



OFFICE OF COURT ADMINISTRATION
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MONROE COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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NOTICE

REESTABLISHMENT OF THE MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS
WITHIN THE 43RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
MONROE COUNTY

Pursuant to 42 Pa. C.S.A. § 1503, in the year following that in which the Federal decennial census is officially reported, the Court shall reestablish the number, boundaries and classes of magisterial districts within each judicial district.

NOTICE is hereby given that a proposal to reestablish the nine (9) Magisterial Districts within the 43rd Judicial District of Pennsylvania, Monroe County, has been drafted and is available for review and public comment for thirty (30) days.

The proposal can be viewed at the following locations:

1. **Court of Common Pleas – 43rd Judicial District website**
www.monroepacourts.us under the Magisterial District Judges section.
2. **Monroe County Court Administrator's Office**
Monroe County Courthouse
610 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Stroudsburg, PA
3. **All nine (9) Magisterial District Courts.**

The thirty (30) day public comment period will expire at the end of business on **Tuesday, February 22, 2022**. Public comments regarding the proposal can be mailed to the following address:

Monroe County MDJ Court Administration
Monroe County Courthouse, Suite 221
610 Monroe Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
Attn: Deborah Rivera, Deputy Court Administrator

Public comments can also be emailed to drivera@monroepacourts.us. All public comments must be in writing and must include the full name and address of the sender. Comments specific to the proposed plan will be included with the final petition that is forwarded to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for approval.

43rd JUDICIAL DISTRICT of PENNSYLVANIA
MONROE COUNTY
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT REESTABLISHMENT PLAN
Period 2010 – 2020

Title 42 section 1503(a) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes – Judiciary and Judicial Procedures dictates, “In each year following that in which the Federal decennial census is officially reported as required by Federal law the court shall reestablish the number, boundaries and classes of magisterial districts within each judicial district.” Article V of the Pennsylvania Constitution section 7(b) orders that, “The number and boundaries of magisterial districts of each class within each judicial district shall be established by the Supreme Court or by the courts of common pleas under the direction of the Supreme Court as required for the efficient administration of justice within each magisterial district.” The Pennsylvania Rules of Court govern the establishment of offices and standards of conduct for Magisterial District Judges.

The magisterial district courts accept filings from local and state police departments as well as the public. These filings include traffic and non-traffic summary offenses, misdemeanor and felony criminal offenses in addition to civil and landlord/tenant disputes. A magisterial district judge (MDJ) presides over these case filings and related court events in an established magisterial district court location. Currently, the 43rd Judicial District has nine (9) established magisterial districts with an MDJ presiding in each court. In 2017, this number was reduced from ten (10) as a result of the retirement of an MDJ and the 2013 Pennsylvania Supreme Court Order No. 345 – Reestablishment of the Magisterial Districts Within the 43rd Judicial District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The Monroe County data from the U.S. Census Bureau indicates that the population rate declined slightly from 2010-2020 from 169,842 to 168,327 a difference of only 0.9%. Monroe County is classified as a 4th class county in Pennsylvania. This county leads the other eight in its class in annual average case filings per magisterial district court at 4846 cases filed. The average

annual case filings for a 4th class county in Pennsylvania is 4150 cases. This county averages the highest traffic and civil case filings and fifth highest criminal case filings. Third class counties have annual average case filings of 4919 cases. In 2011, a number of magisterial district judges, AOPC staff and court administrators conducted a “weighted caseload” study where MDJs recorded their “bench” time for a number of weeks in accordance with specific case types. This time was then coded and a weight was attributed to each particular case type filed in the magisterial district court. A case weight measurement was calculated from this analysis. Since 2011, this weighted measurement has been used to ensure the workload is fair and balanced among the MDJs in the same county. During the reestablishment process, we are asked to review the workload totals for each case type and determine if any magisterial district court has a total workload that is 15% higher or lower than the other MDJs within the county. One item to note is that the weighted caseload measurement does not include staff case processing time. When comparing case types and their specific weights, the failure to factor staff processing time can lead to misinterpretation of the data. For example, a criminal case has a higher weight than a traffic case although a traffic case takes more staff time.

With minimal increase in population and the workloads within the current magisterial district courts of the 43rd Judicial District of Pennsylvania being comparable to each other, this Court is proposing to reestablish all nine (9) existing magisterial districts as they are currently recognized.

The following summarizes this request for reestablishment:

1. Monroe County currently has 9 magisterial districts with 9 Magisterial District Judges.
2. The average annual caseload for a magisterial district court in a Pennsylvania 4th class county is 4150 cases; the average annual caseload for a magisterial district court in Monroe County is 4846 cases.
3. The average total workload (weighted caseload) for a magisterial district in 43rd Judicial District is 36,863 cases.
4. Two of nine magisterial district courts in Monroe County have caseloads that are 15% or higher than those of other 4th class counties in Pennsylvania.
5. None of the nine magisterial district courts in Monroe County have a workload that is 15% or higher than any other within the 43rd Judicial District.
6. Based on the caseload and workload difference percentages of all the magisterial district courts within the 43rd Judicial District, no boundary changes are necessary to the magisterial districts at this time.

PROPOSED REESTABLISHED MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS

Magisterial District Court	Jurisdiction
District Court 43-2-01 823A Ann Street Stroudsburg, PA 18360	Stroudsburg Boro
District Court 43-2-02 98 Day Street East Stroudsburg, PA 18301	East Stroudsburg Boro
District Court 43-3-01 5560 Municipal Drive Tobyhanna, PA 18466	Coolbaugh Township
District Court 43-3-02 1211 N 5th Street Stroudsburg, PA 18360	Hamilton Township Stroud Township
District Court 43-3-03 3361 Route 611 Suite #4 Bartonsville, PA 18321	Jackson Township Pocono Township
District Court 43-3-04 1479 Route 209 PO Box 218 Brodheadsville, PA 18322	Chestnut Hill Township Eldred Township Polk Township Ross Township
District Court 43-4-01 1155 Red Fox Road PO Box 1127 Marshalls Creek, PA 18335	Delaware Water Gap Middle Smithfield Township Smithfield Township
District Court 43-4-02 6689 Route 191 PO Box 213 Mountainhome, PA 18342	Barrett Township Mount Pocono Boro Paradise Township Price Township
District Court 43-4-04 1878 Route 940 East Suite 203 Pocono Pines, Pa 18350	Tobyhanna Township Tunkhannock Township

The 43rd Judicial District of
The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Magisterial Districts



THIS MAP IS PREPARED FOR THE INVENTORY OF REAL PROPERTY
BASED ON THE UTILIZATION OF DEERS, PLATS AND/OR SUPPORTIVE DATA.
THE COUNTY AUTHORITY FOR THE INFORMATION DELINEATED HEREON.

LEGEND

- 43-2-01
- 43-2-02
- 43-3-01
- 43-3-02
- 43-3-03
- 43-3-04
- 43-4-01
- 43-4-02
- 43-4-04

