

ARKANSAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL, INC.

JUSTICE BUILDING

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72201

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July 19, 2024

Independent Citizens Commission State of Arkansas State Capitol Building Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Request of Arkansas Judicial Council

Dear Commissioners:

I write this letter as the President of the Arkansas Judicial Council. As you know, members of the Arkansas Judicial Council include our state's circuit court judges (126), judges of the Arkansas Court of Appeals (12), and justices of the Arkansas Supreme Court (7). Our judges are tasked with administering law and order and ensuring justice is done, all while interacting with individuals who are often dealing with what may be the most difficult situations of their lives.

Arkansas's justices and judges have not received a salary increase in nearly two years. Nearly all other State employees, in the meantime, have received salary increases between 8 to 11 percent. We are grateful that our staff have been taken care of; they certainly deserve it.

Historically, the Commission has treated us fairly by granting cost of living adjustments. We trust you will review the most current economic data and decide if an adjustment is merited. We certainly appreciate your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Coker President