

Ben F. Jones Chapter of the National Bar Association
P.O. Box 3493
Memphis, Tennessee, 38173



July 14, 2019

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To: Advisory Task Force on Composition of Judicial Districts

Dear Members of the Task Force:

I am submitting this public comment as President of the Ben F Jones Chapter of the National Bar Association.

Our organization represents more than 100 minority attorneys who practice in the courts of the 30th Judicial District. Our membership overwhelmingly opposes modifications to the courts of the 30th Judicial District. The 30th Judicial District continues to experience substantially higher caseload than other judicial districts. Any reduction in the number of judges in the 30th Judicial District would significantly reduce the efficiency of our courts and increase the time from filing to resolution of claims.

In addition, Shelby County is experiencing new economic growth which will increase its population and utilization of the courts. A reduction in the number of judges would have the unintended effect of reducing legal access to a community of significant minority population.

We believe it is in the best interest of our community and the State of Tennessee to maintain the current makeup of Courts in Shelby County.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "EPP", is written over a light-colored background.

Edd Peyton, Esq.