

**SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS**

STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX

ROOM E-301

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25305

(304) 558-4811

ROBIN JEAN DAVIS

Justice

Memorandum

TO: Steve Canterbury, Administrative Director

FROM: Robin Jean Davis, Justice *RJD*

RE: Administrative Conference on August 31, 2016

DATE: August 2, 2016

Steve,

I am requesting that three items be placed on the August 31 Administrative Conference. They include court cars, court gas cards, and educational conferences for the Justices. I am requesting that these items be discussed for several reasons. First, over the past two years, all members of the Court have been concerned about auditing, budgeting, limiting expenses and transparency in all aspects of our Court family. In fact, we have insisted that all divisions make a concentrated effort to reduce spending as the Chief has said over and over we are out of money.

Secondly, a series of recent newspaper articles and audits show very clearly that members of the Legislature, the Auditor's Office and the State newspapers are exposing and questioning the use of vehicles by high-ranking administrators and are also focusing on improper expenditures and reimbursements from high-ranking officials in state government. One need only to look at the following articles to understand my concerns:

1. Charleston Gazette, May 20, 2016, WV prison chief target of investigation, audit shows by Eric Erye.
2. Charleston Gazette-Mail, July 27, 2016, Audit reviews state-owned fleet of vehicles by Eric Erye.
3. Charleston Daily Mail, July 28, 2016, New audit of state vehicle fleet overdue
4. Jackson Hole Daily, July 19, 2016, Prosecuting attorney in Wyoming found guilty of misusing county money to buy cameras and other items for personal use by Wyoming In Brief.

More specifically, I am identifying my areas of concern, including, but not limited, to the following:

1. Court Cars:

- A. Audit.
- B. Inadequate Monitoring of Court Vehicles.
- C. Assignment of Court Vehicles for court purposes and court business.
- D. IRS issues.
- E. Establish written policies.

2. Court Gas Cards:

- A. Audit.
- B. Inadequate and/or No tracking system.
- C. IRS issues.
- D. Establish written policies.

3. W. Va. Supreme Court Justices Expenditure for out of state and in-state Educational Conferences:

- A. Audit Expenses.
- B. Limit the number of out of state and in-state conferences.
- C. Establish written policies.

cc: Other Justices