## ORDER GOVERNING THE ASSIGNMENT OF CASES INVOLVING TRUSTS

The Circuit and County Courts in Orange County are organized into divisions for more efficient case and records management. Caseloads in each division are identified by numbered subdivisions to facilitate the exchange of caseloads when changes of division assignment occur. For the sake of judicial economy and to prevent confusion, occasionally subdivisions may need to be de-activated, new subdivisions created, and existing subdivisions caseloads modified.

After a careful review of case filings and caseloads and to provide for efficient assignment of cases involving trusts, the implementation of procedures is necessary for the assignment of these cases. Trust cases which are not related to the pending administration of an estate are not well-suited for the Probate Division. Accordingly, the trust cases will be assigned among the Civil Subdivisions to better allocate the workload,

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**:

- 1. All newly filed cases involving trusts, including qualifications, amendments, removal of trustees or suits by or against trustees, and including all newly filed trust cases where a jury trial has been demanded, shall be assigned by the Clerk of Court to the Civil Division.
- 2. All newly filed cases involving trusts that are related to the pending administration of an estate shall be assigned by the Clerk of Court to the Probate/Guardianship Division.
- 3. When assigning cases involving trusts among the Subdivisions within the Civil Division, the Clerk of Court shall follow the applicable procedures as established in the Administrative Orders currently in effect which govern assignment of cases.

4. Those trust cases currently assigned to Subdivision 01-5 that are identified as not relating to the pending administration of an estate shall be reassigned to the Civil Subdivisions via separate order.

5. Issues which may arise pertaining to the assignment of cases involving trusts shall be resolved by the Chief Judge or the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Civil Division. Nothing herein shall prevent the Chief Judge or the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Civil Division from transferring any case in the interest of judicial economy.

6. Administrative Order 2019-24 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

Lisa T. Munyon Chief Judge

Copies to:

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