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FEB 27 2020

Evans County  
Board of Commissioners

D. JAY STEWART

Judge of the Superior Courts  
Atlantic Judicial Circuit

Evans Judicial Annex  
201 Freeman Street  
Claxton, Georgia 30417

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Mailing Address:  
Post Office Box 842  
Claxton, Georgia 30417

February 26, 2020

Mr. Casey Burkhalter  
County Administrator, Evans County  
3 Freeman Street  
Claxton, Georgia 30417

RE: Superior Court Judges' Supplements

Dear Casey:

As you are aware, the Judges of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit currently receive salary supplements that are apportioned every year through the budget process.

After consulting with the Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts and the Council of Superior Court Judges, it was recommended that supplemental salaries be paid pursuant to local legislation. This will ensure compliance with federal law by allowing the withholding of FICA contributions, including Social Security and Medicare taxes. Almost every county in the state of Georgia pays judicial supplements in this manner.

A copy of the legislation is enclosed for reference. The legislation does provide for an increase in supplemental pay consistent with our sister circuits. As of August 1, 2018, supplemental pay compared to some of our sister circuits in the area of similar size was as follows:

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Counties Within Circuit</b>	<b>Amount of Salary Supplement</b>
Atlantic	Bryan, Evans, Liberty, Long, McIntosh and Tattnall	\$30,000.00 <sup>1</sup>
Brunswick	Appling, Camden, Glynn, Jeff Davis and Wayne	\$64,623.00
Ogeechee	Bulloch, Effingham, Jenkins and Screven	\$41,490.00
Waycross	Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Coffee, Pierce and Ware	\$40,800.00

<sup>1</sup> Based on proposed 2020-2021 budget.

Mr. Casey Burkhalter  
February 26, 2020  
Page 2

The proposed local legislation would increase judicial supplements and bring us closer in line with our sister circuits.

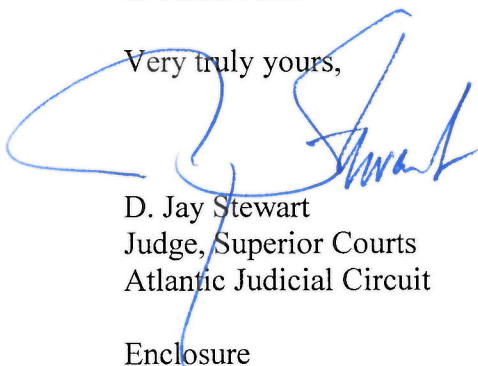
Please note that the supplement equates to an increase of \$141.30 per month per judge for our smallest county, Evans County, and an increase of \$580.00 per month per judge for our largest county, Liberty County. The exact amounts of the increase for each county are shown on the enclosed table.

Please note that the legislation does not provide for incremental increases in the future. Any future adjustments would have to be addressed by new legislation.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for the County's support of the local legislation. I would ask that you, please, evidence the County's support of the legislation in writing. I have taken the liberty of preparing a letter, which is enclosed. You may use this letter as a template, or you may draft your own letter. Once you have prepared your letter, I ask that you please forward it to myself at [jaystewart217@hotmail.com](mailto:jaystewart217@hotmail.com).

Thank you in advance for your support. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



D. Jay Stewart  
Judge, Superior Courts  
Atlantic Judicial Circuit

Enclosure

cc: Robert L. Russell, Chief Judge, Superior Courts, Atlantic Judicial Circuit  
Charles P. Rose, Judge, Superior Courts, Atlantic Judicial Circuit  
Glen A. Cheney, Judge, Superior Courts, Atlantic Judicial Circuit

February 20, 2020

To whom it may concern:

I am employed by the Evans County Board of Commissioners (“County”). My title with the County is County Administrator. In connection with my employment with the County, I was informed that a local piece of legislation will be introduced during this year’s legislative session. A copy of the proposed legislation is enclosed. I hereby state that the County does not object to the enactment of the local legislation and, in fact, supports its introduction and enactment.

If you should have any questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

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Casey Burkhalter

Enclosure

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To establish an Act providing that the governing body of each county comprising the Atlantic Judicial Circuit shall supplement the compensation, salary, expenses, and allowances of each of the judges of the superior courts of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit, to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act providing that in addition to the compensation, salary, expenses, and allowances presently received by the judges of the superior courts of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit from the State of Georgia or from any other source, the governing authority of each county comprising the Atlantic Judicial Circuit shall supplement the compensation, salary, expenses, and allowances of each of the judges of the superior courts of the Atlantic Judicial Circuit. The division of payment among the six counties shall not be less than the following amounts for each judge:

Bryan.....	\$ 750.00 per month
Evans.....	\$ <del>250.00</del> <sup>300.00</sup> per month
Liberty.....	\$1,500.00 per month
Long.....	\$ 350.00 per month
McIntosh.....	\$ 375.00 per month
Tattnall.....	\$ 600.00 per month

**SECTION 2.**

This Act shall become effective upon approval by the Governor or upon becoming law without such approval.

**SECTION 3.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

<b>County</b>	<b>2019-2020 Payments Per Judge Per Month</b>	<b>Payments under Legislation Per Judge Per Month</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Bryan	\$437.00	\$750.00	\$313.00
Evans	\$158.70	\$300.00	\$141.30
Liberty	\$920.00	\$1,500.00	\$580.00
Long	\$209.30	\$350.00	\$140.70
McIntosh	\$207.00	\$375.00	\$168.00
Tattnall	\$368.00	\$600.00	\$232.00