

**West Virginia Legislature
Judicial Compensation Commission**

September 4, 2025
10:00 a.m.

The Judicial Compensation Commission met at 10:00 a.m., on September 4, 2025. Susan Brewer, Dean of WVU Law School, Commission Chair, called the meeting to order and roll call was taken to establish a quorum.

Members and staff present: Susan Brewer, Chair, Kevin Craig, Steve Rubin, Melissa Alder, Counsel, and Felisha Sutherland, Commission Clerk.

Chairwoman Brewer recognized Steve Rubin for the purpose of a motion to approve the minutes from August 20, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. meeting. The motion was adopted.

Melissa Alder, Counsel to the Commission and Assistant Director of Legislative Services, distributed copies of the 2025 draft report and explained the updated information to the Commission members and responded to questions.

Chairwoman Brewer recognized Keith Hoover, Deputy Administrative Director, WV Supreme Court of Appeals, addressed the Commission.

Chairwoman Brewer recognized Stacy Nowicki-Eldridge, Boone County Circuit Judge, addressed the Commission and responded to questions.

Chairwoman Brewer recognized Heather Wood, Ohio County Family Court Judge, addressed the Commission.

Chairwoman Brewer recognized Jean Ann Luikart, Putnam County Magistrate, addressed the Commission and responded to questions.

Chairwoman Brewer recognized Keith Hoover, who responded to questions from the Commission.

Discussion ensued regarding the updates to the report and changes were suggested.

Chairman Brewer recognized Steve Rubin for the purpose of a motion to adopt the 2025 recommendations. By a vote of 3/0, the motion was adopted.

The recommendations from the Commission are as follows:

Based upon the 3-0 vote, with one member not present, the 2025 Commission recommended that the salaries of the Supreme Court Justices, Intermediate Court of Appeals Judges, Circuit Court Judges, Family Court Judges, and Magistrates be increased by 12%, which represents a 6.1% cost-of-living adjustment and a 5.9% increase to make judicial compensation more competitive. Also, the Family Court Judges would receive an additional \$10,000 and Magistrates an additional \$5,000. The salary recommendations are listed below:

Judicial Officer	2025 Recommendations
Justice	\$167,552
Intermediate Court Judges	\$159,600
Circuit Judge	\$155,232
Family Court Judge	\$125,416
Magistrate	\$75,840

Chairman Brewer recognized Steve Rubin for the purpose of a motion to adjourned. The motion was adopted.