

County of Scott, Tennessee

OFFICE OF SHERIFF



Ronnie Phillips
Sheriff

(423) 663-3111

May 10, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

First, I regret that I am unable to attend the hearing today in person. Therefore, please accept this letter which contains my personal and professional thoughts regarding the composition of district lines.

As the Sheriff of Scott County, which sits within the 8 th Judicial District, I have the opportunity and privilege of working with law enforcement agencies across the district. the District Attorney General's office, and other programs. The DA's office alone employees a number of individuals within my home county, both via the conference and grants, which could possibly result in a loss of those jobs if a redistricting plan were to be implemented. Scott County certainly does not need to endure those losses.

Also, as a member of the Advisory Board of the Scott County Family Justice Center, I am well aware of positions that are associated with the 8 th Judicial District Attorney General's office. I can only believe that a recomposition of judicial districts would cause issues within those contracts. There would also be concerns involving the Children's Center of the Cumberland, our Children's Advocacy Center and the other CACs throughout the district, as they too have a solid relationship and partnership with the 8 th Judicial District Attorney's office. These two entities / organizations provide services to individuals who find themselves victims of crimes at

County of Scott, Tennessee

OFFICE OF SHERIFF



Ronnie Phillips
Sheriff

(423) 663-3111

the hands of someone else. These crimes include child abuse, domestic violence, elder abuse, human trafficking, and sexual assault.

Therefore, it is my personal and professional opinion that the current district lines should remain as they are.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter. If at any time you would choose to speak to me directly regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to call my office at 423-663-3111.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Phillips

Scott County Sheriff



Bob Brooks Sheriff

415 Straight Creek Rd. Tazewell, TN 37879

May 14, 2019

Administrative Office of the Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219

During a recent meeting with General Jared Effler, he informed me of the task force that was created to evaluate the effectiveness of the current judicial structure. One of the focus questions spoke to geographical concerns about the current judicial districts. As the current Sheriff of Claiborne County and a former Tennessee State Trooper, I am able to offer my input on this matter. During my career as a Trooper, I was able to watch General Effler, as an Assistant District Attorney General and later as the Attorney General of the 8th Judicial District, work successfully and efficiently across three separate highway patrol districts. It is my opinion that the success of the 8th Judicial District lies solely on the men and women that General Effler and his predecessor have chosen to represent the State of Tennessee and Claiborne County. I have never felt, as a law enforcement officer, that the service provided by our current judicial structure has been inadequate. With that being said, I am categorically opposed to any restructuring of the current judicial district.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Bob Brooks



Phone: (423) 626-3385
(423) 626-2501

Fax: (423) 626-8781
Email: info@claiborneso.com

JACKIE ROSENBALM
CLAIBORNE COUNTY
CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
415 Straight Creek Road, Ste. 5
New Tazewell, TN 37825
Phone: (423) 626-3334

Fax: (423) 526-2703

*General Sessions
General Sessions Civil
Honorable Judge
Robert Estep*

*8th Judicial
Circuit Court
Honorable Judge
John McAfee*

*8th Judicial
Criminal Court
Honorable Judge
E. Shayne Sexton*

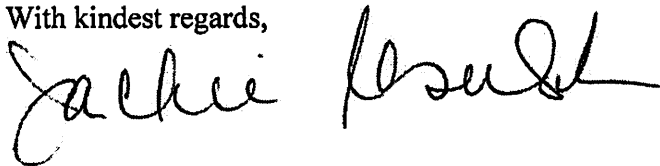
TO: ADVISORY TASK FORCE

My name is Jackie Rosenbalm and I am the Circuit Court Clerk for Claiborne County. I have worked in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office since 1987, being the Clerk for the past 5 years.

Although there has been mention of redistricting in the past, I would be opposed to any redistricting of the Eighth Judicial District, as Clerk of the Court.

Our obligations as Clerk's, District Attorney General, and Judge's are to the people that we serve, in the counties that we serve, and it is not the people's best interest.

With kindest regards,



Jackie Rosenbalm
Circuit Court Clerk of Claiborne County



Sheriff Robbie K. Goins
PO Box 82
Jacksboro, TN 37757
Phone (423) 562-7446
Fax (423) 566-5469
www.campbellcountysheriff.com

May 14, 2019

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

Re: Judicial Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to convey my concerns regarding the redistricting of the 8th Judicial District, and to recommend that the Advisory Task Force refrain from any such redistricting. Please consider my opinions set forth in this letter, as I cannot be present at the hearing.

As you know, Campbell County lies in the 8th Judicial District. The Courts, District Attorney General's Office, Law Enforcement Agencies, and service providers are critical components to the well-being of our County and District. Some of these offices and agencies have worked hard to obtain and maintain grant positions that are central to our District's overall success. These grants have very specific guidelines and any disruption of the District would place those resources in peril.

Some of the offices and agencies that would be affected include: our Child Advocacy Centers, our DUI Prosecutor and staff, and our Domestic Violence Prosecutor and staff within the Family Justice Centers located throughout the District. These positions are a necessary part of the criminal justice system in Campbell County and our entire District. Losing any of these resources would create an unnecessary burden on our community. The system we have worked hard to implement is working well.

Additionally, our Courts and Clerk's Offices do not need to be changed. We have healthy dockets and a system in place that is effective.

For all of these reasons I respectfully ask that you do not redistrict the 8th Judicial District.

Thank you for considering my position. Please contact me at 423-562-7446 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Robbie Goins
Campbell County Sheriff

**CLERK AND MASTER
CHANCERY COURT
P.O. BOX 182, 570 MAIN STREET
JACKSBORO, TN 37757**

**PHONE 423-562-3496
FAX 423-562-9732**

**ELIZABETH ASBURY
CHANCELLOR**

**DENNIS POTTER
CLERK & MASTER**

May 15, 2019

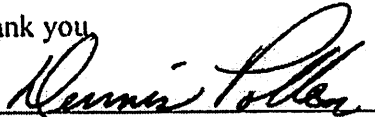
The Honorable Chairman Telford E. Fogerty

Re: Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

Dear Judge Fogerty,

This letter is in regards to the possible redistricting of the 8th Judicial District. My office has a good working relationship with Criminal Judge Shayne Sexton, Circuit Judge John McAfee, General Jerad Effler, Public Defender Leif Jeffers and all of the Clerk's Offices throughout the District. Our ultimate goal is to provide services timely, professionally, and fairly to the people. We are very well represented in the 8th Judicial District. I take the stand "if it ain't broke don't fix it".

Thank you


Dennis Potter
Campbell County Clerk & Master

**OFFICE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CAMPBELL COUNTY TENNESSEE
Bobby W. Vann, Clerk**

Phone: (423) 562-2624 Fax: (423) 563-0342
E. Shayne Sexton, Criminal Court Judge John D. McAfee, Circuit Court Judge
Amanda H. Sammons, General Sessions Judge

May 14, 2019

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

Re: Redistricting the 8th Judicial District

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Circuit Court Clerk for Campbell County, Tennessee, in the 8th Judicial District. I manage the clerk's offices for the Circuit, Criminal, General Sessions and Juvenile Courts.

Due to scheduling conflicts, I cannot participate in the hearing on redistricting. I am submitting this letter in lieu of attendance.

I am respectfully opposed to including the 8th Judicial District in any redistricting plan. Our Courts and Dockets run smoothly, and to my knowledge, they also work well in the rest of the district. We have spent years developing the way our Courts and offices run. It would be a great hardship to have to start over, or even rework our processes. There is no need to change anything in our district.

Furthermore, it is my understanding that making changes to the 8th Judicial District could create many other problems. As I understand it, redistricting could jeopardize various grant resources within our District Attorney General's Office and our Child Advocacy Center. These are resources that help keep our community and children safe. I do not favor any changes that would cause us to lose any part of these valuable resources.

As you can see, I am very concerned about changing anything in our County and District. I humbly ask that you do not redistrict any part of the 8th Judicial District.

Thank you and you can reach me at 423-562-2624. Let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Best regards,



Bobby Vann
Campbell County Circuit Court Clerk

**OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND MASTER
SANDRA EDMONDSON
Union County Chancery and Probate Court
901 Main Street, Suite 206
Maynardville, TN 37807**

**Elizabeth C. Asbury, Chancellor
8th Judicial District**

**Telephone: 865-992-5942
Fax: 865-992-9338
Email: sandra.edmondson@tncourts.gov**

May 15, 2019

Advisory Task Force for Judicial Resource Allocation:

Dear distinguished members of the Advisory Task Force for Judicial Resource Allocation, I am writing this letter to respectfully inform you that the 8th Judicial District for the State of Tennessee is a judicial district which is recognized by the citizens, law enforcement and attorneys which comprise the 8th Judicial District as a judicial district which is efficient, well organized and which always puts the legal, law enforcement and judicial needs of its citizens at the forefront.

Before I received the honor and responsibility of serving Union County as Clerk and Master of its Chancery Court, I worked for many years in a law office and had the opportunity to work with many different court systems and law enforcement in several judicial districts. I can honestly and with all candor inform you that the 8th Judicial District is a judicial district where the Chancellor, Judges, District Attorney and respective staffs of the courts and offices which make up the 8th Judicial District all work together in an efficient and professional manner which puts service to the legal community, law enforcement and those who use the court system at first priority. The Chancellor, Judges and District Attorney who serve the 8th Judicial District are all well respected by the entire community and by those who use the court system.

When taking into consideration all that has been discussed above, it is obvious that the present makeup of the 8th Judicial District works and to change the present makeup of the 8th Judicial District would only result in confusion, interruption of services, court backlogs, a severe negative effect on access to justice and a general attitude in the community of why the effort was made to fix something that was not broken and which served its citizens and access to justice so well. In conclusion, I respectfully request that no action be taken to change the present makeup of the 8th Judicial District and that our judicial district be allowed to remain in its present form and continue to serve the respective communities it now serves.

Respectfully,



Sandra A. Edmondson
Clerk and Master
SAE/se

Scott County Chancery Court
Huntsville, TN 37756

**ELIZABETH ASBURY
CHANCELLOR**

Eighth Chancery Division

**CAMPBELL COUNTY
CLAIBORNE COUNTY
FENTRESS COUNTY
SCOTT COUNTY
UNION COUNTY**

**MICHAEL POTTER
CLERK & MASTER
575 SCOTT HIGH DR. SUITE C
HUNTSVILLE, TN 37756**

**423-663-2627
423-663-2549 FAX**

May 15, 2019

To: Advisory Task Force for Judicial Resource Allocation

It is my belief that the 8th Judicial District is working really well. There are really good relationships between all the offices district wide and any changes to the district would cause confusion to all offices within the districts.

The dynamics of the district allow for all the counties within the district to have a voice in choosing the officials. A change to the district would potentially take that voice away from the smaller counties.

Sincerely,



**Michael Potter
Clerk and Master**

Clerk & Master of Chancery Court
Fentress County
140 Justice Center Drive, Suite 110
Jamestown, TN 38556
Phone 931-879-8615 Fax 931-879-4236

Honorable Elizabeth C. Asbury
Chancellor
Jacksboro, TN

Linda Smith
Clerk & Master
Jamestown, TN

May 13, 2019

Advisory Task Force
Judicial Resource Allocation

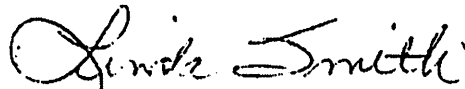
Re: Judicial Redistricting

Dear Folks:

The people in the Eighth Judicial District are being well served by the judges, clerks, and law enforcement throughout the district. They all have good working relationships with each other and the processes in place district-wide are working. Any change in the judicial district would create confusion and upheaval for many people.

For these reasons, I feel that the Eighth Judicial District should not be involved in the redistricting process.

Sincerely yours,



Linda Smith
Clerk & Master

CLERK AND MASTER
Claiborne County Chancery Court
P. O. Box 180
Tazewell, Tennessee 37879

Chancellor Elizabeth Asbury,
Eighth Judicial District

Rita Jones, Clerk and Master
Patty Simmons, Charlene Smith
Danielle Chapman, Deputy Clerks

Telephone: 423-626-3284
Fax: 423-626-3604

May 13, 2019

IN RE: Redistricting of the
8th Judicial District

Dear Sirs:

This letter is written in regards to my objection to the potential redistricting of the Eighth (8th) Judicial District.

I do not feel the citizens of these counties will be in favor redistricting and I, as Clerk and Master, do not feel it would be in the best interest of this area. Citizens here, by nature alone, do not accept or appreciate change of any sort. They are used to going to certain offices and people they are familiar with, when seeking help, for whatever problem they may have. Most of the county government affiliated offices have wonderful working relationships with each other, as the citizens are well aware. In addition, the different office holders know where to direct someone, whom may need help from another entity.

Judges, law enforcement, and the Clerks' offices are easily obtainable, and have good working relationships with each other. They are always available locally for any potential emergency situation that may arise. There are often situations where someone's life may be in danger, potentially a child's wellbeing or otherwise, and being able to obtain the proper signatures for Orders can literally be a life or death matter. It simply would not be the best for this area.

Sincerely



Rita Jones
Clerk and Master



Gina Mullinix
Circuit Court
Fentress County, Tennessee *Clerk*

140 Justice Center Drive • Suite 126
Jamestown, TN 38556

931-879-7919 Phone
931-879-3014 Fax

JUVENILE • SESSIONS • CIRCUIT • CRIMINAL

Email: GinaMullinix@TNCourts.gov

May 14, 2019

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the possibility of the redistricting of the 8th Judicial District. I have several concerns that I would like to express to you.

For the first time Fentress County has a full-time District Attorney office with two full-time staff and two Assistant Attorney Generals prosecuting cases. The office is open to serve the citizens of Fentress County 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. This is a great service to the citizens of Fentress County, and prevents them from having to travel long distances to seek justice. Losing this local office would be detrimental to the citizens of Fentress County.

Also, Fentress County has a Child Advocacy Center that provides vital services to our innocent children. This is all because of the efforts of the 8th District Attorney General's office.

The court officials in this county have good working relationships with our district judges, including Judge Shayne Sexton and Judge John McAfee. We have built these working relationships over time, and it would be a great disservice to the court personnel and clientele in the court systems.

In closing, I would like to state my desire to stay in the 8th Judicial District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gina Mullinix". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gina Mullinix
Fentress County Criminal Court Clerk

FENTRESS COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Jimmy Johnson, County Executive

101 Main Street | P.O. Box 1128 | Jamestown, TN 38556 | Ph. 931-879-7713 | Fax No. 931-879-1579



May 13, 2019

Dear Advisory Task Force on
Composition of Judicial Districts:

As a small rural county, our voice in matters such as this, often goes unheard. For the first time in a history of our county, we have a full time district attorney's office located in Fentress County, to assist law enforcement in the prosecution of crimes and to allow the voice of the crime victims to be heard. Just having them here has made a positive difference in our safety and in support of our justice system. Another critical step in the protection of our most vulnerable citizens, the children of Fentress County, has been the continued support of the Children's Advocacy Center through our current district attorney's office. We are greatly concerned that a change in judicial districts would negatively impact both. General Effler has also sought a grant for an additional victim's advocate to assist our county, which would be such a benefit to all of our citizens who need the extra help.

I would greatly appreciate any consideration of these factors when in any future discussion regarding the redistricting of our judiciary. We are finally where we need to be with a district attorney's office and where we are a priority in this district. Please leave Fentress County in the eighth judicial district, where we have finally have found a home and are starting to thrive.

Sincerely,



Jimmy Johnson
Fentress County Executive



SHERIFF

FENTRESS COUNTY

140 Justice Center Drive, Suite 1
Jamestown, TN 38556

Sheriff, Michael Reagon

Phone: 931-879-8142
Fax: 931-879-4686

May 13, 2019

Dear Advisory Task Force on
Composition of Judicial Districts:

I am writing regarding the proposed re-districting of the judicial districts, which may include Fentress County, Tennessee. As Sheriff of Fentress County, my office would respectfully request that Fentress County remain a part of the Eighth Judicial District. We finally have established a stand alone office in our county, which was a priority under District Attorney General Jared Effler, to serve the citizens directly without requiring them to travel outside of our boundaries to have their concerns heard. In addition, Fentress County's caseload has so increased to the level that we have two full time prosecutors assigned to our county along with an additional victim's liaison was well. These two measures alone have allowed for the voice of the victims of crime to be a larger part of the criminal justice process than we had ever hoped for before and have had a tremendous effect on the work that we do, in just a short time.

These simple measures have already made an impact on our entire criminal justice process, all for the better. If these new measures, which have finally recognized Fentress County as an equally important part of the districts in so far as law enforcement and prosecution is concerned, were up ended, we would be set back years in all our recent advancements. We have developed such a good working relationship with our partners in the district attorney's office; we implore those making this decision to keep us in place. Our goal and our hope is to go forward and never backward. Please consider this as the debate continues regarding redistricting.

Sincerely,

Michael Reagon
Sheriff

Michael Reagon,
Fentress County Sheriff



SCOTT COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

Donnie Phillips, Clerk
575 Scott High Drive
Huntsville, TN. 37756
(423) 663-2440



May 10, 2019

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

Re: Judicial Redistricting

To Whom It May Concern:

After much thought and consideration on the topic of a redistricting plan for Tennessee's circuit, chancery and criminal courts, it is my humble opinion that it would cause much disruption and possibly carry many negative consequences if such a plan was implemented.

Currently, Scott County has several people who are employed at the 8th Judicial District Attorney General's Child Support Division office and a change in the judicial structure could result in a loss of those jobs. That in itself would be a devastating blow to many families.

Also, several organizations and entities, i.e. the Scott County Family Justice Center and the Children's Center of the Cumberland's Child Advocacy Center have several grants that are connected to the partnership of 8th Judicial District Attorney General's office. Those particular grants assist some of the most vulnerable individuals in our community; adult and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and vulnerable adults and victims of elder abuse. It would worry me that if there were to be changes in the district lines then automatically there would need to be alterations/amendments made to those grants. The results could be shattering.

These are a few reasons as to why I would support leaving the composition of judicial districts as they are. If you have any other questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office. It is a pleasure to be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Donnie Phillips
Scott County Circuit Court Clerk



UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

130 VETERANS STREET SUITE B
MAYNARDVILLE TENNESSEE 37807
PHONE # 865-992-5212 FAX # 865-992-2349

SHERIFF
BILLY BREEDING

May 14, 2019

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts
Administrative Office of the Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219

Re: Judicial Redistricting

Dear Task Force:

I am writing this letter in opposition to any proposal regarding the redistricting to the 8th Judicial District. Under our current Judicial District Union County has had a full-time District Attorney General's Office since 2014, which we have not had before. Having this full-time office not only benefits the Sheriff's Office but also is an asset to the community, crime victims, children's center and other law enforcement agencies located in our county. Please take this letter under consideration regarding any proposal of judicial redistricting.

Thank you,

Sheriff Billy Breeding



Jason Bailey, Ed.D.

Union County Mayor

901 Main Street
Suite 100
Maynardville, TN
37807

May 15, 2019

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts
Administrative Office of the Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN 37219

P: (865) 992-3061

Re: Judicial Redistricting

F: (865) 992-1937

Dear Task Force:

The possibility of judicial redistricting was recently brought to my attention by several of my elected colleagues. I would like this letter to represent my opposition to this change. Our District Attorney General and Public Defender, along with our Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Judges seem to have a very close working relationship which greatly benefits a small, rural county such as Union. In my very humble opinion, the notion of changing the makeup of our 8th Judicial District simply seems unnecessary.

If you have any further questions or concerns regarding my opposition, please feel free to contact me at the number listed.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jason Bailey".

Jason Bailey
Union County Mayor

Email: jbailey@unioncountyttn.org

Website: www.unioncountyttn.com

John McAfee
Circuit Court Judge

E. Shayne Sexton
Criminal Court Judge

Circuit Court Clerks Office

Barbara J. Williams, Clerk

901 Main Street, Suite 201

Maynardville, TN 37807

Phone (865) 992-5493

Fax (865) 992-8099

May 15, 2019

Darryl Edmondson
General Session &
Juvenile Court Judge

Greg Miller
Child Support Referee

Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts
Administrative Office of the Courts
511 Union Street, Suite 600
Nashville, TN. 37219

Re: Judicial Redistricting

Dear Task Force:

On behalf of myself and fellow court clerks of the 8th Judicial District, consisting of the rural counties of Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott and Union Counties, I am writing this letter in opposition of any Judicial Redistricting that would affect our district.

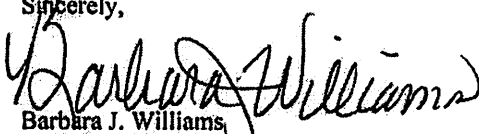
I have served over seventeen years as the Criminal, Sessions and Juvenile Court Clerk of Union County. We are very fortunate to have a great working relationship throughout our district with the District Attorney General's Office, Court Judges, Public Defender's Office, various agencies and fellow court clerks. I know firsthand what it means to have a network of individuals who will help each other and work together for the betterment of our counties.

Union County now has a full time District Attorney General's Office and staff. The addition of a full time DA's Office has proven to be very beneficial to law enforcement, our court system and most importantly to meet the needs of our citizens. Our county may be small in size, but the need is great, especially due to the drug epidemic that is taking over our country.

Our District Attorney General's Office was very instrumental in development of our Children's Advocacy Centers throughout the 8th Judicial District. The Centers serve child victims of severe sexual and physical abuse by offering services such as medical exams, counseling, support groups, crisis intervention, forensic interviews, court preparation and victim's advocacy. We feel they are very important in preventing sexual abuse and treating victims. Our counties are very fortunate to have these services to help our children overcome difficult times in their lives.

I cannot say enough about our 8th Judicial District Attorney General's Office, as well as other agencies, and what an impact it would create for our citizens and everyone involved with the court system if it were to be changed. I humbly ask that you give tremendous consideration and **not involve** our district in any Judicial Redistricting.

Sincerely,


Barbara J. Williams
Union County Circuit, General Sessions and Juvenile Court Clerk



CAMPBELL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Mayor and Commission Chairman

E.L. Morton

OFFICE: 423-562-2526 570 Main Street, P.O. Box 435
FAX: 423-562-2075 JACKSBORO, TENNESSEE 37757

May 15, 2019

Memorandum for: Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts, Attention:
Administrative Office of the Courts, 511 Union Street, Suite 600 Nashville, Tennessee 37912

SUBJECT: Opposition to reorganizing The Tennessee 8th Judicial District

The purpose of this memorandum is to urge the Task Force to maintain the Tennessee 8th Judicial District as currently organized.

While periodic assessments and reorganization are necessary for government to remain efficient, our 8th Judicial District is currently quite well aligned and performs well as organized. Case load distribution remains within the norm relative to recent years. Geographically the district is sized manageably with reasonable driving distances and no unreasonably isolated court work sites. The population in our district is declining slightly, but in small percentages for most counties in the district, but no major population impacts on travel, work or case load.

To my knowledge, there are no particular communities of interest that would benefit from a change in district boundaries. Quality of service however could suffer, if only temporarily, should reorganization be forced upon the district.

The Campbell County Children's Center is a collateral resource that is subject to any boundary shifts which may occur. As I understand, the last reorganization of the 8th District included shifting Union County into the district and removing Morgan County. Our Children's Center now serves Scott County to our west and Union County to our Southeast, so our central location facilitates responsiveness for these critical services. Changing Union County again could disrupt fundraising and board member support for this critical organization and sever well established working relationships that are serving children well today.

I urge the Task Force to maintain the 8th Judicial District as currently organized.

Sincerely,

E.L. Morton

Mayor and County Commission Chairman



Claiborne County Tennessee

Office of the Mayor

JOE BROOKS, MAYOR

May 14, 2019

The Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

Honorable Telford E. Forgety,

It is my understanding there are considerations to redistrict the 8th Judicial District and I would like to express my opposition to this move. Knowing the limited amount of resources that counties in the 8th Judicial District currently have access to, specifically Claiborne County, it is my fear that by redistricting, those resources would become even more diluted especially if a more largely populated county were thrown into the mix. Also, Claiborne County was just awarded a grant to establish a Family Justice Center here and I believe a large part of the decision was due to the great relationships that currently exist within the 8th Judicial District.

I believe the District Attorney General's Office is doing a very effective job within the 8th Judicial District as are the current judges who preside over its courts.

I feel that if any changes are made it would create an imbalance regarding Claiborne County and potentially have a negative impact with regards to the public's perception of the good that is currently being done within the 8th Judicial District.

So, I am urging you not to move forward with any plans of redistricting where the 8th Judicial District is concerned.

Respectfully yours,

Joe Brooks
County Mayor