

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1995 SESSION

CHAPTER 333
HOUSE BILL 231

AN ACT TO REQUEST THE SUPREME COURT TO ADOPT A PLAN TO
ADMINISTER JUSTICE WITHOUT DELAY IN NORTH CAROLINA TRIAL
COURTS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. The North Carolina Supreme Court is requested to develop and implement a case flow management plan designed to avoid delay and unnecessary appearances and to increase efficiency in the handling of cases in North Carolina's trial courts. The plan should:

- (1) Place responsibility for managing the flow of cases on specific persons;
- (2) Adopt case processing standards and goals;
- (3) Address the problem of delay;
- (4) Avoid unnecessary appearances in court by parties, witnesses, and attorneys;
- (5) Provide mechanisms for keeping continuous control of cases;
- (6) Establish definite deadlines throughout the process;
- (7) Include a limited continuance policy;
- (8) Consider the interests of victims and witnesses;
- (9) Set out accountability mechanisms; and
- (10) Provide for training of those persons responsible for managing the case flow.

Sec. 2. The Supreme Court is requested to make a report detailing the case flow management plan to the 1995 General Assembly, Regular Session 1996, by May 1, 1996. The report should include the recommended standards and goals; a report of the plan to implement those standards and goals; a timetable for implementation; persons responsible for managing the flow of cases and how they will be held accountable; how the plan is going to be evaluated; what training is necessary; and recommended legislation to facilitate implementation.

Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 27th day of June, 1995.

Dennis A. Wicker
President of the Senate

Harold J. Brubaker
Speaker of the House of Representatives