

PROPOSED REESTABLISHMENT OF MAGISTERIAL JUDICIAL DISTRICTS

Following each census, the President Judge is required by law to review the number and alignment of magisterial judicial districts to determine whether Schuylkill County, the 21st Judicial District of Pennsylvania, has the right number of districts to respond to the judicial caseload within the county and whether the municipalities have been properly assigned within each magisterial district so that the workload is evenly distributed across the various districts.

Although this review is required by law to be done every ten years, a review and realignment may take place sooner if circumstances warrant. Because of a population decrease, combined with the planned retirement of two magisterial district judges within the county, a review was completed during 2010, and changes were recommended to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. The recommendation called for a reduction in the number of magisterial district courts serving the county from eight to seven and the realignment of municipalities included within each of the remaining districts to accommodate those municipalities that were in the district which was to be eliminated. The Supreme Court approved that recommendation, and the changes went into effect in January of 2012.

Because the new alignment of magisterial districts has been in place for such a short time, there is very little available data to accurately ascertain how the changes are working. However, since there is no current indication that any of the seven magisterial district offices are experiencing difficulty in serving the judicial needs of the municipalities within their borders, it is the intention of the President Judge to recommend no change in the current number or boundaries of the seven magisterial judicial districts within Schuylkill County. Public comment on this recommendation is invited.

Any member of the public wishing to comment on the recommendation to leave all magisterial judicial districts within the county as they currently exist must be submitted in writing by regular mail or e-mail not later than March 1, 2012. The mailing address is:

President Judge
401 N. 2nd Street
Pottsville, Pa. 17901

E-mail comments may be sent to redistricting@co.schuylkill.pa.us

The magisterial judicial districts and the municipalities within each district are as follows:

District 21-2-01 Magisterial District Judge Christina E. Hale

619 West Oak Street
Frackville, PA

Ashland Borough
Butler Township
Frackville Borough
Gilberton Borough

Girardville Borough
Gordon Borough
N. Union Township

Ryan Township
Union Township
W. Mahanoy Township
(Altamont)

District 21-3-01 Magisterial District Judge David A. Plachko

Borough Building
2nd Street
Port Carbon, PA

Blythe Township
E. Norwegian Township
Mechanicsville Borough
Middleport Borough

Minersville Borough
New Castle Township
New Philadelphia Borough
Norwegian Township

Palo Alto Borough
Port Carbon Borough
Schuylkill Township
St. Clair Borough

District 21-3-03 Magisterial District Judge James R. Ferrier
209 N. Warren Street
Orwigsburg, PA

Auburn Borough	New Ringgold Borough	S. Manheim Township
Cressona Borough	N. Manheim Township	Walker Township
Deer Lake Borough	Orwigsburg Borough	Wayne Township
E. Brunswick Township	Port Clinton Borough	W. Brunswick Borough
Landingville Borough	Schuylkill Haven Borough	W. Penn Township

District 21-3-04 Magisterial District Judge Carol A. Pancake
19 N. Pine Street
Tremont, PA

Barry Township	Hegins Township	Tower City Borough
Branch Township	Hubley Township	Tremont Borough
Cass Township	Pine Grove Borough	Tremont Township
Foster Township	Pine Grove Township	Upper Mahantongo Twp.
Eldred Township	Porter Township	Washington Township
Frailey Township	Reilly Township	

District 21-3-05 Magisterial District Judge Anthony J. Kilker
33 S. Main Street
Shenandoah, PA

Delano Township	Mahanoy City Borough	Shenandoah Borough
E. Union Township	Mahanoy Township	W. Mahanoy Township

District 21-3-06 Magisterial District Judge Stephen J. Bayer
Rear, 320 E. Broad Street
Tamaqua, PA

Coaldale Borough	McAdoo Borough	Tamaqua Borough
Kline Township	Rush Township	

District 21-3-07 Magisterial District Judge James K. Reiley
200 N. Centre Street
Pottsville, PA

Mount Carbon Borough	Pottsville City
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Copies of the Redistricting Plan are available in the Pottsville Library, 215 W. Market Street, Pottsville, PA and in the Law Library, 4th Floor, Schuylkill County Courthouse, 401 N. 2nd Street, Pottsville, PA.