

**AMENDED ORDER ON THE ASSIGNMENT OF CIRCUIT AND COUNTY JUDGES TO
TEMPORARY DUTY IN THE CIRCUIT AND COUNTY COURTS
OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT FOR 2026**

Pursuant to the authority of Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215, and to promote the efficient and timely disposition of judicial business in the Circuit and County Courts of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida, delegation of the Chief Justice's assignment power to the chief judges of the judicial circuits is necessary to the proper administration of our court system. As the administrative officer of all courts within a judicial circuit the chief judge is best equipped to assess the needs of each trial court and must be given flexibility to effectively utilize and allocate available judicial labor within the circuit accordingly.

Acting under the Chief Justice's constitutional power to make temporary judicial assignments to ensure the speedy, efficient, and proper administration of justice, the chief judge may assign any judge to temporary service for which the judge is qualified in any court in the same circuit. It is necessary for the prompt dispatch of the business of the Circuit and County Courts of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, respectively, that the Judges of the Circuit and County Courts of the Ninth Judicial Circuit be assigned to temporary duty in those courts.

The benefits of continued education and the sharing of information statewide realized through the attendance by circuit and county judges at the Florida Conference of Circuit Court Judges and the Florida Conference of County Court Judges, respectively, results in the great majority of circuit court judges or county court judges attending their respective conference at the same time. Consequently, during the

conferences each year it is necessary to assign all circuit court judges as county court judges and all county court judges as acting circuit court judges whenever the need arises for emergency and temporary duty.

In an effort to allow judges of the entire Circuit to efficiently and effectively handle issues presented within the Circuit in a limited temporary or emergency capacity, eliminate the need to enter individualized orders weekly (or more often), and to avoid undue confusion and uncertainty for the public, litigants and others involved in the court system, this blanket Order assigns all circuit court judges as county court judges and all county court judges as acting circuit court judges whenever the need arises.

In accordance with *Physicians Healthcare Plans, Inc. v. Pfeifler*, 846 So. 2d 1129 (Fla. 2003), this Order does not divest a court of jurisdiction, it does not assign a county judge to exclusively circuit work, nor does it assign a circuit judge to exclusively county work. Further, in this time of crowded dockets and extremely limited resources in the state courts system, it is necessary to utilize judicial resources in a cost-effective manner to maximize the efficient administration of justice. *See, e.g., State v. Brady*, 985 So. 2d 656, 665 (Fla. 2d DCA 2008) in which the appellate court relied upon a similar order to find that a circuit court judge had jurisdiction as an acting county court judge to hear a misdemeanor DUI case.

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 May 4, 2026**, to continue until further order and superseding any provisions in prior Administrative Orders which may be inconsistent, it is **ORDERED**:

1. I hereby assign and designate the following Circuit Judges of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, to-wit:

THE HONORABLE CHAD K. ALVARO
THE HONORABLE CHRISTINE E. ARENDAS

THE HONORABLE ANDREW BAIN
THE HONORABLE ELAINE A. BARBOUR
THE HONORABLE DENISE KIM BEAMER
THE HONORABLE JOHN D.W. BEAMER
THE HONORABLE MARK S. BLECHMAN
THE HONORABLE LUIS F. CALDERON
THE HONORABLE KEITH A. CARSTEN
THE HONORABLE VINCENT S. CHIU
THE HONORABLE CHRISTY C. COLLINS
THE HONORABLE A. JAMES CRANER
THE HONORABLE MICHAEL DEEN
THE HONORABLE HOLLY DERENTHAL
THE HONORABLE HAL C. EPPERSON, JR.
THE HONORABLE VINCENT FALCONE, III
THE HONORABLE HEATHER L. HIGBEE
THE HONORABLE LASHAWNDA K. JACKSON
THE HONORABLE JOHN E. JORDAN
THE HONORABLE ALISON KERESTES
THE HONORABLE MICHAEL KRAYNICK
THE HONORABLE ALICIA L. LATIMORE
THE HONORABLE GISELA T. LAURENT
THE HONORABLE BARBARA J. LEACH
THE HONORABLE DIEGO M. MADRIGAL, III
THE HONORABLE LETICIA MARQUES
THE HONORABLE CRAIG A. MCCARTHY
THE HONORABLE SONIA MCDOWELL *(effective June 1, 2026)*
THE HONORABLE LISA T. MUNYON
THE HONORABLE MICHAEL MURPHY
THE HONORABLE ERIC J. NETCHER
THE HONORABLE MIKAELA NIX-WALKER
THE HONORABLE ALICIA PEYTON ROBINSON
THE HONORABLE HEATHER PINDER RODRIGUEZ
THE HONORABLE BRIAN S. SANDOR
THE HONORABLE THERESE SAVONA *(effective June 1, 2026)*
THE HONORABLE MARGARET H. SCHREIBER
THE HONORABLE LAURA SHAFFER
THE HONORABLE MARK A. SKIPPER
THE HONORABLE MICHAEL J. SNURE
THE HONORABLE PATRICIA L. STROWBRIDGE
THE HONORABLE DIANA M. TENNIS
THE HONORABLE GREG A. TYNAN
THE HONORABLE KEVIN B. WEISS
THE HONORABLE REGINALD K. WHITEHEAD

THE HONORABLE TANYA DAVIS WILSON
THE HONORABLE WAYNE C. WOOTEN
THE HONORABLE TOM YOUNG

to proceed to the County Courts of Orange & Osceola Counties and thereupon, on the **1st day of January 1, 2026**, and thereafter through the **30th day of June, 2026**, hear, conduct, try and determine the cause or causes which shall from time to time be presented to one or another of them as temporary Judges of the said Courts, and thereafter dispose of any matters considered by them respectively. These Circuit Judges shall also consider those matters which arise during their assignment as emergency duty judge and other matters assigned to them by the Chief Judge that the County Judges of the Ninth Judicial Circuit are unable to hear or dispose of because of crowded dockets in all levels of the Court system. In this manner, when, by some good fortune, judicial time is available, crowded dockets can be alleviated.

2. I hereby assign and designate the following Judges of the County Court of Orange County, to-wit:

THE HONORABLE CHERISH ADAMS
THE HONORABLE MARTHA C. ADAMS
THE HONORABLE FAYE L. ALLEN
THE HONORABLE JERAMY C. BEASLEY
THE HONORABLE JEANETTE DEJURAS BIGNEY
THE HONORABLE AMANDA S. BOVA
THE HONORABLE ANDREW L. CAMERON
THE HONORABLE TINA L. CARABALLO
THE HONORABLE AMY J. CARTER
THE HONORABLE ERIC H. DUBOIS
THE HONORABLE BRIAN F. DUCKWORTH
THE HONORABLE HEATHER G. GUARCH
THE HONORABLE STEVE JEWETT
THE HONORABLE DAVID P. JOHNSON
THE HONORABLE ADAM MCGINNIS
THE HONORABLE MARK STEVEN MILLER
THE HONORABLE STEVEN MILLER

THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH J. STARR
THE HONORABLE DOUG WALKER
THE HONORABLE CARLY S. WISH

to proceed to the Circuit Courts in and for Orange and Osceola Counties and to the County Court of Osceola County and thereupon on the **1st day of January, 2026**, and thereafter through the **30th day of June, 2026**, hear, conduct, try and determine the cause or causes which shall be presented to them as temporary Judges of the said Courts, and thereafter dispose, respectively, of all matters considered by them during said dates. These County Judges shall also consider those matters which arise during their assignment as emergency duty judge and other matters assigned to them by the Chief Judge that the Circuit Judges of the Ninth Judicial Circuit are unable to hear or dispose of because of crowded dockets in all levels of the court system. In this manner, when, by some good fortune, judicial time is available, crowded dockets can be alleviated.

3. I hereby assign and designate the following Judges of the County Court of Osceola County, to-wit:

THE HONORABLE CELIA THACKER DORN
THE HONORABLE STEFANIA C. JANCEWICZ
THE HONORABLE DAVID PETERS (*effective June 1, 2026*)
THE HONORABLE JUNA M. PULAYYA
THE HONORABLE GABRIELLE N. SANDERS-MORENCY

to proceed to the Circuit Courts in and for Orange and Osceola Counties and the County Court of Orange County and thereupon on the **1st day of January, 2026**, and thereafter through the **30th day of June, 2026**, hear, conduct, try and determine the cause or causes which shall be presented to them as temporary Judges of the said Courts, and thereafter dispose, respectively, of all matters considered by them during said dates. These County Judges shall also consider those matters which arise during their assignment as emergency duty judge and other matters assigned to them

