

FILED
REBECCA PADILLA
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

2021 JUN 17 PM 1:51

BY MG
DEPUTY

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF PINAL**

IN THE MATTER OF ASSIGNMENT AND)
DUTIES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT)
JUDGES, COURT COMMISSIONERS/)
JUDGES PRO TEM (JPT).)
_____)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
No. 2021 - 00040

[Amending AO No. 2020 – 00053]

WHEREAS the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of Arizona in and for Pinal County is the Chief judicial officer of the county and has administrative authority over all courts in Pinal County, pursuant to Article VI of the Arizona Constitution and Arizona Supreme Court Administrative Order No. 2017-79; and

WHEREAS Danielle Harris and Kelly S. Neal III have been appointed to the Pinal County Superior Court bench as Commissioners/Judges Pro tem, modification of the current allocation of resources is necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED affirming all current duties and assignments of all full-time and part-time judicial officers of the Superior Court, except where modified by this Administrative Order, effective July 1, 2021.

A.R.S. §36-2152 PETITIONS (ABORTIONS)

IT IS ORDERED that Judge Daniel A. Washburn (DAW) and Judge Joseph R. Georgini (JRG), or their designee, shall continue to preside over any petitions filed pursuant to A.R.S. §36-2152.

ADOPTIONS

IT IS ORDERED that all adoptions filed by either a private party or attorney (including the Arizona Attorney General or Pinal County Attorney Office) shall be assigned to Judge Joseph R. Georgini (JRG).

CIVIL

IT IS ORDERED that all new Civil files (identified by the prefix (CV), and, any lower court appeal of a civil or protective proceeding, except as otherwise ordered in this AO, shall be assigned to Judge Steve J. Fuller (SJF), Judge Jason R Holmberg (JRH) and Judge Joseph R. Georgini (JRG), as determined by the two terminal digits of each new Civil file, as follows:

00 SJF	10 JRH	20 JRG	30 SJF	40 JRH	50 JRG	60 SJF	70 JRH	80 JRG	90 SJF
01 JRH	11 JRG	21 SJF	31 JRH	41 JRG	51 SJF	61 JRH	71 JRG	81 SJF	91 JRH
02 JRG	12 SJF	22 JRH	32 JRG	42 SJF	52 JRH	62 JRG	72 SJF	82 JRH	92 JRG
03 SJF	13 JRH	23 JRG	33 SJF	43 JRH	53 JRG	63 SJF	73 JRH	83 JRG	93 SJF
04 JRH	14 JRG	24 SJF	34 JRH	44 JRG	54 SJF	64 JRH	74 JRG	84 SJF	94 JRH
05 JRG	15 SJF	25 JRH	35 JRG	45 SJF	55 JRH	65 JRG	75 SJF	85 JRH	95 JRG
06 SJF	16 JRH	26 JRG	36 SJF	46 JRH	56 JRG	66 SJF	76 JRH	86 JRG	96 SJF
07 JRH	17 JRG	27 SJF	37 JRH	47 JRG	57 SJF	67 JRH	77 JRG	87 SJF	97 JRH
08 JRG	18 SJF	28 JRH	38 JRG	48 SJF	58 JRH	68 JRG	78 SJF	88 JRH	98 JRG
09 SJF	19 JRH	29 JRG	39 SJF	49 JRH	59 JRG	69 SJF	79 JRH	89 JRG	99 SJF

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all pending civil cases currently assigned to Judge Stephen F. McCarville (SFM), which are not set for trial prior to December 31, 2021, shall be reassigned to Judge Joseph R. Georgini (JRG). These matters should be reassigned as soon as practical, by whatever method deemed most appropriate by the Presiding Civil Judge, but case transfer shall be completed no later than December 31, 2021.

CRIMINAL

IT IS ORDERED that all new Criminal files (identified by the prefix CR), except for those matters assigned to specialty courts, such as "Veteran's Court"; "Drug Court" and "Early Disposition Court", shall be assigned to Judge R. Carter Olson (RCO), Judge Delia R. Neal (DRN), Judge Christopher J. O'Neil (CJO) and Judge Patrick K. Gard (PKG), as periodically determined by separate Order of the Presiding Criminal Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all new quasi-criminal/civil cases in which the Plaintiff is in custody of the ADOC or other correctional facility or jail, including Habeas Corpus and civil rights litigation; Applications For Restoration of Rights; Expungement of Marijuana Conviction under Proposition 207; and, all lower court appeals of criminal or traffic matters, filed on or after July 1, 2021, shall be assigned to Judge R. Carter Olson (RCO), Judge Delia R. Neal (DRN), Judge Christopher J. O'Neil (CJO), and Judge

Patrick K. Gard (PKG), as determined by the two terminal digits of each case as follows:

00 RCO	10 PKG	20 RCO	30 PKG	40 RCO	50 PKG	60 RCO	70 PKG	80 RCO	90 PKG
01 DRN	11 CJO	21 DRN	31 CJO	41 DRN	51 CJO	61 DRN	71 CJO	81 DRN	91 CJO
02 PKG	12 RCO	22 PKG	32 RCO	42 PKG	52 RCO	62 PKG	72 RCO	82 PKG	92 RCO
03 CJO	13 DRN	23 CJO	33 DRN	43 CJO	53 DRN	63 CJO	73 DRN	83 CJO	93 DRN
04 RCO	14 PKG	24 RCO	34 PKG	44 RCO	54 PKG	64 RCO	74 PKG	84 RCO	94 PKG
05 DRN	15 CJO	25 DRN	35 CJO	45 DRN	55 CJO	65 DRN	75 CJO	85 DRN	95 CJO
06 PKG	16 RCO	26 PKG	36 RCO	46 PKG	56 RCO	66 PKG	76 RCO	86 PKG	96 RCO
07 CJO	17 DRN	27 CJO	37 DRN	47 CJO	57 DRN	67 CJO	77 DRN	87 CJO	97 DRN
08 RCO	18 PKG	28 RCO	38 PKG	48 RCO	58 PKG	68 RCO	78 PKG	88 RCO	98 PKG
09 DRN	19 CJO	29 DRN	39 CJO	49 DRN	59 CJO	69 DRN	79 CJO	89 DRN	99 CJO

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that other routine filings by inmates, including but not limited to torts; violation of civil rights (42 USC §1983 actions) and requests for injunctive or declaratory relief, are assigned to the Civil Bench pursuant to the matrix above, notwithstanding the Plaintiff's status as an inmate.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all matters assigned to the arraignment calendar shall be heard by Judge Danielle Harris commencing August 9, 2021; and, all matters assigned to "Early Disposition Court"; and, Probation and Restoration Court ("PRC") shall continue to be heard by Judge Matthew S. Reed (MSR).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all criminal cases in which the competency and/or restoration of the defendant is at issue pursuant to Rule 11 of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure, filed on or after July 1, 2021, except those matters assigned to the Mental Health/ Veterans Treatment Court established by AO201500057, shall be heard by the assigned criminal judge using the two terminal digits of the case number and the criminal assignment matrix. Earlier Applications are not reassigned by this paragraph.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Rule 32 Petitions for Post-Conviction Relief shall be assigned to Judge R. Carter Olson (RCO), Judge Delia R. Neal (DRN), Judge Christopher J. O'Neil (CJO) and Judge Patrick K. Gard (PKG), as periodically determined by separate Order of the Presiding Criminal Judge, except that if the judicial officer who heard the criminal matter is still on the Bench, that petition will be assigned to them.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all new *ex parte* motions filed in criminal matters on or after July 1, 2021, shall be assigned to Judge Jason H. Holmberg.

FAMILY

IT IS ORDERED that Judge Joseph R. Georgini (JRG) shall remain the Presiding Family Law Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all pending domestic relation cases that have either been open for 240 days or less, and are not set for a hearing before December 1, 2021, (except those in which the judge has entered temporary orders) currently assigned to Judge Barbara A. Hazel (BAH) shall be reassigned to Judge Lawrence W. Wharton (LWW). These matters should be reassigned as soon as practical, by whatever method deemed most appropriate by the Presiding Family Law Judge, but case transfer shall be completed no later than December 31, 2021.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all new Family Law or Domestic Relations cases (identified by the prefix DO), shall be assigned to the Hon. Joseph R. Georgini (JRG); Karen F. Palmer (KFP); Judge Lawrence W. Wharton (LWW); and, Kelly S. Neal (KSN) as determined by the two terminal digits of each Domestic Relations file as follows:

00 KSN	10 KSN	20 KSN	30 KSN	40 KSN	50 KSN	60 KSN	70 KSN	80 KSN	90 KSN
01 KFP	11 LWW	21 JRG	31 KFP	41 LWW	51 JRG	61 KFP	71 LWW	81 JRG	91 KFP
02 LWW	12 JRG	22 KFP	32 LWW	42 JRG	52 KFP	62 LWW	72 JRG	82 KFP	92 LWW
03 JRG	13 KFP	23 LWW	33 JRG	43 KFP	53 LWW	63 JRG	73 KFP	83 LWW	93 JRG
04 KFP	14 LWW	24 JRG	34 KFP	44 LWW	54 JRG	64 KFP	74 LWW	84 JRG	94 KFP
05 WW	15 JRG	25 KFP	35 LWW	45 JRG	55 KFP	65 LWW	75 JRG	85 KFP	95 LWW
06 JRG	16 KFP	26 LWW	36 JRG	46 KFP	56 LWW	66 JRG	76 KFP	86 LWW	96 JRG
07 KFP	17 LWW	27 JRG	37 KFP	47 LWW	57 JRG	67 KFP	77 LWW	87 JRG	97 KFP
08 WW	18 JRG	28 KFP	38 LWW	48 JRG	58 KFP	68 LWW	78 JRG	88 KFP	98 LWW
09 JRG	19 KFP	29 LWW	39 JRG	49 KFP	59 LWW	69 JRG	79 KFP	89 LWW	99 JRG

FAMILY LAW COMMISSIONER/IVD

IT IS ORDERED that the all Family Law or Domestic Relations cases (identified by the prefix DO), which proceed to a default hearing; all consent decrees; and, any case to establish, enforce or modify child support that the Arizona Attorney General Office is the attorney of record, shall continue to be heard by Judge Pro-tem Kelly S. Neal (KSN) on a designated "Family Law Commissioner" calendar.

GUARDIANSHIP/CONSERVATORSHIP/PROBATE

IT IS ORDERED that all Guardianship and/or Conservatorship cases (identified by the prefix GC), filed pursuant to Title 14 of the Arizona Revised Statutes shall continue to be heard by Judge Kevin D. White (KDW) on the designated Guardianship/Conservatorship calendar.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Probate cases (identified by the prefix PB), filed pursuant to Title 14 of the Arizona Revised Statutes shall also be assigned to the Judge Kevin D. White (KDW).

JUVENILE DEPENDENCY/DELINQUENCY

IT IS ORDERED that Judge Daniel A. Washburn (DAW) and Judge Jessica Kristine-Hernandez Dixon (JKHD) shall preside over all dependency matters currently assigned to them, including pre-protective hearings every Monday and Friday, respectively. All matters currently assigned to Judge DeLana Fuller (DRF) shall be assigned to Judge Barbara A. Hazel (BAH), and Judge Barbara A. Hazel shall conduct pre-protective hearing on Wednesdays. All three judges shall be assigned an equal number of new cases. The objective, to the fullest extent possible and practical, is for the assigned Dependency Superior Court Judge to maintain equal caseloads and address all issues including pre-protective placement and permanency and thereby achieve the earliest appropriate adjudication of such matters, which is consistent with the best interests of the child.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Judge Pro-tem Jessica Kristine-Hernandez Dixon (JHD) shall continue to preside over all delinquency matters.

MENTAL HEALTH

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Mental Health cases (identified by the prefix MH), pursuant to A.R.S § 36-501; shall continue to be heard by Judge Matthew S. Reed (MSR).

SEVERANCES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all Severance matters filed by the Arizona Attorney General, and/or arising from a Dependency matter, shall be heard by the assigned dependency judge. All new private severances (identified by the prefix SV), filed on or after November 1, 2020, shall be assigned to Judge Daniel A. Washburn (DAW); Judge Barbara A. Hazel (BAH); and Judge Jessica Kristine-Hernandez Dixon (JHD), as determined by the two terminal digits of each new Severance file, as follows:

00 DAW	10 BAH	20 JHD	30 DAW	40 BAH	50 JHD	60 DAW	70 BAH	80 JHD	90 DAW
01 BAH	11 JHD	21 DAW	31 BAH	41 JHD	51 DAW	61 BAH	71 JHD	81 DAW	91 BAH
02 JHD	12 DAW	22 BAH	32 JHD	42 DAW	52 BAH	62 JHD	72 DAW	82 BAH	92 JHD
03 DAW	13 BAH	23 JHD	33 DAW	43 BAH	53 JHD	63 DAW	73 BAH	83 JHD	93 DAW
04 BAH	14 JHD	24 DAW	34 BAH	44 JHD	54 DAW	64 BAH	74 JHD	84 DAW	94 BAH
05 JHD	15 DAW	25 BAH	35 JHD	45 DAW	55 BAH	65 JHD	75 DAW	85 BAH	95 JHD
06 DAW	16 BAH	26 JHD	36 DAW	46 BAH	56 JHD	66 DAW	76 BAH	86 JHD	96 DAW
07 BAH	17 JHD	27 DAW	37 BAH	47 JHD	57 DAW	67 BAH	77 JHD	87 DAW	97 BAH
08 JHD	18 DAW	28 BAH	38 JHD	48 DAW	58 BAH	68 JHD	78 DAW	88 BAH	98 JHD
09 DAW	19 BAH	29 JHD	39 DAW	49 BAH	59 JHD	69 DAW	79 BAH	89 JHD	99 DAW

SPECIALTY COURTS

IT IS ORDERED that all specialty courts, (except “Early Disposition Court” and Probation Revocation Court”) such as “Drug Court”; “Mental Health Court” “; Domestic Violence Court”; “Restitution Court” and, “Veteran’s Court” shall be heard by Judge Danielle Harris (DH).

DESIGNATION OF PRESIDING JUDGES

IT IS ORDERED delegating the authority of the Presiding Judge to the following jurists as presiding judges of their respective benches:

- Hon. Jason H. Holmberg, Civil Presiding Judge
- Hon. R. Carter Olson, Criminal Presiding Judge
- Hon. Daniel Washburn, Juvenile Presiding Judge
- Hon. Joseph R. Georgini, Family Law Presiding Judge

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Judge for each bench is delegated general authority over their bench, except as modified or limited by Administrative Order or direction by the Presiding Judge, and shall specifically supervise staff judges that are assigned to the bench, coordinate coverage, reassign cases within the bench as required, and provide a monthly assignment report to the Presiding Judge.

SUPPORT STAFF FOR COMMISSIONERS/PRO TEMS

The Superior Court has a serious shortage of support staff, which is not expected to change in the foreseeable future. For this reason, assigned Superior Court Judges shall continue to provide staff support, as needed, when their cases are heard by Commissioners/JPT. In all other circumstances, the Presiding Judge shall allocate the limited support staff that reports to the Presiding Judge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the regularly assigned Commissioners/JPT shall be assigned the following Division numbers:

Commissioner/JPT Larry Wharton,	Division 106
Commissioner/JPT Barbara Hazel,	Division 113
Commissioner/JPT Karen Palmer,	Division 114
Commissioner/JPT Jessica K. Dixon,	Division 115
Commissioner/JPT Matthew Reed,	Division 116
Commissioner/JPT Kelly S. Neal,	Division 117
Commissioner/JPT Danielle Harris,	Division 118

All future Commissioners/JPT, who have regularly scheduled duties, shall be assigned a sequential Division number that continues this series.

Dated this 17th **day of June 2021**


Honorable Stephen F. McCarville,
Presiding Judge

Original: Clerk of the Superior Court
Copies: Judges, Pinal County
Kent Volkmer, Pinal County Attorney
Rebecca Padilla, Clerk of the Court
Leo Lew, Interim County Manager
Catherine Whelan, Indigent Defense Services
Kate Milewski, Office of Public Defender
Todd Zweig, Court Administration
Rod McKone, Adult Probation Department
David Rodriguez, Chief Criminal Deputy County Attorney
Victims' Assistance Program
Odette Apodaca, Chief Deputy
Nikki Felix, Operations Director