

MINNESOTA DISTRICT
JUDGES ASSOCIATION
MDJA

JUDGE REQUEST FISCAL YEARS 2028-29

COMPENSATION COUNCIL PRESENTATION

JUDGE RICHARD KYLE, MDJA PRESIDENT

Thursday, June 18, 2026

MINNESOTA DISTRICT
JUDGES ASSOCIATION

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AGENDA

1. Overview of MDJA
2. Highlights: Dr. Banaian's Report
3. Highlights: Ms. Dimuka's Report
4. MDJA Recommendations
5. Thank You & Questions

WHAT IS MDJA

- The Minnesota District Judges Association (MDJA) is a trade organization representing the professional interests of member judges across the state.
- MDJA membership comprises nearly 400 Judges across the State of Minnesota. It includes almost every District Court Judge, most Courts of Appeals Judges and Supreme Court Justices, and many retired and Senior Judges.
- Judge Richard Kyle of the Second Judicial District (Ramsey County) is the current MDJA President, elected to a two-year term (2025-27) by its membership.

HIGHLIGHTS: DR. BANAIAN'S "MINNESOTA JUDICIAL STATE COURT SALARIES" REPORT

- Dr. Banaian's report provides several options to restore judge salaries.
- Minnesota judges have lost ground over the last two years due to:
 - inflation increases at 18%;
 - lack of raises provided by the legislature;
 - more judges retiring before they reach retirement age; and
 - challenges in judicial applications.
- His recommendations relate to both making up for lost buying power *and* policy changes to fix these issues long term.

HIGHLIGHTS: MS. DIMUKA'S "UNDERSTANDING BARRIERS TO JUDICIAL APPLICATIONS" REPORT

- Ms. Dimuka's report analyzed barriers to judicial applications.
- Chief among the concerns were:
 - judicial workload;
 - an application process perceived as burdensome, opaque, and political; and, of course,
 - salary differential.

MDJA'S RECOMMENDATIONS

MINNESOTA DISTRICT
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**SIX AND SIX
PLUS A FIX**

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THANK YOU &
ANY QUESTIONS?