

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR
INDIAN RIVER, MARTIN, OKEECHOBEE, AND ST. LUCIE COUNTIES
STATE OF FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 99-14

RE: DIVISION OF COURT CRIMINAL AND COUNTY CIVIL CASES

WHEREAS, the county Judges of St. Lucie have elected to assign two county Judges to the County Criminal Division and one county Judge to the County Civil Division, and it being necessary to establish procedures to divide and assign cases and as Chief Judge, pursuant to Florida Rules of Judicial Adm. 2.050, it is therefore;


ORDERED:

- (A) Effective January 1, 2000, misdemeanor cases shall be divided alphabetically A-K and L-Z. Judge Midelis shall be assigned A-K and Judge Vaughn L-Z. Any Judge transferring from civil to criminal will assume that Judges alphabet assignment.
- (B) Each county Judge shall provide the other two county Judges and the Clerk of the Court of the court dates set for January, 2000 and February, 2000 in order to allow all 3 county Judges to calendar the cases coming before them through December 31, 1999, that must be scheduled for future hearings, etc..
- (C) Civil infraction cases arising out of a criminal traffic charge will remain consolidated with the criminal traffic case.
- (D) All other infraction cases shall be calendared before the traffic magistrate and will be heard at the South County Courthouse/Administration Building.
- (E) In the event that one of the county judges assigned to criminal recuses from a case, the case shall be assigned to the other county judge assigned to the criminal division. If both criminal division judges recuse, the case shall be assigned to the civil division judge. If all 3 recuse, the case will be referred to the Circuit Administrative Judge of the criminal division for assignment.
- (F) All small claims, county civil, and landlord tenant cases shall be assigned to Judge Walsh or any county judge assigned to the county civil division thereafter.

- (G) The Clerk of the Court shall calendar those civil cases to be heard after January 1, 2000, to the South County Courthouse/Administrative Building per the calendar provided by Judge Walsh and any other judge assigned to the county civil division thereafter.
- (H) In the event the judge assigned to the civil division recuses from a case, the Clerk shall assign the recusals alternatively to the judges assigned to the criminal division.
- (I) The civil division county judge shall supervise the civil traffic infraction hearing officer and shall hear all civil infractions involving an accident that involved injury or death, all recusals by the hearing officer, and all cases in which the defendant requests a judge hear the case.
- (J) The two criminal division county judges shall conduct first appearance hearings every 3rd week during their calendared arraignment week. On the 3rd non-county court arraignment week, the 3 circuit judges assigned to the circuit felony division will alternately hear first appearances.

DONE AND ORDERED in quadruplicate at Vero Beach, Indian River County, Florida,

this 1 day of November, 1999.


PAUL B. KANAREK
Chief Judge