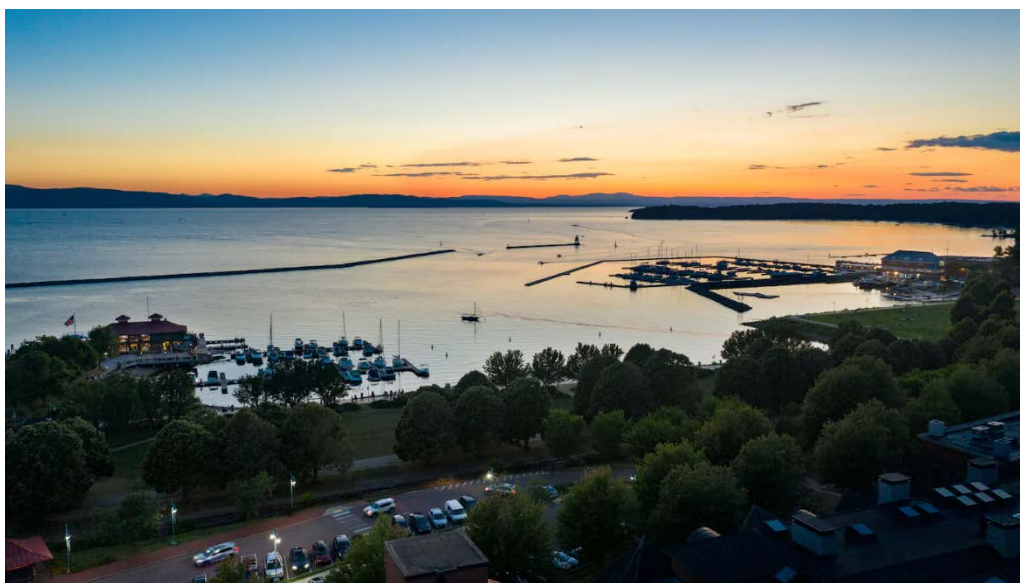


Image via Hilton Burlington Lake Champlain: <https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bttvthf-hilton-burlington-lake-champlain/gallery/>

**May 25-27**  
**Burlington, Vermont**

The National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness is pleased to announce dates and plans for the 2022 CCJ/COSCA New England Region Summit. The event will be held at [The Hilton Burlington Lake Champlain](#). The Summit will include highly regarded national speakers, as well as speakers and programs from your states, and, importantly, opportunities for state team planning and setting state team priorities. Chief Justices and State Court Administrators will be asked to assemble multi-disciplinary state teams to attend this transformational event. Please find attached information on possible team composition. The State Justice Institute (SJI) will announce at the Summit the availability of SJI funding for states to accomplish their state team priorities.

Please stay tuned for further details, including an official invitation and registration and hotel information. We expect both the location and the Summit itself to be spectacular! Please save these dates.

The Summit is planned by the National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts' Response to Mental Illness in coordination with the Conferences of Chief Justices and State Court Administrators. On behalf of the Task Force, and in addition to national speakers, I will be reaching out to each state court to obtain your recommendations for programs and speakers to highlight at the summit. If you have any questions or suggestions for this event, please contact me.

**Patti Tobias** | Principal Court Management Consultant | Court Consulting Services  
National Center for State Courts | 707 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900 | Denver, CO 80202  
t 303.308.4307 | c 208.830.7661 | f 303.308.4364 | [ptobias@ncsc.org](mailto:ptobias@ncsc.org) | [www.ncsc.org](http://www.ncsc.org)

# NATIONAL JUDICIAL TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE STATE COURTS' RESPONSE TO MENTAL ILLNESS

## 2022 CCJ/COSCA New England Region Summit

Connecticut | Maine | Massachusetts | New Hampshire | Rhode Island | Vermont

### Improving the Court and Community Response to those with Mental Illness

May 25-27 | Burlington, Vermont

### Possible Team Composition

(as designated by the Chief Justice and State Court Administrator)

Up to eight to ten (or more) members per state team, with possible team members to include:

- Chief Justice
- State Court Administrator
- Chair, state behavioral health/justice system task force/commission
- State behavioral health authorities
- Behavioral health provider, state or local, governmental or non-governmental
- Director, state hospital
- Presiding judge
- Trial court executive
- Association of counties/county official
- State Medicaid director
- Representative from psychiatric association or psychiatric hospitals
- Prosecution
- Defense
- Executive branch
- Legislative branch
- Director, corrections
- Sheriff or director, county jail
- NAMI
- Local law enforcement
- Person with lived experience



Appendix J

In the Circuit Court of the Seventh Judicial District  
Natrona County, State of Wyoming

H. Steven Brown  
Circuit Court Judge

Michael N. Patchen  
Circuit Court Judge

Brian D. Christensen  
Circuit Court Judge

Heather Eastin  
Clerk of Court



Townsend Justice Center  
115 N. Center St, Suite 400  
Casper, WY 82601

(307) 235-9266  
(307) 235-9331 fax

February 1, 2022

Chief Justice Kate M. Fox  
Wyoming Supreme Court  
2301 Capitol Avenue  
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: Administrative Judge for Natrona County Circuit Court

Chief Justice Fox:

This letter is notice of a change in the administrative judge from the Honorable H. Steven Brown to the Honorable Brian D. Christensen for the Natrona County Circuit Court. As Judge H. Steven Brown will be retiring in the near future. We are asking the BJPA to approve this change and appoint the Honorable Judge Brian D. Christensen as the administrative judge for the Natrona County Circuit Court. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Handwritten signature of H. Steven Brown in blue ink.

H. Steven Brown  
Circuit Court Judge

Handwritten signature of Michael N. Patchen in blue ink.

Michael N. Patchen  
Circuit Court Judge

Handwritten signature of Brian D. Christensen in blue ink.

Brian D. Christensen  
Circuit Court Judge