



THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF MICHIGAN

701 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
2 WOODWARD AVENUE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226-3413

VIRGIL C. SMITH  
CHIEF JUDGE

(313) 224-5430

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DOCKET DIRECTIVE 2013 – 29

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

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**SUBJECT: Business Court Case Assignments**

This Docket Directive rescinds and replaces Docket Directive 2013 – 19.

This Docket Directive is issued pursuant to MCR 8.110 and MCR 8.111 is necessary to implement the Business Court in the Third Judicial Court pursuant to 2012 PA 333, MCL 600.8031, *et seq*, and to ensure the efficient and equitable process of assigning cases to the Business Court of the Third Judicial Circuit.

**IT IS ORDERED THAT:**

**Effective July 1, 2013**, all cases designated as within the jurisdiction of the Business Court, pursuant to MCL 600.8031 and MCL 600.8033 (Business Court Cases), shall be assigned as follows:

1. Judge Susan D. Borman, Judge Daniel P. Ryan, and Judge Brian R. Sullivan shall receive a full draw of Business Court Cases.
2. **Effective November 1, 2013**, Judge Susan D. Borman, Judge Daniel P. Ryan and Judge Brian R. Sullivan shall receive a **3/4 draw** of other Civil case types pursuant to the Local Administrative Order on General Civil Case Assignments.
3. Judges assigned to the Business Court shall continue to preside over their pending non-Business Court Cases that were assigned to them prior to July 1, 2013.



4. Business Court Cases pending as of June 30, 2013 shall not be transferred to judges assigned to the Business Court except as follows: 1) as provided in paragraph 5, and 2) if reassigned to a Business Court judge pursuant to an order of reassignment issued by the Judge designated by the Presiding Judge – Civil Division to hear motions to reassign. Judges who are not assigned to the Business Court shall continue to preside over pending Business Court Cases that were assigned to these judges prior to July 1, 2013.
5. If a Business Court Case is initiated on or after July 1, 2013 that arises out of the same transaction or occurrence as a Business Court Case previously filed prior to July 1, 2013 that is still pending and assigned to a non-Business Court Judge, the previously filed case shall remain assigned to the judge to whom it was originally assigned except if reassigned to a Business Court judge pursuant to an order of reassignment issued by the Judge designated by the Presiding Judge – Civil Division to hear motions to reassign.
6. If a Business Court Case is initiated on or after July 1, 2013, that arises out of the same transaction or occurrence as a Business Court Case previously filed that is in closed status, the newly filed Business Court Case shall be assigned to a Business Court Judge.
7. The Case Processing Department for the Third Judicial Circuit shall regularly, but not less than on a quarterly basis, review assignments to Business Court judges to determine if the case draw should be changed or if any other modification is needed to ensure the best possible equalization of the dockets across the Civil Division.



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Virgil C. Smith, Chief Judge  
Third Judicial Circuit

**Dated:** December 4, 2013