

**ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**CASE NO. 17-2
(Court Administration)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 17-34**

**IN RE: GENERAL ASSIGNMENT OF
COUNTY COURT JUDGES TO
TEMPORARILY SERVE AS ACTING
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES.**

WHEREAS, The Florida Supreme Court has recognized that judicial assignment of Acting Circuit Court Judges constitutes a “logical and lawful means to ensure the expeditious and efficient resolution of . . . issues in the Eleventh Circuit.” *Rivkind v. Patterson*, 672 So. 2d 819,821 (Fla. 1996); and

WHEREAS, Rule 2.215(b)(3) of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration places responsibility upon the Chief Judge to develop an administrative plan for the efficient and proper administration of all courts within the circuit, including an administrative organization capable of effecting the prompt disposition of cases;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida under Rule 2.215 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, I hereby designate all Judges of the County Court of Miami-Dade County, Florida, to temporarily serve as Acting Circuit Court Judges to hear, try, conduct, and determine the following cases or matters:

CRIMINAL DIVISION

1. Those cases scheduled for hearing before them as backup Judges.
2. Those driving while under the influence cases filed pursuant to §316.193 (2)(b), Florida Statutes.
3. Those cases where provisions for enhancement of penalties transforms original charge from a first degree misdemeanor to a third degree felony (e.g. §§775.0845(1)(b); 775.085(1)(b), Florida Statutes).
4. Proceedings pursuant to *State v. Arthur*, 390 So. 2d 717 (Fla. 1980).

5. Supplementary proceedings, pursuant to §938.30, Florida Statutes, for the collection of court-imposed financial obligations.
6. Civil commitment proceedings for long term care and treatment of sexually violent predators, pursuant to §§394.910-394.930, Florida Statutes.

FAMILY DIVISION

1. Final hearings of change of name cases and temporary changes of custody due to military service.
2. Paternity cases filed by the State Attorney's Office or Florida Department of Revenue.
3. Cases filed by the Child Support Enforcement Unit of the State Attorney's Office or Florida Department of Revenue.

CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION

Those civil cases filed under §914.24, Florida Statutes, to restrain harassment of victims or witnesses.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DIVISION

The issuance and enforcement of injunctions or protection against domestic violence, repeat violence, dating violence, sexual violence and stalking.

JUVENILE DIVISION

The hearing and conducting of juvenile proceedings, including but not limited to holiday and weekend bond hearings and arraignments.

GENERAL AUTHORIZATION

In addition to the specific matters listed above, I hereby designate all County Court Judges, including those County Court Judges that may be appointed or elected during the time that this Administrative Order is in existence, to temporarily serve as Acting Circuit Court Judges to hear, try conduct, and determine those cases or matters assigned to them by Administrative or Associate Administrative Judges of the various divisions of the Circuit Court, and thereafter dispose of all those matters considered by them during said period.

All Judges will also continue to serve as Judges of the County Court of Miami-Dade County and accept such other assignments as directed by the Administrative or Associate Administrative Judge of the Divisions to which they are regularly assigned.

County Court Judges, under and by virtue of the authority hereof, are hereby vested with all and singular powers conferred by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of Florida upon a Judge of the Circuit and County Courts to which they are hereby assigned.

This Administrative Order shall be effective July 1, 2017, *nunc pro tunc*, through and inclusive of December 31, 2017.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Miami-Dade County, Florida, this 18th day of July, 2017.

**BERTILA SOTO, CHIEF JUDGE
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA**