

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY
MAGISTRATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Because all responses are confidential, and will be used only for the construction of statistical summaries of responses, we ask that you please do not identify yourself on this form.

1. How many years have you served as a magistrate? _____years

2. What occupation did you hold *immediately prior* to your current magisterial office?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private legal practice | <input type="checkbox"/> Law enforcement officer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prosecuting attorney's office | <input type="checkbox"/> Federal/local government lawyer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employee of magistrate's office | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other elected public official (specify) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other civil service position (specify agency) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | |

3. Does your court have any of the following work cycles or procedures?

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Months or weeks set aside as jury or non-jury terms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Months or weeks set aside as criminal or civil terms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Week(s) set aside exclusively for settlement conferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Days(s) of the week (M-F) set aside to hear certain types of proceedings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Requirement that a magistrate always be on call |

4.. During the past month how many prosecuting attorneys or their assistants appeared in most or all cases in your courtroom?

- One Two Three Four Five or more

5. In the cases considered before you during the past month approximately how many *different defense attorneys* appeared before you?

- 1 to 10 11 to 20 21- to 30) 31 to 40 more than 41

6. How do you rate the quality of representation that is typically provided for *indigent criminal defendants* in your court?

- excellent above average average poor no basis for judgment

7. How do you rate the quality of representation that is typically provided for *indigent civil defendants* in your court?

- excellent above average average poor no basis for judgment

8. Is your *local community* significantly involved in court matters through any of the following ways?

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Extensive newspaper or television coverage of courts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Frequent "court watch" projects by citizens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Public school class visits to the court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Local college or university research projects on courts or judicial personnel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hotly-contested elections for local judgeships |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | | Other (specify) _____ |

9. Below, we ask for information on what your work weeks are typically like. Write, in the space provided, the amount of time you spend during the *typical week* on the activities listed which you encounter in your current assignment. Please read the list of potential activities before completing this section.

Hours per week:

____ Reading case files

____ Keeping up with the law: reading reporters, statutes, court rules, journals, books, etc.

____ General administrative work, correspondence, and supervision of personnel

____ Criminal calendar: recording complaints, affidavits, issuing warrants, motions, setting bail, etc.

____ Civil settlement conferences

____ Preliminary examinations in felony cases

____ Presiding at non-jury trial

____ Considering plea agreements

____ Presiding at jury trial

____ Hearings on and issuance of emergency protection from abuse orders

____ Considering involuntary hospitalization cases and mental hygiene cases

____ Other: Please describe _____

10. When sentencing in a typical criminal case do you take into account the opinions of any of the following? (check all that apply)

() counsel in the case () arresting officer () the victim () probation officer
() Other (please specify) _____

11. What is your present age? _____

12. What is your gender? () Male () Female

13. Which of the following applies to you? () Black () Hispanic () White

14. What is your education?

() Law school graduate () Bachelors degree or more () Some college or university
() High School graduate () G.E.D.

15. During your last election campaign, how much time per week did you spend on average on your campaign?

() 0-2 hrs. () 3-5 hrs. () 6-8 hrs. () 9 hrs. or more