

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2016-12

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND
FOR ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER CREATING SUBDIVISION 30-3 IN THE
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION AND SUBDIVISION 02-5 IN THE
PROBATE DIVISION OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, ORANGE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, the chief judge of each judicial circuit is charged with the authority and the power to do everything necessary to promote the prompt and efficient administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the chief judge's constitutional and statutory responsibility for administrative supervision of the courts within the circuit and to create and maintain an organization capable of effecting the efficient, prompt, and proper administration of justice for the citizens of this State, the chief judge is required to exercise direction, *see* Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.215(b)(2), (b)(3); and

WHEREAS, the Circuit and County Courts in Orange County are organized into divisions for more efficient case and records management and caseloads in each division are identified by numbered subdivisions to facilitate the exchange of caseloads when changes of division assignment occur; and

WHEREAS, for the sake of judicial economy and to prevent confusion, occasionally subdivisions may need to be de-activated and new subdivisions created; and

WHEREAS, case filings in the Domestic Relations Division and the Probate Division of Circuit Court warrant the creation of a subdivision in each division to assist;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Frederick J. Lauten, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida under Florida Rule of Judicial

Administration 2.215, to continue until further order and superseding any provisions in prior Administrative Orders which may be inconsistent, and following a careful review of case filings and caseloads, order that Subdivision 30-3 and Subdivision 02-5 are hereby created, to begin **July 5, 2016**, unless otherwise provided herein. The following procedures shall be followed in order to accumulate a caseload for Subdivision 30-3 and Subdivision 02-5 and to have each ready for disposition of cases to begin on

July 5, 2016:

1. An initial caseload for Subdivision 30-3 shall be established in the following manner: the Clerk of Court shall immediately re-assign eleven percent (11%) of the existing caseload from each of the four (4) existing domestic relations subdivisions and shall furnish the Judge in each current subdivision a list of those cases re-assigned from the subdivision. The Judge in each subdivision shall furnish to the Clerk a list of those cases that the Judge has determined should not be transferred. On July 5, 2016, the Clerk shall transfer those cases which the Clerk has randomly selected to Subdivision 30-3.

2. Beginning **July 5, 2016**, the Clerk of Court shall randomly assign two cases of all newly filed domestic relations cases to Subdivision 30-3 for every four newly filed domestic relations cases assigned to each of the other domestic relations subdivisions.

3. Beginning **July 5, 2016**, the Clerk of Court shall re-assign one-half (1/2) of the existing probate caseload to Subdivision 02-5. All probate cases related to a guardianship shall remain with Subdivision 01-5. The Clerk of Court shall also re-assign all probate-related trust cases and all trust cases previously assigned to Subdivision 04-4 to Subdivision 02-5.

4. Beginning **July 5, 2016**, the Clerk of Court shall begin assigning all newly filed probate cases equally and randomly among Subdivisions 01-5 and 02-5 except that all trust cases and all probate-related trust cases shall be assigned to Subdivision 02-5 and all probate cases related to a guardianship case shall be assigned to Subdivision 01-5.

5. All matters in those cases assigned to Subdivisions 30-3 and 02-5 which are to be scheduled on or after July 5, 2016, should be coordinated with the office of Judge Jenifer M. Harris, who will be assigned to Subdivisions 30-3 and 02-5 as of that date.

DONE AND ORDERED at Orlando, Florida, this 22nd day of June, 2016.

_____/s/_____
Frederick J. Lauten
Chief Judge

Copies provided to:

Clerk of Court, Orange County
Clerk of Court, Osceola County
General E-Mail Distribution List
<http://www.ninthcircuit.org>