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# CRAWFORD

George W. Crawford Black Bar Association

December 2, 2024

Commission on Judicial Compensation  
c/o Judiciary Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Re: *Judicial Compensation*

I write on behalf of the George W. Crawford Black Bar Association in support of increasing judges' salaries to the proposed salary levels detailed in Chief Justice Mullins's submission to the Commission.

As Chief Justice Mullins noted, there have been challenges recruiting judicial candidates from underrepresented populations. A consistent theme of this challenge has been that attorneys from underrepresented populations are deterred by the judicial salary. Fair compensation is necessary to ensuring a bench that reflects the communities it serves, and thus is necessary to maintaining a fair and just legal system.

Compensation that is at least comparable to that of other Connecticut state servants will broaden the groups of people who can afford to serve in judicial positions and will be a necessary step towards continuing to diversify the bench.

Sincerely,

Mallori D. Thompson, President  
George W. Crawford Black Bar Association