



West Virginia Judiciary Update

Chief Justice Beth Walker

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals, continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on March 10, 2023, the following order was made and entered:

Re: Proposed Amendments to the West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure

No. 21-Rules-12

ORDER

By order of March 2, 2023, the Court determined it will hear oral argument on the proposed amendments to certain West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure. In addition to Rule 23(i), Rule 26, and Rule 56 of the West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court will hear oral argument on Rule 45, Rule 53, and Rule 53.1. Oral argument is scheduled on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. The individuals and organizations that filed comments on these rules are invited to appear and present oral argument at that time. The Clerk of Court will provide those individuals and organizations with a Notice of Argument containing further information. Those individuals and organizations are encouraged to collaborate on their presentations of oral argument so as to preclude repetition.

A True Copy

Attest: /s/Edythe Nash Gaiser
Clerk of Court



Intermediate Court of Appeals

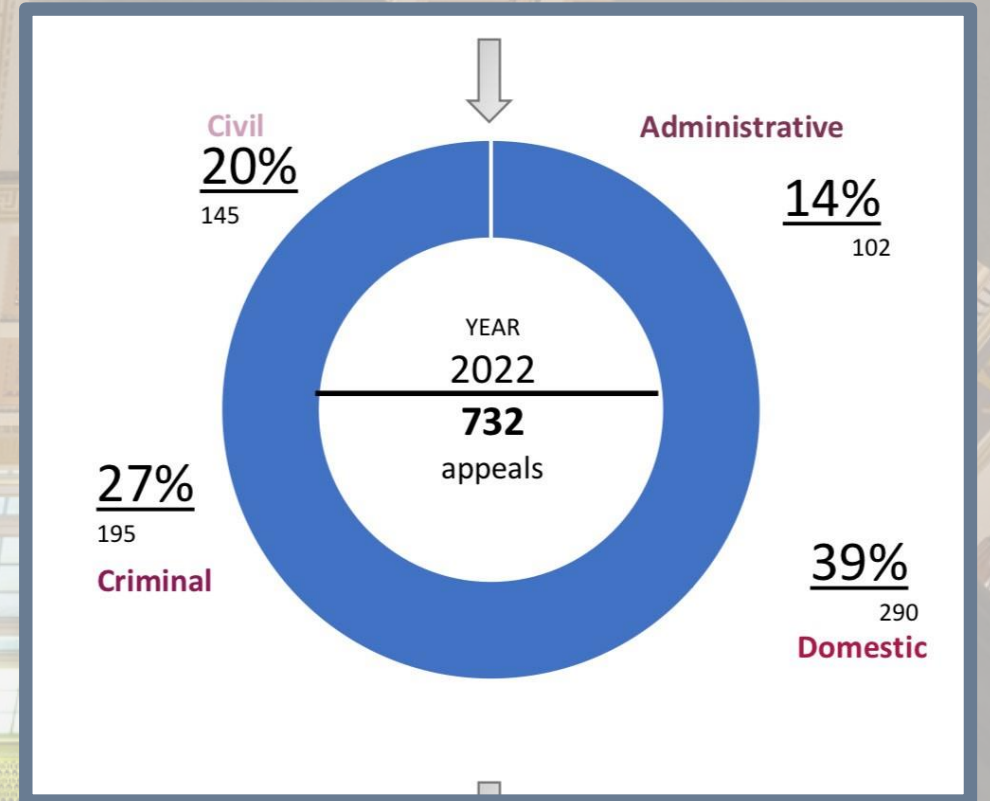
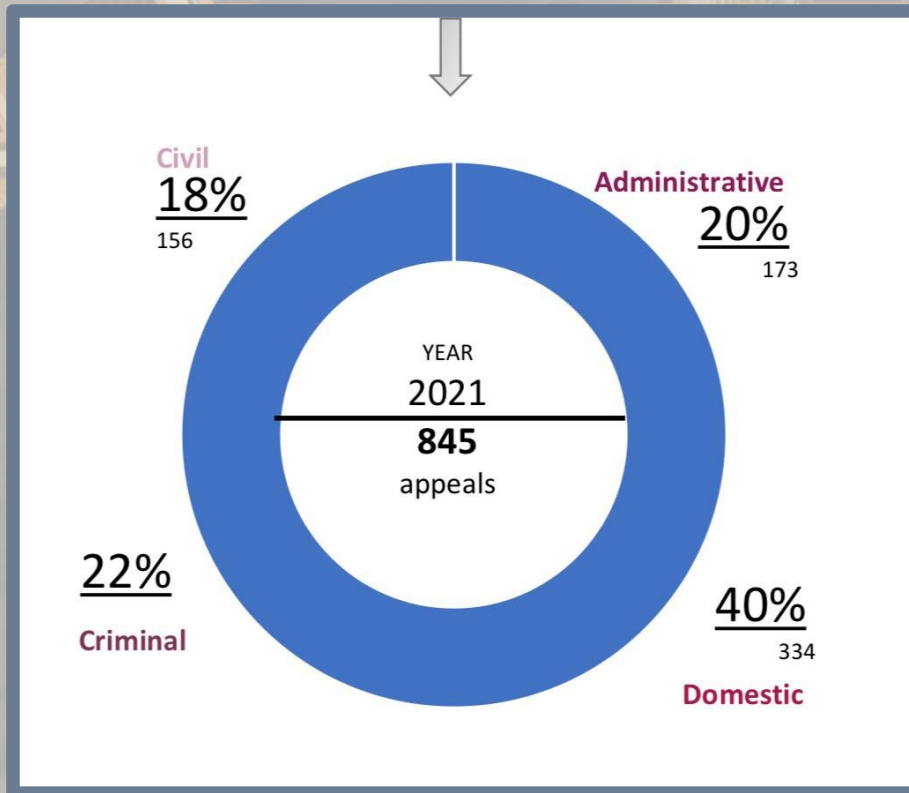


Intermediate Court of Appeals Update

- 436 total appeals filed
- 118 decisions issued
- 4 signed opinions
- **Case Type:**
 - 15% Administrative
 - 27% Civil
 - 21% Domestic
 - 37% Workers' Comp
- 5 oral arguments have used the satellite courtrooms



Supreme Court of Appeals



2024 Judicial Races

128 Circuit and Family Court positions in May 2024 election
Judicial Demographics in West Virginia:

Circuit: 17/75 female

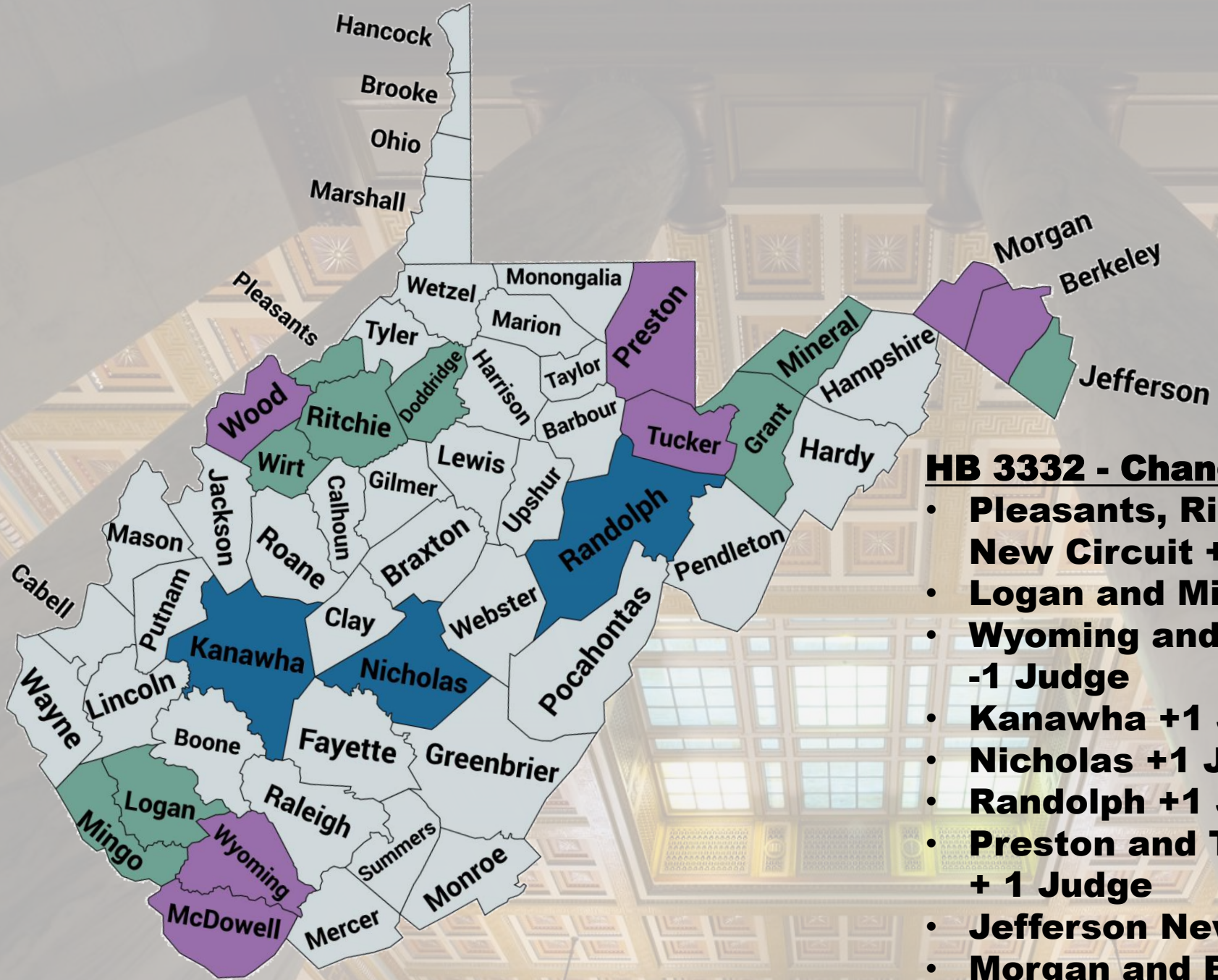
Family: 22/47 female

Average age circuit judge = 61

30 Circuit Judges over 65

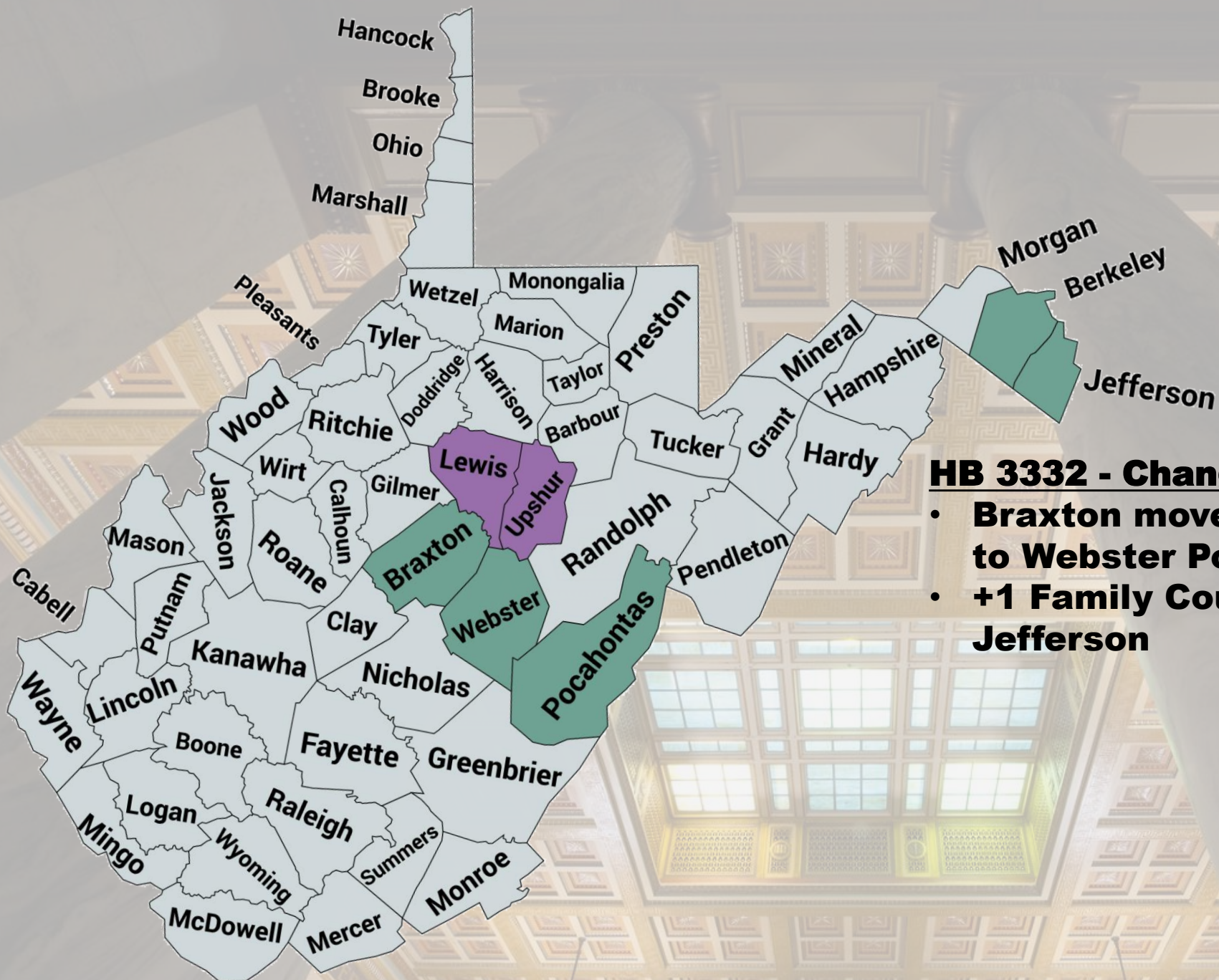
Average age family judge = 57

13 Family Judges over 65



HB 3332 - Changes to Circuit Court:

- **Pleasants, Ritchie, Doddridge, Wirt New Circuit +1 Judge**
- **Logan and Mingo New Circuit**
- **Wyoming and McDowell New Circuit -1 Judge**
- **Kanawha +1 Judge**
- **Nicholas +1 Judge**
- **Randolph +1 Judge**
- **Preston and Tucker New Circuit + 1 Judge**
- **Jefferson New Circuit +1 Judge**
- **Morgan and Berkeley New Circuit**



HB 3332 - Changes to Family Court:

- **Braxton moved from Lewis and Upshur to Webster Pocahontas**
- **+1 Family Court Judge in Berkeley and Jefferson**

WV Judicial Learning Center

Expected opening late 2023

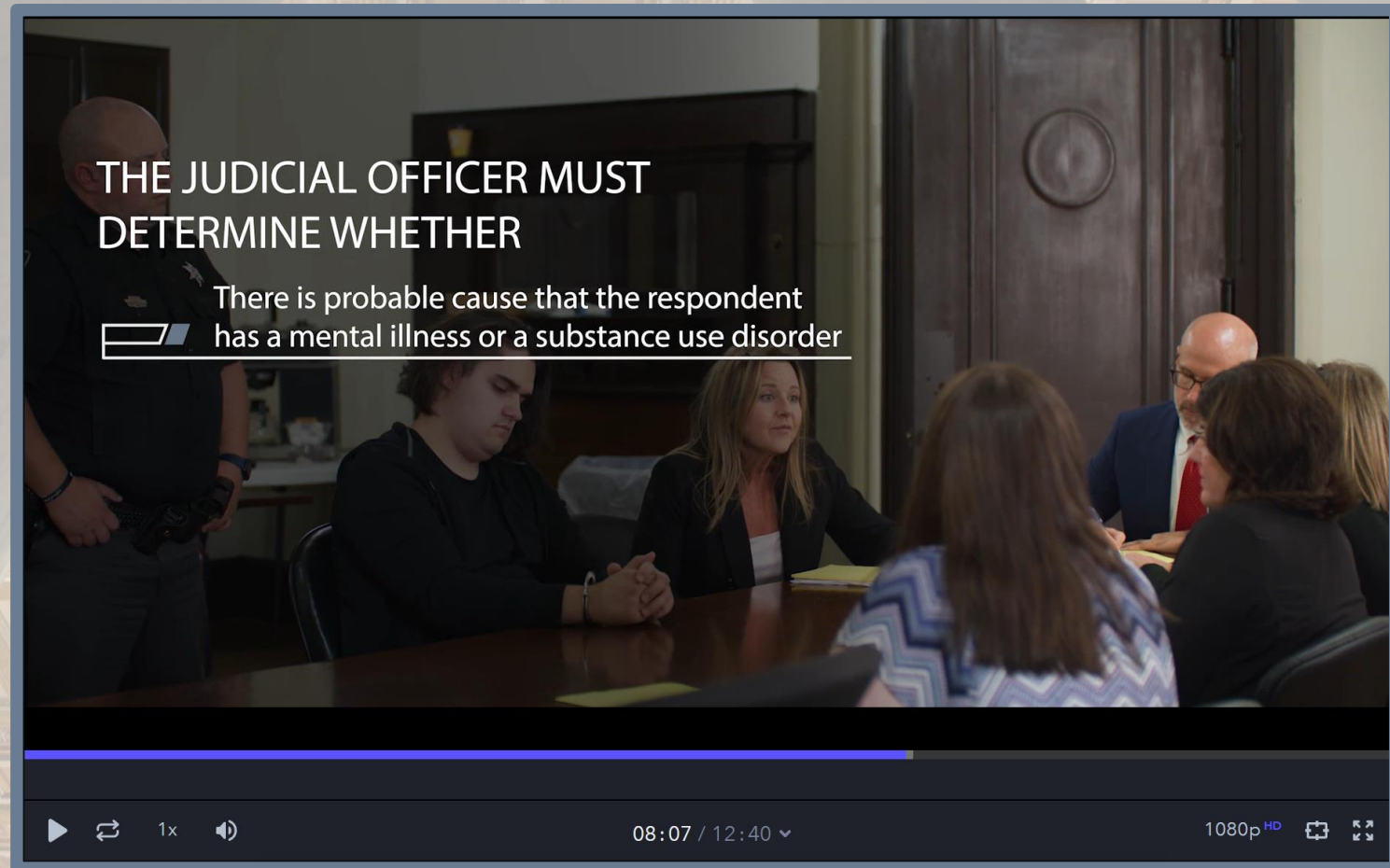


Child Abuse and Neglect in West Virginia:

- **6,151 children in foster care**
- **5,876 Abuse & Neglect cases filed in 2021**
- **170 registered Guardians Ad Litem**
- **34 cases per GAL**

Mental Hygiene/Involuntary Commitment

- New online educational video (coming soon)



Well-Being Task Force



WELL-BEING
**WEEK
IN LAW**

MAY 1-5, 2023

May 19 - 21, 2023
STONEWALL RESORT

WVJLAP ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND RETREAT

The Task Force on Lawyer Well-Being with the WV Judicial and Lawyer Assistance Program invite all members of the bench and bar and medical/clinical providers who support JLAP's mission to JLAP's Annual Conference and Retreat at Stonewall Resort. This event weekend is a great opportunity to earn CLE credits while learning about and practicing well-being and sustainability in the law. More details at wvjlap.org



A continuous process in which lawyers strive for thriving in each dimension of their lives:



Chief Justice – 2019 and 2023







Questions and Discussion