

STATE OF TEXAS

RESOLUTION

of the

TEXAS JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Data Committee Regional Data Coordinators Recommendation

WHEREAS, the Texas Judicial Council is the policymaking body for the Texas Judicial Branch, created under Chapter 71, Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Council is charged with improving the administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, the Data Committee was charged with continuing to work on guiding the revisions of the court activity reporting requirements to collect case-level statistical data; and

WHEREAS, historically, the Data & Research Division of the Office of Court Administration (OCA) has lacked the resources to provide individual judicial data guidance to each of Texas' 254 counties, resulting in various data entry practices across the state; and

WHEREAS, although routine data checks are performed, the checks do not extend to a comprehensive review of data entry processes at the county level; and

WHEREAS, as individual review of reports are made for certain counties, a common trend identified is the misinterpretation of data fields, and timely reporting is an issue being regularly addressed; and

WHEREAS, with limited resources OCA is unable to assist clerks and courts with their reports so that they can submit reports, past and future, timely; and

WHEREAS, missing reports lead to incomplete data sets and information requests required to be analyzed for older timeframes where the data is more complete; and

WHEREAS, the demand for more detailed judicial data has significantly increased, driven by a growing number of data requests and the necessity for precise information to inform policy decisions and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, as data collection expands, data entry accuracy and uniformity will be crucial to maintain the integrity of the new case level data reporting system; and

WHEREAS, regional data coordinators can bridge the gap between routine data checks and the detailed assessment needed to enhance data quality;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas Judicial Council recommends that the Office of Court Administration seek funding from the Legislature to create Regional Data Coordinator positions that will coincide with the Administrative Judicial Regions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathan L. Hecht", written over a horizontal line.

Honorable Nathan L. Hecht
Chair, Texas Judicial Council