

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2016-12-01

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

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER CREATING SUBDIVISION 41-3 AND
SUBDIVISION 30-3 IN THE DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION OF THE
CIRCUIT COURT AND ESTABLISHING CASELOADS, 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 warrant the creation of an additional subdivision 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 41-3 is hereby created, to begin **December 18, 2017**, unless otherwise provided herein. The following procedures shall be followed in order to accumulate a caseload for Subdivision 41-3 and to have the Subdivision ready for disposition of cases to begin on **January 2, 2018**:

1. An initial caseload for Subdivision 41-3 shall be established in the following manner: the Clerk of Court shall immediately re-assign twenty percent (20%) of the existing caseload from each of the four (4) existing domestic relations subdivisions (to exclude Subdivision 30-3) 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 **December 18, 2017**, the Clerk shall transfer those cases which the Clerk has randomly selected to Subdivision 41-3.

2. Beginning **December 18, 2017**, the Clerk of Court shall randomly assign one case of all newly filed domestic relations cases to Subdivision 30-3 for every two newly filed domestic relations cases assigned to each of the other domestic relations subdivisions.

3. The Clerk of Court shall continue to assign 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.

4. All emergency matters and all pending matters in those cases re-assigned to Subdivision 41-3 that are scheduled to be heard prior to December 31, 2017, shall be

heard by the subdivision to which the case was assigned prior to December 18, 2017.

5. All matters in those cases re-assigned to Subdivision 41-3 which are to be scheduled on or after January 1, 2018, should be coordinated with the office of Judge Donald A. Myers, Jr., who will be assigned to Subdivision 41-3 as of that date.

6. Administrative Order 2016-12 is vacated and set aside except to the extent that it has been incorporated and/or amended herein. Vacating an Administrative Order that vacates a prior Order does not revive the prior Order.

DONE AND ORDERED at Orlando, Florida, this 20th day of November, 2017.

_____/s/_____
Frederick J. Lauten
Chief Judge

Copies provided to:

Clerk of Court, Orange County
Clerk of Court, Osceola County
General E-Mail Distribution List
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