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DAVE LANG
CLERK CIRCUIT COURT
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 95-03

IN RE CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURT JUDGE ASSIGNMENTS
SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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WHEREAS, Rule 2 050(b)(4) of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, states that the chief judge shall assign judges to the courts and divisions, and shall determine the length of each assignment, and

WHEREAS,there is a desire on the part of the chief judge to modify the current assignment policy that is currently in effect, it is therefore,

ORDERED THAT

The following circuit court assignments shall become effective on July 1, 1995

I FRANKLIN COUNTY

Judge WILLIAM L GARY is assigned to all circuit criminal, civil, Juvenile, and probate cases

II GADSDEN COUNTY

A Criminal Division - JUDGE P KEVIN DAVEY is assigned all Circuit cases, including criminal appeals from county court

B Civil Division - JUDGE N SANDERS SAULS is assigned to all civil cases, including civil appeals from county court

C Probate Division - JUDGE N SANDERS SAULS is assigned to all probate cases

D Juvenile Division - JUDGE P KEVIN DAVEY is assigned to all juvenile cases

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III JEFFERSON COUNTY

JUDGE NIKKI ANN CLARK is assigned to all criminal, civil, juvenile and probate Cases

IV LEON COUNTY

A CRIMINAL DIVISION

(1) JUDGE J LEWIS HALL, JR , is assigned to Section 1

(2) JUDGE L RALPH SMITH is assigned to Section 2

B CIVIL DIVISION

The following judges are assigned to the Civil Division in Leon County and shall handle a proportionate share of Leon County cases including county court civil appeals

(1) JUDGE WILLIAM L GARY

(2) JUDGE NIKKI ANN CLARK

(3) JUDGE PHIL PADOVANO

Civil inmate petitions shall be proportionately assigned to Judge Nikki Clark, Judge William L Gary, Judge Phil Padovano, and Judge F E Steinmeyer

C Probate Division - JUDGE F E STEINMEYER is assigned to all probate cases

D Juvenile Division - JUDGE JOHN E CRUSOE is assigned all juvenile cases

E Family Law Division

The following judges are assigned to the Family Law Division in Leon County

(1) JUDGE CHARLES D MCCLURE
(2) JUDGE GEORGE S REYNOLDS III

Case shall be distributed proportionately to the above Judges

The jurisdiction of Family Law Division shall include the following categories of cases dissolution of marriage, simplified dissolution of marriage, child custody and support, URESA, domestic violence, repeat violence, name changes, adoptions, paternity suits, parental responsibility, separate

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maintenance, annulment, and modification proceedings

V LIBERTY COUNTY

A JUDGE N SANDERS SAULS is assigned to all Liberty County civil and probate cases (including civil appeals from county court)

B JUDGE P KEVIN DAVEY is assigned to all criminal and juvenile cases (including criminal appeals from county court)

VI WAKULLA COUNTY

A JUDGE PHIL PADOVANO is assigned to all Wakulla County civil, criminal, probate and juvenile cases

VII MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

A Administrative Judges.

The following judges are appointed as administrative judges in the respective divisions

(1) JUDGE J LEWIS HALL, JR - Criminal Division

(2) JUDGE PHIL PADOVANO - Civil Division

(3) JUDGE GEORGE REYNOLDS III - Family Division

(4) JUDGE F E STEINMEYER - Probate

(5) JUDGE JOHN E CRUSOE - Juvenile Division

B Computer Planning and Coordination

JUDGE GEORGE S REYNOLDS III is designated as the computer planning and coordination judge responsible for making recommendations to the chief judge on automation issues including computer hardware, software, budgeting and installation of such equipment Judge Reynolds shall serve as a representative and spokesman for the judiciary on various committees and meetings in the automation area

VIII EMERGENCY MATTERS

A Cross - Assignment

All Circuit and County Judges in Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, Wakulla and Franklin Counties are hereby cross-assigned to preside over any emergency

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within their individual counties or assignments at the Circuit or County jurisdictional levels

B Emergency Hearings

The following procedures shall apply when requests to reschedule emergency hearings are made in the circuit criminal or civil divisions of the Second Judicial Circuit

(1) For the purposes of this order, emergency civil and criminal hearings shall be defined as, "Those non-routine matters which, by their nature, require the immediate action by a judge to prevent physical harm, property damage or hardship and which are of such a critical nature that the swift intervention by the court is deemed necessary."

(2) A request for an emergency hearing shall be presented to the judge assigned to the case

(3) In the event that the judge assigned to the case is unavailable, the request for an emergency hearing shall be brought to the chief judge (or acting chief judge) to determine whether an emergency hearing is needed For the purpose of this order, the unavailability of the judge shall mean that the judge is physically not present in the county courthouse in which the emergency hearing must be heard

(4) If the chief judge decides that the emergency hearing does in fact require immediate attention of a judge, the court administrator's office will be notified and a judge will be identified to handle the emergency hearing

(5) Only the judge identified to handle the emergency hearing shall be permitted to resolve the emergency If the judge assigned the emergency is unable to rule on the emergency matter due to a conflict or any other reason, the court administrator's office should again be contacted and another judge will be identified to resolve the emergency matter

IX COUNTY COURT JURISDICTION

A County Judge Back-Up Policy

The county judges assigned in Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon and Wakulla counties are assigned in their respective counties to supplement and aid the circuit court judges County judges may be assigned to handle contested dissolution and/or child support and

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enforcement cases only on a case by case basis pursuant to a specific order of the chief judge or, in emergencies

B Simplified Dissolution Cases

(1) County judges in each of the counties of the Second Judicial Circuit shall have jurisdiction over all simplified dissolution of marriage cases

(2) For the purposes of public convenience and administrative efficiency, simplified dissolution of marriage cases may be filed in the Circuit Civil Divisions of clerks' offices in each of the counties in the Second Judicial Circuit Such cases are in the county court's jurisdiction and shall be processed accordingly

(3) This order shall not supersede other orders assigning county court judges to serve as circuit judges on a temporary basis or any order establishing a county court judge as a temporary backup to a circuit court judge

X On the effective date of this order, July 1, 1995, the following administrative orders are hereby terminated

A Administrative Order 91-04, In Re Procedures for Emergency Hearings, dated September 3, 1991 as amended, and

B Administrative Order 90-33, In Re County Court Jurisdiction, dated December 12, 1990, as amended, and

C Administrative Order 93-07, In Re Circuit Court Judge Assignments - Second Judicial Circuit, dated July 1, 1993, as amended

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, at Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida this 18 day of April, 1995

PHILIP J PADOVANO
CHIEF JUDGE

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