THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 9.03 (v 2027-1)

GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS

Effective January 4, 2027

In order to provide for the requirements of the Eighth Judicial Circuit with regard to the assignment of judges, in accordance with Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215,

IT IS ORDERED:

The assignments set forth in this General Assignment Order are reflected on the Eighth Circuit Master Calendars which are published on the website of the Eighth Judicial Circuit and are revised as needed by order of the Chief Judge.

The judicial assignments for the Eighth Judicial Circuit, effective January 4, 2027, are as follows:

CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION ASSIGNMENTS

Judge	County	Division or Assignment
Donna M. Keim, ***Administrative Judge***	Alachua	Circuit Civil Division "CA1", Division "W" (Extraordinary Writs)
	Gilchrist & Union	Circuit Civil, Mortgage Foreclosures[1], Extraordinary Writs
Gloria R. Walker	Alachua	Circuit Civil Division "CA2"
	Baker	Circuit Civil, Mortgage Foreclosures[1], Extraordinary Writs
	Circuit-wide	Division "AP" (Appeals)
George M. Wright	Alachua	Circuit Civil Division "CA3"
	Bradford	Circuit Civil, Mortgage Foreclosures[1], Extraordinary Writs
David P. Kreider	Alachua	Circuit Civil Division "CA4"
	Levy	Circuit Civil, Mortgage Foreclosures[1], Extraordinary Writs
James M. Colaw, ***Chief Judge***	Alachua	Division "MG" Residential Mortgage Foreclosures[1]
Susanne Wilson Bullard	Circuit-wide	Jimmy Ryce Cases (including Alachua County Division "R")

[1] Some cases in this division may be covered by a magistrate or hearing officer with judicial oversight as indicated in the General Magistrate and Hearing Officer Assignments below.

FAMILY AND PROBATE DIVISION ASSIGNMENTS

Judge	County	Division or Assignment
Phillip A. Pena, ***Administrative Judge***	Alachua	Family Division "UFC"[2], Juvenile Delinquency, Juvenile Dependency[1, 3], Family Division "AD" (Adoptions), Alachua County Children's Trust, Truancy, CINS/FINS, Division "RP" (Risk Protection), 1/5 Division "DV" (Domestic Violence) [4]
	Baker and Bradford	Juvenile Delinquency, Truancy (Bradford only)
Kristine Van Vorst	Alachua	Family Division "DR1", 1/5 Division "DV" (Domestic Violence)[4]
	Levy	Family[1], Domestic Violence, Juvenile Dependency[1], Probate and Guardianship[1], Mental Health[1]
Jonathan D. Ramsey	Alachua	Family Division "DR2", 1/5 Division "DV" (Domestic Violence) [4]
	Bradford	Family[1], Domestic Violence, Juvenile Dependency[1], Probate and Guardianship[1], Mental Health[1]
Adam Lee (eff. 1/5/27)	Alachua	Family Division "DR3", 1/5 Division "DV" (Domestic Violence) [4]
	Baker	Family[1], Domestic Violence, Juvenile Dependency[1], Probate and Guardianship[1], Mental Health[1]
Lorelie P. Brannan (eff. 1/1/27)	Alachua	Family Division "DR4", Hague Convention Cases, Family Division "N" (DOR Cases) [1], 1/5 Division "DV" (Domestic Violence) [4]
	Gilchrist & Union	Family[1], Domestic Violence, Juvenile Delinquency (Gilchrist only), Juvenile Dependency[1], Probate and Guardianship[1], Mental Health[1]
James M. Colaw, ***Chief Judge***	Alachua	Family Division "SD"(Simplified Dissolutions)[1], Pro Se Cases Assigned to All DR Divisions[1, 5], Probate[1], Guardianship[1], Mental Health Divisions "Q" and "S"[1, 4], TPR Back-Up
Julie Crews Johnson	Baker	Truancy Court
Luis Bustamante	Levy	Juvenile Delinquency, Truancy Court
Mitchell Bishop	Union	Juvenile Delinquency, Truancy Court, Mental Health

NOTE:

- Cases involving Petitions for Judicial Waiver of Parental Consent for Termination of Pregnancy in Alachua County will be assigned to the Alachua Family Division judges on a rotating basis.

[2] These Unified Family Court cases are family-related cases that are conjoined with a dependency, delinquency, or domestic violence case. All circuit judges and county court judges when acting as circuit judges of the Eighth Judicial Circuit are designated as juvenile court judges for the purposes of Chapters 39 and 985, Florida Statutes, and may conduct detention or shelter hearings as appropriate. A review pursuant to section 39.402(12), Florida Statutes, shall not be required when the shelter hearing was conducted by a juvenile court judge.

[3] Shelter Hearings and TPR Back-up will be rotated among the Alachua Family Division judges, pursuant to the Alachua County Family Master Calendar.

[4] Ex Parte Baker Act and Marchman Act Petitions and Domestic Violence Petitions to be reviewed by Division "DV" Judge on duty pursuant to the Alachua County Family Master Calendar.

[5] In the event a party objects to a case being referred to a General Magistrate or an attorney files a notice of appearance in a pro se case and remains attorney of record, the case may be transferred back to the original division judge.

CIRCUIT CRIMINAL DIVISION ASSIGNMENTS

Judge	County	Division or Assignment
Susanne Wilson Bullard	Alachua	Division I (A-E)
	Gilchrist	Criminal Cases
	Circuit-wide	Jimmy Ryce Cases
Denise R. Ferrero, ***Administrative Judge***	Alachua	Division II (F-K)
	Baker	Criminal Cases
	Circuit-wide	Extraordinary and Unusual Case Compensation (F.S. 27.5304(12)(a))
Sean D. Brewer	Alachua	Division III (L-R)
	Bradford	Criminal Cases
	Circuit-wide	Division VI (Post-Conviction Relief Cases)
Craig C. DeThomasis	Alachua	Division IV (S-Z)
	Levy	Criminal Cases
	Alachua	Juror Show Cause Hearings
James M. Colaw, ***Chief Judge***	Circuit-wide	Felony Trial Back-up
Mitchell Bishop	Union	Criminal Cases, Grand Jury Selection
Julie Crews Johnson	Baker	Grand Jury Selection
D. Tatum Davis	Bradford	Grand Jury Selection
Sheree H. Lancaster	Gilchrist	Grand Jury Selection
Luis Bustamante	Levy	Grand Jury Selection

SPECIALTY COURT ASSIGNMENTS

Judge	County	Division or Assignment
Susanne Wilson Bullard	Alachua	Division V (Felony Forensics)
Susan Miller-Jones	Alachua	Division VII (Felony Adult Drug Court)
Phillip A. Pena	Alachua	Division VIII (Veteran's Treatment Court)
Susan Miller-Jones	Alachua	Division IX (Misdemeanor Mental Health Court)
D. Tatum Davis	Bradford	Mental Health Court
Luis Bustamante	Levy	Mental Health Court

GENERAL MAGISTRATE AND HEARING OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS

The judge assigned to each division or assignment has judicial oversight as indicated above.

Hearing Officer / General Magistrate	County and Division or Assignment
Samuel P. Stafford, ***Director,*** ***Judicial Hearing Officer***	Alachua Division "N" (DOR Child Support Cases) Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union DOR Child Support Cases
Mikel Bradley, ***General Magistrate***	Alachua Division "Q" (Cases Pursuant to 916.107, 393.11, and Chapter 415, Florida Statutes) Alachua Division "S" (Mental Health) State Hospital Cases Pursuant to 916.107, Florida Statutes Alachua County Pro Se Cases Assigned to All DR Divisions Alachua Simplified Dissolutions Alachua County Pro Se Probate Cases
Katherine Floyd, ***General Magistrate***	Circuit-wide Mortgage Foreclosures Circuit-wide Probate (Excluding Alachua County Pro Se Cases) Baker, Gilchrist and Levy Juvenile Dependency Circuit-wide Guardianship
Bridget Baker, ***General Magistrate***	Alachua, Bradford, and Union Juvenile Dependency
Robert Folsom, ***Special Master***	Circuit-wide Belated Appeal Proceedings in Criminal Cases Pursuant to Rule 9.141 (c), Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure

TRIAL WEEK JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Jury trials will be scheduled during the first four weeks of the month. The first trial week will begin on the first Monday of each month.

Trial Week One	
Alachua	Circuit Civil Divisions CA1, CA2, CA3, CA4 Circuit Criminal Division I
Alachua Criminal Back-Up	Alachua County Civil *(Monday and Tuesday only)* County Division V
Baker, Bradford, and Levy	Circuit Civil
Gilchrist	Circuit Criminal, Circuit Civil, County Criminal
Union	Circuit Criminal, Circuit Civil, County Criminal
Trial Week Two	
Alachua	Circuit Criminal Division II County Criminal Division I County Civil Division V
Alachua Criminal Back-Up	Alachua County Civil *(Monday and Tuesday only)* County Division IV
Baker	Circuit Criminal / County Criminal
Trial Week Three	
Alachua	Circuit Criminal Division III County Criminal Division II
Alachua Criminal Back-Up	Alachua County Civil *(Monday and Tuesday only)* County Division V
Bradford	Circuit Criminal / County Criminal
Trial Week Four	
Alachua	Circuit Criminal Division IV County Criminal Division III County Civil Division IV
Alachua Criminal Back-Up	Alachua County Civil *(Monday and Tuesday Only)* County Division IV
Levy	Circuit Criminal / County Criminal

The Master Calendars include schedule changes due to holidays and conferences, which affect the assignments in this section. The Master Calendars are incorporated into this assignment calendar and should be referred to when holidays and judicial conferences arise.

COUNTY DIVISION ASSIGNMENTS FOR ALACHUA COUNTY

Judge	Division or Assignment
Judge Meshon T. Rawls	County Criminal I (A-G), Civil Traffic
Susan Miller-Jones, ***Administrative Judge***	County Criminal II (H-N), Civil Traffic
Joy L. Danne	County Criminal III (O-Z), Civil Traffic
Lua J. Lepianka	County Civil IV, Civil Traffic, Alachua County Criminal Back-up Coverage Weeks 2 & 4 (eff. 3/1/27)(Monday and Tuesday only)
Eric Atria (eff. 1/5/27)	County Civil V, Civil Traffic, Alachua County Criminal Back-up Coverage Weeks 1 & 3 (Monday and Tuesday only)

COUNTY DIVISION ASSIGNMENTS FOR REGIONAL COUNTIES

Judge	County	Division or Assignment
Mitchell Bishop	Union	All County Court Matters
Julie Crews Johnson	Baker	All County Court Matters
D. Tatum Davis	Bradford	All County Court Matters
Sheree H. Lancaster, ***Administrative Judge***	Gilchrist	All County Court Matters
Luis Bustamante	Levy	All County Court Matters

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES AS CIRCUIT JUDGES

Eric Atria (eff. 1/5/27), Mitchell Bishop, Luis Bustamante, Joy L. Danne, D. Tatum Davis, Julie Crews Johnson, Sheree H. Lancaster, Lua J. Lepianka, Susan Miller-Jones, and Meshon T. Rawls, County Court Judges for Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union Counties, are hereby temporarily appointed Circuit Judges for the Eighth Judicial Circuit. Under this appointment, they are vested with all and singular powers and prerogatives conferred by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Florida as a Circuit Judge on a temporary basis to hear, conduct and determine all matters which are presented to them as follows:

1. **Temporary Injunctions** in **Domestic, Repeat, Sexual, Dating violence** and **Stalking** cases under — Chapters 741 (domestic violence), and 784 (repeat, sexual, dating violence, and stalking), Florida Statutes;

2. **Juvenile detention** hearings (delinquency) and **shelter** hearings (dependency) under — Chapters 39 (shelter hearings), 984 (CINS/FINS), and 985 (detention hearings), Florida Statutes;

3. **Mental health and medical treatment**, examination or testing cases arising under — Chapters 381, 384, 390, 392, 393, 394, 397, 415, 765, 916, 945, Florida Statutes;

4. Any matters arising **during duty judge hours**;

5. Orders of **Arrest** and Orders of **Release** for civil contempt upon the **Child Support Enforcement** Hearing Officer's recommendations;

6. Hear and determine all **bail** issues in felony cases at first appearance hearings, even though a circuit judge initially set bail upon the issuance of a capias or a warrant, **except** where a sentence of contempt has already been imposed;

7. **Arrest warrants** and **search warrants**, including petitions, motions or applications; and

8. Conduct **first appearance** for arrestees who are detained pursuant to an order of arrest/writ of bodily attachment for **civil contempt connected with child support enforcement**.

Additionally, to provide prompt disposition of cases and to efficiently administer the courts, all county court judges of the Eighth Judicial Circuit are temporarily appointed as circuit court judges to adjudicate any issue pending in any circuit court case in the Eighth Judicial Circuit.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF CIRCUIT JUDGES AS COUNTY COURT JUDGES

To provide prompt disposition of cases and to efficiently administer the courts, all circuit court judges of the Eighth Judicial Circuit are temporarily appointed to adjudicate any pending issue in any county court case in the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and to otherwise perform the duties accorded by law to county court judges.

ASSIGNMENT OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES TO OTHER COUNTIES WITHIN THE CIRCUIT

Inasmuch as it is necessary for the orderly administration of the County Courts of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, the various County Court Judges of the Circuit are appointed to hear, conduct, and determine matters of county court jurisdiction which are presented to them in all counties of the Circuit.

EXECUTING COURT ORDERS ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER JUDGE

Upon the request of the judicial assistant or court staff, court orders drafted by or for an assigned judge may be executed by another judge with appropriate jurisdiction if the assigned judge is unavailable.

TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENTS OF COUNTY COURT JUDGES TO CIRCUIT DIVISIONS

The following judges are hereby temporarily appointed Circuit Judge to hear, conduct, and determine all matters presented to them in the following division/assignment:

Judges	County	Division or Assignment
Luis Bustamante	Levy	Juvenile Delinquency, Truancy Court
Mitchell Bishop	Union	Mental Health, Juvenile Delinquency, Truancy Court, Circuit Criminal
Susan Miller-Jones	Alachua	Felony Adult Drug Court
Julie Crews Johnson	Baker	Truancy Court

SENIOR JUDGES

When necessary for the orderly administration of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, and for the prompt dispatch of the business of the court, the Chief Judge may assign consenting senior judges to temporary service in any court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, with the authority to hear, conduct, try, determine, and dispose of the cases and matters presented to him or her.

ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE ASSIGNMENTS

The Administrative Judges shall confer regularly with the judges assigned to his or her division and shall confer intermittently with judges whose case assignment includes cases in his or her division and shall confer regularly with the court administrator and with the Chief Judge. The following are the Administrative Judges:

Division	Administrative Judge	Judges Assigned to Division
Circuit Civil Division	Donna M. Keim	David P. Kreider, Gloria R. Walker, and George M. Wright
Circuit Criminal Division	Denise R. Ferrero	Sean D. Brewer, Susanne Wilson Bullard, and Craig C. DeThomasis
Family Division	Phillip A. Pena	Lorelie P. Brannan (eff. 1/1/27), Adam Lee (eff. 1/5/27), Jonathan D. Ramsey, and Kristine Van Vorst
Alachua County Court	Susan Miller-Jones	Eric Atria (eff. 1/5/27), Joy L. Danne, Lua J. Lepianka, and Meshon T. Rawls
Regional County Court	Sheree H. Lancaster	Mitchell Bishop, Luis Bustamante, D. Tatum Davis, and Julie Crews Johnson

EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this order is January 4, 2027.

ORDERED on this 28th day of September 2026.

W. E. Davis

William E. Davis, Chief Judge