



THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN

ROBERT J. COLOMBO, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE

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LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2014 – 04

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

SUBJECT: FAMILY DIVISION - JUVENILE CASE ASSIGNMENT

This Administrative Order rescinds and replaces Administrative Order 2012-01.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. This Local Administrative Order is issued in accordance with Michigan Court Rules 8.110 and 8.111, and sets forth the method to be used for assigning cases within the Family Division-Juvenile Section of the Third Circuit Court.
2. The Third Circuit Court utilizes a team assignment system. In this system, referees conduct hearings and provide recommendations to the judges for particular case types.
3. The following case type categories must be assigned "by lot" to judges of the Family Division-Juvenile Section and scheduled, unless otherwise specified, before their respective team referee(s). All judge demands will be heard by the team judge at the point when a party files a judge demand.
 - a. **Designated Juvenile Offenses (DJ):** assigned "by lot" to judges, with the exception of the Presiding Judge of the Family Division—Juvenile Section, who will be responsible for presiding over the preliminary examination on all cases within 14 days of the arraignment on the warrant.
 - b. **Delinquency Proceedings (DL):** applies to all cases except those involving detained youth (see section 4.b below). All subsequent hearings are assigned "by lot" to the judge's team-referee.
 - c. **Subsequent Child Protective Proceedings (NA):** after the initial child protective proceeding (see section 4.a. below), all subsequent hearings are assigned "by lot" to the judge's team-referee.

4. The following case type categories must be assigned to a designated docket within, unless otherwise specified, the Family Division—Juvenile Section:
 - a. **Initial Child Protective Proceedings (NA):** shall be heard on a designated referee docket. All subsequent hearings are scheduled before the team referee of the judge assigned “by lot.”
 - b. **Initial Delinquency Proceeding—Youth Detained (DL):** shall be heard on a designated referee docket. All subsequent hearings are scheduled before the team referee of the judge assigned “by lot.”
 - c. **Absent without Legal Permission Cases (AWOLP):** pursuant to Local Administrative Order 2003-01.
 - d. **Adoption Proceedings (AB, AC, AD, AF, AG, AM, AN, AO, AY):** for purposes of administrative efficiency.
 - e. **Personal Protection Petitions (PJ):** shall be assigned to a designated docket within the Family Division—Domestic Relations Section when brought against a respondent under the age of 18.
5. The following case types categories must be assigned to a specific jurist within the Family Division—Juvenile Section:
 - a. **Full Guardianship of a Minor (GM) or Juvenile Guardianship (JG):** shall be heard by the judge assigned to the underlying NA case.
 - b. **Traffic and Local Ordinance Cases (TL):** for purposes of administrative efficiency, cases are to be assigned to the Presiding Judge of the Division, and the preliminary inquiry is to be conducted by referees that have been designated by the Court pursuant to MCL 712A.10.
6. If a new petition is filed for a case in which jurisdiction was terminated within twenty-four months, the petition shall be assigned to the judge who previously heard the case. If jurisdiction was terminated in excess of twenty-four months, then the new petition is to be assigned “by lot” pursuant to section 3 above.
7. Pending and open cases are treated in the following manner:
 - a. **Delinquency Proceedings:** When a respondent has both a pending and open case, assignment is to be based upon the open case. When a new case has multiple respondents, the judge with the oldest petition receives all the respondents.
 - i. *Pending Case:* a pending case is one in which a dispositional order has not yet been entered.

- ii. *Open Case*: an open case is one in which the judge has not yet signed and filed an order closing probation or terminating jurisdiction according to Public Act 150, 1974.
- b. **Child Protective Proceedings**: When a respondent has both a pending and open case, assignment is to be based upon the open case. When a new case has multiple respondents, the judge with the oldest petition receives all the respondents.
 - i. *Pending Case*: a pending case is one in which a dispositional order has not yet been entered.
 - ii. *Open Case*: an open case is one in which post-dispositional hearings are scheduled.
- 8. A reissued petition that was previously dismissed shall receive a new petition number and will be assigned to the judge and respective team referee who dismissed the earlier petition.

Dated: March 19, 2014


Hon. Robert J. Colombo, Jr., Chief Judge
Third Judicial Circuit

Date Approved by SCAO: April 1, 2014