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AGREEMENT BETWEEN

KING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION

AND

PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES UNION LEGAL ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALISTS

These articles constitute an Agreement, the terms of which have been negotiated in good faith, between King County and the Public Safety Employees Union, Legal Administrative Specialists (Union). This Agreement shall be subject to approval by ordinance by the Metropolitan King County Council of King County, Washington.

ARTICLE 1: PURPOSE

Per MLA Preamble.

ARTICLE 2: UNION RECOGNITION AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 2.1. The County recognizes the Union as representing its members in job classification 4203100 Legal Administrative Specialist 1, 4203200 job classification Legal Administrative Specialist II, and job classification 4203300 Legal Administrative Specialist III.

Section 2.2. It shall be a condition of employment that all regular full time, regular part time, and term-limited temporary employees covered by this Agreement who are members of the Union in good standing on the effective date of this Agreement shall remain members in good standing or pay an agency fee to the Union for their representation to the extent permitted by law. Those who are not members on the effective date of this Agreement shall become and remain members in good standing or pay an agency fee to the Union for their representation to the extent permitted by law. It shall also be a condition of employment that all employees covered by this Agreement and hired on or assigned into the bargaining unit on or after its effective date shall, on the thirtieth (30th) day following the beginning of such employment, become and remain members in good standing in the Union or pay an agency fee to the Union for their representation to the extent permitted by law.

Provided, however, that nothing contained in this section shall require an employee to join the Union whose religious beliefs prohibit the payment of dues or initiation fees to Union organizations, in which case the employee shall pay an amount of money equivalent to regular union dues and

initiation fee to a non-religious charitable organization mutually agreed upon by the employee affected and the bargaining representative to which such employee would otherwise pay the dues and initiation fee. The employee shall furnish written proof that such payment has been made. If the employee and the Union cannot agree on the non-religious charity, the Public Employment Relations Commission shall designate the charitable organization. All initiation fees and dues paid either to the Union or charity shall be for non-political purposes.

Section 2.3. The County will require new bargaining unit employees to sign a form informing them of the Union's exclusive recognition. Upon receipt of signed acknowledgement by employee of union's exclusive recognition, and receipt of signed authorization by employee, the County shall have deducted from the pay of such employee the amount of dues as certified by the secretary-treasurer of the Union and transmit the same to the secretary-treasurer of the Union.

The Union will indemnify, defend and hold the County harmless against any claims made and against any suit instituted against the County on account of any check-off of dues for the Union. The Union agrees to refund to the County any amounts paid to it in error on account of the check-off provision upon presentation of proper evidence thereof.

Section 2.4. Failure by employees to abide by the above provisions shall constitute cause for discharge of such employees; provided that when an employee fails to fulfill the above obligations the Union shall provide the employee and the County with thirty (30) days notification of the Union's intent to initiate discharge action and during this period the employee may make restitution in the amount which is overdue.

Section 2.5. Union Notification: Per MLA Article 20.

Section 2.6. Union Request: The County will transmit to the Union twice a year, upon request, a current listing of all employees in the unit. Such list shall indicate the name of the employee, wage rate, job classification and department or unit.

Section 2.7. Voluntary political deduction: King County shall, upon receipt of a written authorization form that conforms to legal requirements, deduct from the pay of such bargaining unit employee the amount of contribution the employee voluntarily chooses for deduction for political purposes and shall transmit the same to the Union.

The management of the County and the direction of the work force is vested exclusively in the County subject to the terms of this Agreement. All matters not specifically and expressly covered or treated by the language of this Agreement may be administered for its duration by the County in accordance with such policy or procedures as the County from time to time may determine.

- **Section 3.1.** It is recognized that the Employer retains the right, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, to manage the affairs of the County and to direct its work force. Such functions of the Employer include, but are not limited to:
- **A.** Recruit, examine, select, promote, transfer and train Employees of its choosing, and to determine the times and methods and means of such actions;
- **B.** Assign and direct the work; assign or not assign overtime, develop and modify class specifications, and allocate positions to those classifications; determine the methods, materials and tools to accomplish the work; designate duty stations and assign Employees to those duty stations;
- C. Reduce the work force due to lack of work, funding or other cause consistent with efficient management and procedures, discipline, suspend, demote, or dismiss non-probationary Employees for just cause and discharge probationary or term-limited temporary Employees at will;
- **D.** Establish reasonable work rules; assign the hours of work; assign Employees to shifts and days off; and assign work daily, including work belonging to different positions than regularly assigned as well as assigning a member of this bargaining unit's work to a non-bargaining unit employee, to ensure effective cross-training of staff, which will ensure the needed flexibility for Judicial Administration to meet its operational needs;
- E. The right to define and implement a new payroll system, including but not limited to a biweekly payroll system, is vested exclusively in King County. Implementation of such system may include a conversion of wages and leave benefits into hourly amounts and the parties recognize King County's exclusive right to make the changes necessary to implement such payroll system;
- F. All matters not covered in this Agreement shall be administered by the Employer consistent with the King County Personnel Guidelines. Any dispute arising from the application of

the King County Personnel Guidelines shall be handled through the processes outlined in the King County Personnel Guidelines. An Employee choosing to pursue an appeal through King County Personnel Guidelines is precluded from pursuing the same matter through the grievance procedure.

ARTICLE 4: WAIVER AND COMPLETE AGREEMENT

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations resulting in this Agreement each had the unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any and all subjects or matters not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining and the understandings and agreements arrived at by the parties after exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Agreement. King County and the Union each voluntarily and unqualifiedly waives the right and each agrees that the other shall not be obligated to bargain collectively with respect to any subject or matter not specifically referred to or covered in this Agreement, even though such subject or matter may not have been within the knowledge or contemplation of either or both of the parties at the time they negotiated or signed this Agreement. All rights and duties of both parties are specifically expressed in this Agreement and such expression is all inclusive. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and concludes collective bargaining for its duration, subject only to a desire by both parties to mutually agree to amend or supplement at any time, and except for negotiations over a successor collective bargaining agreement.

ARTICLE 5: HOURS OF WORK AND OVERTIME

Section 5.1. Work Schedule: The standard workweek shall consist of five (5) consecutive standard work days of eight (8) hours each and forty (40) hours per week exclusive of lunch period and shall normally be scheduled Monday through Friday except for bargaining unit members who are grandfathered to a thirty-five (35) hour a week schedule. However, the determination of work schedules and work assignments is vested solely with management.

Section 5.2. Overtime Pay: Except as otherwise provided in this Article, employees on a five-day schedule shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half (1-1/2) for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours in one week, exclusive of lunch period.

- Section 5.3. All overtime shall be authorized in advance by a supervisor.
- Section 5.4. Lunch Breaks: The normal lunch period shall be taken as assigned by

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supervisor or designee. At least annually, employees will select either a one half (1/2) hour or a one (1) hour unpaid lunch period daily; however, an employee cannot request a change more than once a month. In the event the workload necessitates that an employee takes their lunch period at a different time, such employee will notify the supervisor via e-mail. This provision shall be fairly applied, and give reasonable consideration to incidental job duties that may prevent timely notification, and variations in clocks or email delivery time. DJA supports the reduction of one hour meal periods to 1/2 hour meal periods, as long as this change does not cause operational disruptions, or overtime obligations due to court going beyond normal ending time at the end of the day. To this end, supervisors will be authorized by management to use their discretion to allow this reduction in the meal period for employees who so request. Supervisors will be required to manage these requests so that if overtime is reasonably likely, said request will be denied. If a request is granted and that particular court routinely runs beyond normal end time, the approval will be rescinded. This practice will be reviewed by management and may be discussed in LMC during the course of this CBA in order to make any process improvements deemed necessary by management. Neither Section 5.4 nor the practice of granting, denying or rescinding ½ hour lunch requests are grievable beyond the DJA Director step.

Section 5.5. Missed Breaks: Employees are expected to take their daily rest and meal breaks. If a court assignment is likely to interfere with a normally scheduled break, the impacted employee must notify his/her supervisor in advance of the missed break in order to allow the supervisor an opportunity to provide coverage. Breaks missed due to the necessity of court proceedings will be compensated either by 1) shortening the work day and allowing the employee to leave early, or 2) paying (subject to the CBA overtime rules) for the missed time, at the discretion of the supervisor. The decision of the supervisor to release the employee early or to pay for the extra time worked, is at the supervisor's discretion and is not grievable beyond the DJA Director step.

Section 5.6. Special Schedule: At least five (5) working days advance notice shall be given an employee prior to commencement of a special schedule altering working hours for more than one (1) day except when circumstances of same are beyond the control or knowledge of Judicial Administration management.

Section 5.7. FLSA: If any provision of this Article conflicts with minimum standards established by state or federal law, then that provision shall be automatically amended to provide the minimum standards.

Section 5.8. In accordance with practice, employees shall track their time as directed by their supervisor or designee.

Section 5.9. Weather and Telecommuting: If Superior Court is closed because of inclement weather, employees who are telecommuting are expected to work their normal schedule to the extent work has been scanned and indexed into the employee's assigned work queue or general docketing, and provided supervision and technical support are available by phone. The employee may use vacation leave if not desirous of working.

Section 5.10. Alternative Work Schedules: Judicial Administration values alternative work arrangements and will work collaboratively with the union through the Labor Management process to make any changes to existing arrangements pursuant to the Joint Labor Coalition Alternative Work Arrangements Guide. Management retains the discretion to approve or not approve requests for alternative work arrangements based on the operational needs of the Department. These needs include but are not limited to; meeting production goals, the equitable distribution of work, and changes in section workloads.

ARTICLE 6: VACATIONS – PER MLA Article 35, and VACATION LEAVE CAP – PER MLA Article 9

In Addition to MLA Article 35:

Section 6.1. Vacation may be used in one quarter (1/4) hour increments at the discretion of the department director or his/her designee.

Section 6.2. Vacation Requests: In accordance with past practice, vacation requests will be reasonably approved by a supervisor based on the workload. As indicated on the Absence Request Form, vacation in excess of one (1) day should be scheduled and approved at least two (2) weeks in advance. Use of vacation time for one (1) day or less should be scheduled and approved at least three (3) days in advance, emergencies excepted. Approval for extended vacation requests (more than one week) shall be at the sole discretion of management.

ARTICLE 7: ATTENDANCE

The Union and the Employer agree that employees' attendance should be regular and reliable. Therefore, employees should maintain their regular work schedule without late arrivals, unauthorized leave without pay, unauthorized leave, and no shows or otherwise seek the appropriate approvals for an absence as defined in the policy entitled Attendance Rules and Procedure for Non-Represented, FLSA-Covered Employees.

ARTICLE 8: SICK LEAVE

Per MLA Article 34, 8, and 11.

In Addition to MLA Article 34:

Section 8.1. <u>Increments.</u> Sick leave may be used in one-quarter hour increments at the discretion of the department director.

Section 8.2. Procedure for use of sick leave under this Article.

A. The employee is not entitled to sick leave if not previously earned or donated. The employee shall normally notify their supervisor or designee at least 30 minutes prior to the start of their shift. The employee shall keep calling until a supervisor or designee has actually been contacted. The employee will be required to contact the supervisor on each day of a continuing absence unless specifically excused from doing so from the supervisor.

- **B.** Sick leave use procedures will follow the policy entitled Attendance Rules and Procedures for Non-Represented, FLSA Covered Employees, which requires a doctor's original statement when the absences occur pursuant to the above referenced policy.
- **C.** King County may, with reasonable cause, visit or call employees at home or visit or call the employee's physician/medical practitioner providing the statement to confirm the validity of the physician/medical practitioner's statement.
- **D.** In case of absence due to an employee's illness or injury or when the need arises to care for a child, spouse, parent, parent-in-law or grandparent of the employee requiring treatment or supervision by the employee while on vacation, such absence shall be deducted from accrued sick leave rather than from accrued vacation, if the employee so requests.

Section 8.3. Bereavement Leave. Per MLA Article 8.

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Section 8.4. Incentive to use low amounts of sick leave. Employees who use thirty two (32) hours of sick leave or less per year, and who worked for the Department of Judicial Administration for the entire calendar year, shall become eligible to convert accrued sick leave hours to vacation hours in the following calendar year pursuant to the following schedule:

Sick Leave Hours Used in a Calendar Year	Total Sick Hours Which May be Converted to Vacation Hours in the Following Year
16 or less hours	Convert 40 hours
17 to 24 hours	Convert 32 hours
25 to 32 hours	Convert 24 hours

Requests for such conversion of hours must be filed by the eligible employee with his/her supervisor in writing no later than January 31 of the year following achievement of eligibility.

Section 8.5. Use of Sick Leave to Volunteer: Per MLA Article 4 (Leave for Volunteer Service).

Section 8.6. Transferring and Donating Vacation and Sick Leave: Per MLA Article 6 (Donated Leaves).

ARTICLE 9: HOLIDAYS

Per MLA Article 10.

In Addition to MLA Article 10:

Section 9.1. Holiday Pay. Holidays paid for but not worked shall be recognized as time worked for the purpose of determining weekly overtime.

Work performed on holidays shall be paid at one and one-half (1-1/2) times the regular rate in addition to the regular holiday pay.

Section 9.2. Part Time. A regular part-time employee shall receive only those paid holidays which fall on regularly scheduled working days, and the paid holidays shall consist of the employee's regularly scheduled working hours.

ARTICLE 10: WAGE RATES

In Addition to MLA and Total Compensation Agreements:

Section 10.1. Rates of Pay. Effective January 1, 2018, Legal Administrative Specialist I's, Legal Administrative Specialist II's and Legal Administrative Specialist III's shall receive salaries in accordance with the appropriate King County hourly "squared table."

- A. Legal Administrative Specialist I's are placed on Range 34 of the appropriate King County "squared table";
- **B.** Legal Administrative Specialist II's are placed on Range 38 of the appropriate King County "squared table."
- C. Legal Administrative Specialist III's are placed on Range 44 of the appropriate King County "squared table."

The above step increases shall be "step to step" consistent with King County Code.

Step Increases: New employees shall serve a one year probationary period. (This will not apply to any employees on a 6 (six) month probation as of 1-1-18; said employees will retain the 6 month probation period). New employees shall be hired at Step 1 of their respective pay range and advanced to Step 2 after the successful completion of a six (6) month period unless the new employee was hired above a Step 1, in which case the employee will advance as provided below. Advancement to Step 2 may be denied upon serving written notice to the employee specifying the reason thereof or termination; however, upon successful completion of probation, the employee will advance to Step 2. Employees on Steps 2 through 9 on January 1 of each year shall advance one step, provided that they have satisfactorily performed their job.

- **D.** Satisfactory Performance: Satisfactory Performance shall mean an overall rating of 3.0 or above on the employee performance evaluation utilized by the Department. If the performance of the employee is rated below a 3.0 specific comments on which the rating is based must be provided; to aid the employee in understanding what performance is desired.
- **E.** Process to Improve Satisfactory Rating: The employee, if denied a step increase, may request a consultation with the supervisor and be placed on a quarterly evaluation and at such time that the employee's performance becomes "satisfactory," as defined supra, the employee shall receive the previously denied step increase prospectively (i.e. the first of the month following attaining a "satisfactory" evaluation. The date on which an employee would be entitled to a future

1 step increase will not be affected by the above action. ARTICLE 11: MEDICAL, DENTAL AND LIFE INSURANCE PROGRAMS 2 3 Per MLA Article 25. 4 ARTICLE 12: WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASSIFICATION 5 Per MLA Article 37. 6 ARTICLE 13: REDUCTION IN FORCE/LAYOFF/RECALL 7 Section 13.1. The positions to be laid off shall be at the sole discretion of management. Said layoffs will be based on reverse departmental seniority. 8 In lieu of laying off an employee, the Director of the Human Resource Division may reassign 9 10 such employee to a comparable, vacant position, when the Director determines such reassignment to be in the best interest of the County. 11 Section 13.2. Qualification: Employees are required to meet the minimum qualifications to 12 perform the work of a specific position within a classification; including, but not limited to, the 13 14 position into which the employee intends to bump. 15 Section 13.3. Bumping. An employee may elect to bump the employee with the least departmental seniority as provided within this Section. Bumping shall not result in a promotion. An 16 employee will have seven (7) work days from the time of written notification of layoff to notify the 17 County in writing of his/her intent to exercise his/her bumping rights. 18 An employee will forfeit his/her bumping rights if his/her written notice is not submitted 19 within seven (7) work days or the County has not accepted a late filing of the notice. The County 20 will, if it determines that there are warranting circumstances, accept a late filed notice from an 21 22 employee. If the Department determines that an employee identified for layoff is not qualified for the 23 positions held by less senior employees, the employee may appeal that determination to the King 24 25 County Career Support Services Program for analysis and final determination. The Career Support Services Program will perform a comprehensive skills assessment for the 26

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employee selected for layoff; the department will furnish Career Support Services with a complete

and up-to-date description of the position that is potentially a bumping option; and the department

will consult with Career Support Services about whether the laid-off employee is qualified for the bumping option position. The parties will abide by the decision of Career Support Services and such decision shall not be grievable by either party.

- **Section 13.4.** Employees laid off shall be rehired in the inverse order of layoff; namely, those laid off last will be rehired first.
- **Section 13.5.** The County agrees to notify the Union at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance, in writing, of any anticipated reduction in force.
- Section 13.6. Employees on layoff shall be referred to other positions within the Career Service in accordance with the Personnel Guidelines. All employees who are laid off shall be placed on a recall list with the employee with the most seniority who has passed probation in a classification being recalled first. A laid off employee may be removed from the recall list for any of the following reasons:
 - A. The expiration of two years (24 months) from the date of layoff;
 - **B.** Re-employment within the County in a similar position or job class;
 - C. Failure to report to work;
- **D.** Failure to appear for a job interview after notification by telephone or by mail addressed to the employee's last address on file with the County;
- **E.** Failure to respond within seven (7) days to a communication regarding availability of employment;
 - F. Request in writing by the laid off employee to be removed from the list.

If an employee who held a full time position accepts assignment to a part time position, he/she shall nevertheless retain his/her recall rights to a full time position. If an employee accepts assignment to a classification with a lower rate of pay than that of the position from which he/she was laid off, he/she shall nevertheless retain recall rights to his/her former classification. An employee may elect to refuse an offered position without forfeiting his/her recall rights; provided the option of refusal may be exercised only once with subsequent refusal resulting in loss of recall rights.

ARTICLE 14: SENIORITY

Section 14.1. Seniority shall be defined as follows:

ARTICLE 17: MISCELLANEOUS

Section 17.1. Union Leave: – Per MLA Article 22.

Section 17.2. Transportation Reimbursement: - Per MLA Article 38.

Section 17.3. Bulletin Boards: Per MLA Article 23.

Section 17.4. Work Rules: Copies of all policies and procedures promulgated by the Department of Judicial Administration to interpret and/or administer the provisions of this Agreement and the Administrative Guidelines shall be provided to the Union.

Section 17.5. Transfer/Training/Promotion: Unsuccessful bargaining unit applicants for transfer, training, and/or promotion within the bargaining unit will be verbally provided with the reasons for the decision at the request of the employee. Such decisions shall not be a subject for grievance under Grievance Procedure. DJA will maintain a list of employees interested in being considered for transfer opportunities to specified work sites or sections. When openings become available, DJA will give fair consideration to any employee who has indicated an interest in working at said work site or in a different section. DJA will continue to exercise its discretion when making decisions with regard to the transfer and/or placement of employees to particular worksites, and these decisions may not be grieved.

Section 17.6. LMC: The County and the Union agree to meet and discuss issues of common concern during the term of this Agreement. The frequency of such meetings are to be determined by the parties, by mutual agreement, given the issues to be discussed and the schedules of the parties. Though the parties may at any time agree to a different arrangement, for the present the parties agree to meet quarterly at a time and place agreed upon. This may be either during Court time or before or after Court or during lunch time. Meetings may alternate between these times. The Union may be accompanied by up to two shop stewards, who will be paid for this time.

Section 17.7. Safety Meetings: Management may schedule safety meetings, as necessary. When required to attend safety meetings employees will be paid to attend.

Section 17.8. Timelines: Unless otherwise specified in this Agreement, references to days, if five (5) or less, shall be considered working days. References to six (6) days or more, unless otherwise specified in this Agreement, shall be considered calendar days.

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Section 17.9. Probation: All newly hired and promoted employees must serve a probationary period of up to one year. As the Guidelines specify that the probationary period is an extension of the hiring process.

ARTICLE 18: UNION REPRESENTATION

Section 18.1. Authorized representatives of the Union may, after notifying the County official in charge, visit the work location of employees covered by this Agreement at any reasonable time for the purpose of investigating grievances but shall not conduct Union business on County time and shall under no circumstances interrupt court proceedings.

Section 18.2. Authorized representatives of the Union may have reasonable access to its members in County facilities for transmittal of information or representation purposes before work, during lunch breaks, or other regular breaks, as long as the work of the County employees, services to the public and court proceedings are unimpaired. Prior to contacting members in County facilities such authorized agents shall make arrangements with the department director or designee.

Section 18.3. The Union shall have the right to appoint stewards within departments where its members are employed under the terms of this Agreement. The maximum number of stewards appointed shall be two (2).

The department shall be furnished with the names of stewards so appointed. The steward shall be allowed a reasonable time to investigate grievances during regular working hours providing court services are not interrupted.

Section 18.4. It shall be a violation of this Agreement to directly or indirectly interfere with, restrain, coerce, or discriminate against any employee or group of employees in the free exercise of their right to organize and designate representatives of their own choosing for the purpose of collective bargaining or in the free exercise of any other right under RCW 41.56.

Section 18.5. A negotiating committee not to exceed two (2) persons may be selected from amongst bargaining unit employees by the Union. Employees so selected may be released from work duties to participate in face-to-face negotiation sessions with employer representatives only if such release does not interfere with court operations as determined by the department director.

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The County and the Union shall not unlawfully discriminate against any individual employees with respect to compensation, terms, conditions or privileges of employment by reason of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, religious belief, marital status, age, sexual orientation, ancestry or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical handicap (SMPH) unless based on a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the operations of the County. Allegations of unlawful discrimination shall not be a proper subject for the grievance procedure herein, but may instead be filed by an employee's complaint pursuant to the procedures outlined in King County Policy, and if not resolved, with the appropriate human rights agency.

The parties agree that personnel actions may be taken to accommodate disabilities, as may be required under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and that such an accommodation under the ADA shall take precedence over any conflicting provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 20: WORK STOPPAGES AND EMPLOYER PROTECTION

Section 20.1. The County and the Union agree that the public interest requires efficient and uninterrupted performance of all County services and to this end pledge their best efforts to avoid or eliminate any conduct contrary to this objective. Specifically, the Union shall not cause or condone any work stoppage, including any strike, slowdown or refusal to perform any customarily assigned duties, sick leave absence which is not bona fide, or other interference with County functions by employees under this Agreement and should same occur, the Union agrees to take appropriate steps to end such interference. Any concerted action by an employee in the bargaining unit shall be deemed a work stoppage if any of the above activities have occurred.

Section 20.2. Upon notification in writing by the County to the Union that any of its members are engaged in a work stoppage, the Union shall immediately, in writing, order such members to immediately cease engaging in such work stoppage and provide the County with a copy of such order. In addition, if requested by the County, a responsible official of the Union shall publicly order such employees to cease engaging in such a work stoppage.

Section 20.3. Any employee who commits any act prohibited in this section will be subject in accord with the County's Administrative Guidelines to the following action or penalties:

A. Discharge. B. Suspension or other disciplinary action as may be applicable to such employee. **ARTICLE 21: SAVINGS CLAUSE** Per MLA Article 30.

Public Safety Employees Union - Legal Administrative Specialists - Department of Judicial Administration January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2020 021MLAC0117 Page 16

1	ARTICLE 22: DURATION					
2	Per MLA Article 31.					
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5	APPROVED this day of, 2018.					
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