

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

RE: INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA ADVISORY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2021, the West Virginia Legislature passed Senate Bill 275 (“WV Appellate Reorganization Action of 2021”) creating the Intermediate Court of Appeals of West Virginia, and on April 8, 2021, Governor James C. Justice, II signed the bill into law;

WHEREAS, Article 8, Section 3 of the Constitution of West Virginia provides that the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia (“the Court”) shall have general supervisory control over all intermediate appellate courts;

WHEREAS, the new West Virginia Intermediate Court of Appeals must be operable on or before July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Court desires the participation of stakeholders and subject matter experts as a means to promote transparency and public engagement as it creates the new Intermediate Court of Appeals.

THEREFORE, it is ORDERED that a “Intermediate Court of Appeals Advisory Council” shall be established for the purpose of promoting stakeholder participation and broader engagement in the development of the Intermediate Court of Appeals. The initial Intermediate Court of Appeals Advisory Council may include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Two representatives of West Virginia Circuit Court Judges;
- Two representatives of West Virginia Family Court Judges;
- A representative of the West Virginia State Bar;
- A representative from the West Virginia University College of Law;
- A representative from Legal Aid of West Virginia;
- A representative from Mountain State Justice;
- A representative from the Defense Trial Counsel of West Virginia;
- A representative from the West Virginia Association for Justice;
- An attorney specializing in family law;
- An attorney specializing in work as a family law guardian ad litem;
- An attorney specializing in workers’ compensation that primarily represents claimants;
- An attorney specializing in workers’ compensation that primarily represents employers;
- A representative from the Workers’ Compensation Board of Review;
- A representative from the West Virginia House of Delegates;
- A representative from the West Virginia Senate;
- A representative from the Office of the West Virginia Attorney General;

- A representative from the Office of the Governor; and
- Any other representatives invited to participate by the Chief Justice.

The Chief Justice shall extend an invitation to each of the specifically designated groups/organizations providing the opportunity to submit one or more recommendations of individuals to be considered for selection for participation on the Intermediate Court of Appeals Advisory Council.

The Intermediate Court of Appeals Advisory Council will be composed of individuals selected by the Chief Justice and *ex officio* members.

The Intermediate Court of Appeals Advisory Council shall be Chaired by the Chief Justice, or his designee, and the Administrative Office shall provide staff support.

The following officials, officers, and staff from the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia shall sit on the council as *ex officio* members:

- The Justices of the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia;
- The Clerk of the Court;
- The Administrative Director;
- The Chief Counsel from the Office of Counsel;
- The Deputy Administrative Directors;
- The Director of the Division of Court Services;
- The Director of the Division of Technology and Facilities Services; and
- The Director of the Division of Legal Services.

ENTERED: August 31, 2021



Evan H. Jenkins, Chief Justice



Edythe Nash Gaiser, Clerk of Court