



Supreme Court of Arkansas

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Independent Citizens Commission
State of Arkansas
State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

Re: Request of the Supreme Court of Arkansas

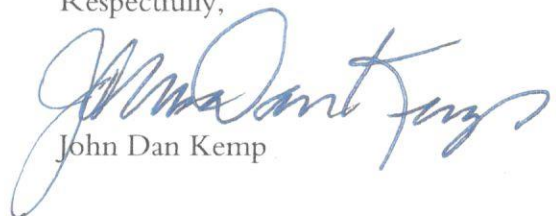
Dear Commissioners:

I write to you in support of the proposal from Judge John Fogelman and the Arkansas Judicial Council for a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all members of the Arkansas judiciary.

In addition to the request for a COLA, I respectfully request an additional salary increase of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for each of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of Arkansas. Pursuant to the current survey of Judicial Salaries published in January 2019 by the National Center for State Courts, the associate justices of the Supreme Court of Arkansas rank 26th among court of last resort associate judges nationwide, compared to the rank of 18th for Arkansas Court of Appeals judges among intermediate appellate court judges nationwide and the rank of 16th for Arkansas circuit judges among general jurisdiction judges nationwide. This \$5,000 increase for the associate justices would result in their salary being more comparably ranked with the Arkansas circuit and appellate judges in the nationwide rankings.

I request that the Commission approve both requests on behalf of the Supreme Court of Arkansas. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Respectfully,


John Dan Kemp

JDK:srs