

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2024-08

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER GOVERNING ASSIGNMENT OF CASES
IN ALL DIVISIONS OF CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURTS

The prompt and proper disposition of cases is more readily achieved by the establishment of procedures for the assignment and reassignment of cases within all divisions and subdivisions of Circuit and County Courts in the Ninth Judicial Circuit.

By the power vested in the chief judge under Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, section 43.26, Florida Statutes, and Rule 2.215 of the Florida Rules of General Practice and Judicial Administration, effective **immediately**, unless otherwise provided herein, to continue until further order and superseding any provisions in prior Administrative Orders that may be inconsistent, it is **ORDERED** the following procedures shall govern the assignment or reassignment of cases within both Orange and Osceola Counties:

1. All cases filed in any court division and assigned to any subdivision (except those brought under Chapter 88, F.S., the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act) will, at the time of filing, be assigned by the clerk to one of the judges assigned to that division, according to a system of assignment of cases devised by the clerk that will, over a reasonable period of time, effect an even distribution of the case load among the judges of that division and preclude a selection of the judge by the parties in an action. Except for sufficient cause shown, the judge to whom a cause is initially assigned will hear the case throughout except that the Chief Judge or the appropriate Administrative Judge may reassign any case over which he or she has authority to do so for any reason appearing to be sufficient.

2. Any action, whether civil, criminal, juvenile, probate division, or any case filed within any subdivision of the County Court, between the same parties, which was formerly assigned to another subdivision which is dismissed, abated, or nolle prosequi and thereafter refiled, shall be reassigned by the Chief Judge or the appropriate Administrative Judge, to the subdivision in which it was originally pending. It shall be the primary duty of the party or that party's attorney who has refiled the case to bring to the

judge's attention that the case in question had been previously filed in another subdivision. However, all parties or attorneys in the refiled case shall have this duty also.

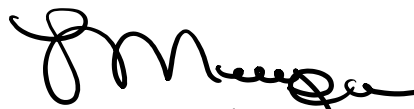
3. **Transfer of Cases** -

a. **Transfers of cases between circuit civil divisions**: When two or more cases are assigned to different circuit civil subdivisions which might be appropriately considered or tried together, the presiding judge for either of those subdivisions, or any party (upon motion) to either case, may request the appropriate Administrative Judge or the Chief Judge to transfer the companion cases(s) bearing the highest number(s) to the subdivision to which the lowest numbered case is assigned. All such motions shall be filed in the underlying cases and forwarded to the Chief Judge or the Administrative Judge for the Division. Should the motion to transfer be granted, the judge to whom the case(s) is reassigned shall determine if the case(s) shall be consolidated with the lower numbered case. The Chief Judge or the appropriate Administrative Judge may, however, reassign any case over which he or she has authority to do so for any reason appearing to be sufficient.

b. **Transfers of cases from county civil to circuit civil**: When one case is pending in a county subdivision and one case is pending in the same circuit division which might be appropriately considered or tried together, the motion shall be ruled on by the assigned circuit judge. For felony cases, the Initial Appearance Judge, on the day of the Initial Appearance, may transfer felony cases to the subdivision with the lowered number case upon request of a party or sua sponte.

4. Administrative Order 07-83-25 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 2nd day of October, 2024.



Lisa T. Munyon
Chief Judge

Copies provided to:

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