

RESOLUTION

NO: 2024-04-052

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

DATE: April 22, 2024

**Resolution Requesting Court Case Code, Case Weight, and Case Load Data from the State Court Administrative Office – Board of Commissioners**

**WHEREAS,** a court workload study conducted in 2010 was commissioned by the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO). The results of this study were published in a 2011 report authored by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). This NCSC report concluded that Livingston County Courts had a surplus of 6.3 quasi-judicial officers (QJOs).

**WHEREAS,** SCAO statistics show that the caseload of Livingston County Courts has declined by over 50% from 2010 through 2022 (2022 is the most recent publicly available caseload statistics).

**WHEREAS,** this caseload decline coupled with the initial surplus of QJOs suggests that there could be a current surplus of 12.6 QJOs.

**WHEREAS,** assuming an average cost of \$100,000 per quasi-judicial officer per year, Livingston County taxpayers could save \$12.6 million over the course of a decade by addressing this QJO surplus.

**WHEREAS,** this overspending on QJOs could be redirected to other financial needs of the county, such as increasing public safety spending to protect against an influx of illegal immigrants placed in our county by Washington D.C. and Lansing.

**WHEREAS,** the Livingston County Board of Commissioners (BOC) recently sought to hire the NCSC to conduct another workload analysis to confirm their prior results. NCSC expressed interest in contracting with the BOC, however, Tom Boyd, Michigan State Court Administrator did not approve, and NCSC declined to assist the BOC.

**WHEREAS,** the BOC remains committed to using objective data to deliver effective and efficient government on behalf of Livingston County citizen.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the BOC directs the Livingston County Administrator to request from SCAO the latest case codes, case weights, and caseloads so that the BOC can independently confirm prior workload results published by NCSC and SCAO.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the BOC directs the Livingston County Administrator to, if available, acquire the same data from 2023 and 2024.

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**MOVED:** N. Fiani  
**SECONDED:** W. Nakagiri  
**CARRIED:** Yes (8): D. Helzerman, D. Domas, F. Sample, W. Nakagiri, J. Drick, R. Deaton, N. Fiani, and J. Gross; No (0): None; Absent (1): M. Smith