

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2009 SESSION

CHAPTER 608

An Act to amend and reenact § 37.2-803 of the Code of Virginia, relating to special justices; appointment.

[S 1081]

Approved March 27, 2009

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 37.2-803 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 37.2-803. Special justices to perform duties of judge.

The chief judge of each judicial circuit may appoint one or more special justices, for the purpose of performing the duties required of a judge by this chapter, Chapter 11 (§ 37.2-1100 et seq.), and §§ 16.1-69.28, 16.1-335 through 16.1-348, 19.2-169.6, 19.2-174.1, 19.2-177.1, 19.2-182.9, 53.1-40.1, 53.1-40.2, and 53.1-40.9. Each special justice shall be a person licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth or a retired or substitute judge in good standing and shall have all the powers and jurisdiction conferred upon a judge. The special justice shall serve under the supervision and at the pleasure of the chief judge ~~making the appointment of the judicial circuit~~ for a period of up to six years. The special justice may be reappointed and may serve additional periods of up to six years, at the pleasure of the chief judge. Within six months of appointment, each special justice appointed on or after January 1, 1996, shall complete a minimum training program prescribed by the Executive Secretary of the Supreme Court. Special justices shall collect the fees prescribed in this chapter for their service and shall retain those fees, unless the governing body of the county or city in which the services are performed provides for the payment of an annual salary for the services, in which case the fees shall be collected and paid into the treasury of that county or city.