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DAVE LANG
CLERK CIRCUIT COURT
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

CHAMBERS OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.: 97-04

IN RE: CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURT JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS, SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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

IT IS THEREFORE,

ORDERED THAT: The following circuit court assignments shall become effective on July 1, 1997 and expires on July 1, 1999

I **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

Circuit Judge F E Steinmeyer, III is assigned all circuit criminal, civil, juvenile and probate cases, including all appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

II **JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Circuit Judge F E Steinmeyer, III is assigned all circuit criminal, civil, juvenile and probate cases, including all appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith.

III **GADSDEN COUNTY**

A Circuit Judge William L Gary is assigned all circuit criminal and juvenile cases, including criminal appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

B Circuit Judge Nikki A Clark is assigned all circuit civil and probate

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cases, including civil appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

IV **LEON COUNTY**

A Criminal Division [including criminal intake and excluding drug court]

The following circuit judges are assigned to the Criminal Division and assigned all felony cases and criminal appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

(1) Circuit Judge J Lewis Hall, Jr is assigned Division A, Courtroom 3A

(2) Circuit Judge L Ralph Smith, Jr is assigned Division B, Courtroom 3B

B Civil Division

The following circuit judges are assigned to the Civil Division and assigned all general civil cases and civil appeals from County Court, excluding probate, family law division cases and prisoner petitions, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

(1) Circuit Judge George S Reynolds, III is assigned 2/3 of all general civil cases

(2) Circuit Judge Charles D McClure is assigned 1/3 of all general civil cases

C Family Law Division

The following circuit judges are assigned to the Family Law Division and assigned all family law cases, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith, and assigned Leon Felony trial backup - 3 days - 1 trial week per month, each judge

(1) Circuit Judge John E Crusoe
(2) Circuit Judge P Kevin Davey

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Cases shall be distributed proportionately to the above division judges The 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 maintenance, annulment and modification proceedings

D. Juvenile and Juvenile Drug Court Division

Circuit Judge Kathleen F Dekker is assigned to the Juvenile and Juvenile Drug Court Division and assigned all juvenile cases, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

E. Statewide Grand Jury Division

Chief Judge N Sanders Sauls is assigned to the Statewide Grand Jury Division and all cases therein, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

F Probate Division

Chief Judge N Sanders Sauls is assigned to the Probate Division and assigned all probate cases, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

G. Felony Drug Court Division

Chief Judge N Sanders Sauls is assigned to the Felony Drug Court Division and assigned all cases therein, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

H Prisoner Petition Division

(1) Intake - Chief Judge N Sanders Sauls is assigned the intake proceedings for all prisoner petitions filed

(2) Prisoner petitions not dismissed at intake shall be assigned as follows

Chief Judge N Sanders Sauls - 60%

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Circuit Judge Kathleen F Dekker - 30%
Circuit Judge Charles D McClure - 10%

V. WAKULLA COUNTY

Circuit Judge Charles D. McClure is assigned all circuit criminal, civil, juvenile and probate cases, including all appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith.

VI LIBERTY COUNTY

A. Circuit Judge William L Gary is assigned all circuit criminal and juvenile cases, including criminal appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith

B. Chief Judge N Sanders Sauls is assigned all circuit civil and probate cases, including civil appeals from County Court, together with all pending and previously scheduled hearing and trial dates and times associated therewith.

VII MISCELLANEOUS ASSIGNMENTS

A Administrative Judges

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

(1) Circuit Judge J. Lewis Hall, Jr - Criminal Division

(2) Circuit Judge John E Crusoe - Family Law Division

B Weekend and Holiday Duty

A rotation list shall be prepared by the court administrator to designate a particular circuit or county judge to serve as the duty judge on holidays and weekends The duty judge shall have the responsibility of handling all first-appearance proceedings in Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, Liberty, Wakulla and Franklin Counties The duty judge shall also handle any arrest warrants, petitions for injunction, emergency hearings or other time critical matters brought to the duty judge's attention

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VIII. EMERGENCY MATTERS

A. Cross - Assignment

All circuit and county judges in Leon, Gadsden, Jefferson, Liberty, Wakulla and Franklin Counties are hereby cross-assigned to preside over any emergency within their individual counties or assignments at the circuit or county jurisdictional levels

B Emergency Hearings

The following procedures shall apply when requests to schedule emergency hearings are made in the circuit criminal or civil divisions and county courts 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 chief judge pro tem) 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 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

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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 of and assigned in Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty and Wakulla Counties are assigned in their respective counties upon their consent to supplement and aid the circuit court including, but not limited to, the coverage of Baker Act and Marchman Act cases when the circuit judge assigned to the county is unavailable County Judges may be assigned to handle contested dissolution and/or child support and enforcement cases only on a case by case basis upon their consent pursuant to a specific order of the chief judge or in emergencies Each circuit judge is likewise assigned to supplement and aid the county court in the county to which assigned when the county judge is unavailable.

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 Division of the 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 upon consent as a temporary backup to a circuit court judge

X On the effective date of this order, July 1, 1997, the following administrative

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order is hereby terminated.

A Administrative Order 95-03, In Re Circuit Court Judge Assignments - Second Judicial Circuit, dated April 18, 1995, as amended

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida this 18th day of April, 1997

N SANDERS SAULS
CHIEF JUDGE

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