

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2017-15**

**RE: Judicial Assignments for 2018**

**WHEREAS**, Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.215 states that “[t]he chief judge shall assign judges to the courts and divisions, and shall determine the length of each assignment”;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority conferred by Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.215, it is **ORDERED, effective January 2, 2018**, the assignments for the judges in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit are as follows:

**INDIAN RIVER COUNTY**

**Honorable Cynthia L. Cox:**

All Felony Cases; Mental Health Court/Veterans’ Court

**Honorable Victoria L. Griffin:**

All Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency Cases including Detention and Shelter Hearings daily; All Probate and Guardianship Cases; Felony, Delinquency and Dependency Drug Court Cases; All CINS/FINS Cases; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Cases; Member of the Indian River County Children’s Services Council

**Honorable Paul B. Kanarek:**

All Civil Cases

**Honorable Elizabeth A. Metzger:**

Assist with Drug Courts and Probate and Guardianship Cases

**Honorable Robert L. Pegg:**

All Domestic Relations Cases including Injunctions for Protection

**Honorable David C. Morgan:**

50% of Indian River County Court Cases

**Honorable Joe A. Wild:**

50% of Indian River County Court Cases

**MARTIN COUNTY**

**Honorable Barbara W. Bronis:**

All Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency Cases including Detention and Shelter Hearings daily; All Civil Non-Jury Cases (from time of filing), excluding Residential Mortgage

Foreclosure Cases; All Jimmy Ryce Cases; Probate and Guardianship Cases; Substance Abuse and Mental Health Cases

**Honorable Steven J. Levin:**

Felony Drug Court

**Honorable Michael J. McNicholas:**

All Domestic Relations Cases including Injunctions for Protection; Member of the Martin County Children's Services Council

**Honorable Elizabeth A. Metzger:**

Mental Health Court; Assist with Felony, Family, Civil, Juvenile, Probate and Guardianship Divisions

**Honorable Lawrence Mirman:**

All Felony Cases

**Honorable William L. Roby:**

All Civil Jury Trial Cases and Mortgage Foreclosure Cases; Assist with Civil Non-Jury Cases

**Honorable Curtis L. Disque:**

One-third of Martin County Court Cases; Assist with Felony Cases; Assist with Juvenile Delinquency Cases; Juvenile Drug Court; Supervision of Traffic Magistrates for all Civil Traffic matters

**Honorable Kathleen H. Roberts:**

One-third of Martin County Court Cases; Martin County Election Canvassing Board

**Honorable Darren Steele:**

One-third of Martin County Court Cases; Assist with Felony Cases

**OKEECHOBEE COUNTY**

**Honorable Laurie E. Buchanan:**

All Civil Cases; All Probate and Guardianship Cases; Assist with Felony Cases; All Juvenile Dependency Cases including Shelter Hearings daily; Assist with St. Lucie County Residential Foreclosure Cases

**Honorable Michael C. Heisey:**

All Domestic Relations Cases including Injunctions for Protection; All Felony Cases; All Substance Abuse and Mental Health Cases; Assist with St. Lucie County Residential Foreclosure Cases

**Honorable Elizabeth A. Metzger:**

Mental Health Court

**Honorable Jerald D. Bryant:**

All Okeechobee County Court Cases; All Juvenile Delinquency Cases, including Detention Hearings daily; Truancy Court; Felony, Misdemeanor and Juvenile Drug Court; Member of Okeechobee County Children's Services Council

**ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

**Honorable Sherwood Bauer, Jr.:**

50% of Domestic Relations Cases including Injunctions for Protection (L-Z of alphabet); Assist Juvenile Division with Detention and Shelter Hearings as Juvenile Judge

**Honorable Robert E. Belanger:**

All Non-Jury Civil Cases, including Residential Mortgage Foreclosures; Weekday First Appearance Hearings (in rotation with County Court Judges); All Veterans' Court Cases

**Honorable Cynthia L. Cox:**

Assist with Mental Health Court

**Honorable Janet C. Croom:**

All Civil Jury Trial Cases; All Probate and Guardianship Cases; All Substance Abuse and Mental Health Cases

**Honorable James W. McCann:**

All Juvenile Dependency and Delinquency Cases including Shelter and Detention Hearings daily; Member of St. Lucie County Children's Services Council

**Honorable Steven J. Levin:**

One-third of Felony Cases; Adult Drug Court; Juvenile Drug Court

**Honorable Dan L. Vaughn:**

One-third of Felony Cases

**Honorable Elizabeth A. Metzger:**

Assist with Mental Health Court, Drug Court, Family, Felony, Civil and Juvenile Divisions

**Honorable Charles A. Schwab:**

50% of Domestic Relations Cases including Injunctions for Protection (A-K of alphabet); Assist Juvenile Division with Detention and Shelter Hearings as Juvenile Judge

**Honorable Gary L. Sweet:**

One-third of Felony Cases

**Honorable Edmond W. Alonzo:**

All County Court Civil Cases and Landlord/Tenant Cases; All Traffic Infractions involving serious injury or death; All Traffic Magistrate recusals and/or disqualifications; 30% of Small Claim Cases including Replevin

**Honorable Daryl Isenhower:**

20% of County Court Criminal Cases (A-C of alphabet); 70% of Small Claims Cases including Replevin; All Collections Court

**Honorable Kathryn Nelson:**

40% of County Court Criminal Cases (Mf-Z of alphabet); St. Lucie County Misdemeanor Drug Court

**Honorable Philip J. Yacucci:**

40% of County Court Criminal Cases (D-Me of alphabet); Domestic Violence Diversion Program (Criminal/DVDP); All County Ordinance Cases

**WEEKEND FIRST APPEARANCE**

All Circuit Court Judges assigned to St. Lucie County and Okeechobee County will be responsible, with the St. Lucie County Court Judges, for Weekend/Holiday First Appearances, Shelter Hearings, and Detention Hearings in St. Lucie County.

All Circuit Court Judges assigned to Indian River County will be responsible, in rotation with Indian River County Judges, for Weekend/Holiday First Appearances and Shelter Hearings in Indian River County.

All Circuit Court Judges assigned to Martin County will be responsible, in rotation with Martin County Judges, for Weekend/Holiday First Appearances and Shelter Hearings in Martin County.

All Circuit Court Judges assigned to Martin County and Indian River County will be responsible, in rotation with the Okeechobee County Judge, for Weekend/Holiday First Appearances and Shelter Hearings in Okeechobee County. Any County Court Judge in Martin and Indian River County may choose to assist with the Weekend First Appearances and Shelter Hearings in Okeechobee County.

**ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES**

Honorable Steven J. Levin, Drug Court  
Honorable Janet C. Croom, Civil Division  
Honorable Gary L. Sweet, Criminal Division  
Honorable Robert E. Belanger, Veterans' Court  
Honorable Cynthia L. Cox, Mental Health Court  
Honorable Lawrence M. Mirman, Appellate Division

Honorable Charles Schwab, Domestic Relations Division/Unified Family Court<sup>1</sup>

**APPELLATE DIVISION**

All Circuit and County Judges

**PROGRAM ASSIGNMENTS-JUDICIAL CHAIRPERSON**

FAMILY LAW ADVISORY GROUP .....Judge Schwab-St. Lucie  
Judge McNicholas-Martin  
Judge Pegg – Indian River  
Judge Heisey-Okeechobee

PRO BONO COMMITTEE.....Judge Schwab

BENCH/BAR PROFESSIONALISM.....Judge Sweet

JURY MANAGEMENT.....Judge Wild

SMALL CLAIMS MEDIATION..... Judge Disque

**TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE**

Judge Morgan, Chair

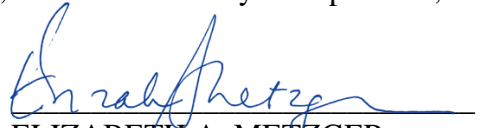
Members: Judge Belanger, Judge Bronis, Judge Buchanan, Judge Kanarek,  
Judge Levin, Judge Metzger, Judge Mirman, Judge Roby

**FUTURE GROWTH AND LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Judge Metzger, Chair

Members: Judge Bauer, Judge Belanger, Judge Mirman, Judge Morgan,  
Judge Schwab, Judge Yacucci

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Stuart, Martin County, Florida this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September,  
2017.

  
ELIZABETH A. METZGER  
Chief Judge

Copies furnished to:  
All Judges in the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
All Clerks of Court in the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
All Law Libraries in the 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit  
State Attorney's Office  
Public Defender's Office

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<sup>1</sup> Includes Juvenile Division

Sheriffs' Departments  
Police Departments  
Media