

STATE OF MICHIGAN



**SAGINAW COUNTY TRIAL COURT
111 South Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602-2086**

Telephone (989) 790-5470

Facsimile (989) 793-8180

ANDRÉ R. BORRELLO	JULIE A. GAFKAY CHIEF CIRCUIT JUDGE	ELIAN FICHTNER
BRITTANY A. DICKEN	TERRY I. CLARK CHIEF DISTRICT JUDGE	A.T. FRANK
DARNELL JACKSON	PATRICK J. MCGRAW CHIEF PROBATE JUDGE	DAVID D. HOFFMAN
BARBARA L. METER		M. RANDALL JURRENS
MANVEL TRICE III		

Local Administrative Order

10 th Circuit Court	2024 – 02J
Saginaw Probate Court	2024 – 01J
70 th District Court	2024 – 01J

Rescinds Local Administrative Order Numbers

10 th Circuit Court	2023 – 02J
Saginaw Probate Court	2023 – 01J
70 th District Court	2023 – 04J

ASSIGNMENT OF CASES

IT IS ORDERED:

This administrative order is issued in accordance with MCR 8.111(B) and 8.112.

The 10th Circuit Court, Saginaw County Probate Court, and the 70th District Court assigns cases according to MCR 8.111(B), except as follows:

Circuit Court Family Division

In accordance with the Family Court Plan of the 10th Circuit Court, assignment of cases is as follows:

1. Judge Barbara L. Meter is assigned all new cases regarding Juvenile proceedings under Juvenile Code, all proceedings under the Adoption Code, and all other Family Division – Miscellaneous proceedings, except Name Change.
2. Judge Patrick J. McGraw is assigned all new cases regarding Name Change and Personal Protection Orders (including violation proceedings).
3. Judge Brittany A. Dicken is assigned all cases regarding Divorce with Minor Children, Divorce without Minor Children, Paternity, and other Support cases until adjudication is determined. Once adjudicated, the case will be reassigned to Judge Brittany A. Dicken to address any post-adjudication matters; this includes cases previously assigned to other judges.
4. Custody, UIFSA, Assist with Discovery and Registration of Income Withholding Orders and other Domestic Relations matters and Ancillary proceedings, and are all assigned to Judge Brittany A. Dicken.
5. Judge Brittany A. Dicken is assigned extreme risk protection order (ERPO) cases. Cases initiated by a verbal request from a law enforcement officer for an Immediate Emergency Extreme Risk Protection Order pursuant to MCL 691.1807(4), shall be assigned to the Judge who took the verbal request.

In the event of disqualification of a Family Division Judge, the case shall be transferred to the Chief Judge as provided in MCR 8.111(C), for reassignment.

Circuit Court Non-Family and Business Court

1. All Civil cases, except civil appeals and eligible Business Court cases, are assigned by lot to the other three Circuit Judges, excluding Judge Brittany A. Dicken and Judge Darnell Jackson. On occasion, with the approval of the Probate Judge, civil or criminal cases may be reassigned to Judge Patrick J. McGraw to assist with docket control.

2. All Criminal cases are assigned by lot to Judge Manvel Trice III, Judge Darnell Jackson, and Judge André Borrello. On occasion, with approval of the Chief Circuit Court Judge, criminal cases may be reassigned to Judge Julie A. Gafkay to assist with docket control and when appropriate for the efficient administration of justice.
 - i. To assist with docket control of Circuit Court felony cases, specified classes of cases are randomly assigned to participating District Court Judges at the time the case is filed, or as soon thereafter as practicable.
 - ii. So long as there is demonstrable need, the participating District Court Judges, who are assigned to the Circuit Court by the State Court Administrative Office, are assigned by lot any felony criminal case in which the higher charge is any of the following:
 - a. Operating While Intoxicated (or other charge under MCL 257.625)
 - b. Domestic Violence
3. District Court Judge M. Randall Jurens is assigned all eligible Business Court cases pursuant to MCL 600.8031 and the 10th Circuit Court Local Administrative Order, Plan for the Creation of a Specialized Business Court.
4. All new cases regarding Appeals, Administrative Review, Superintending Control and Extraordinary Writs are assigned by lot to the other three Circuit Judges, excluding Judge Brittany A. Dicken and Judge Darnell Jackson.

Probate Court

All new Probate Court Cases are assigned to Judge Patrick J. McGraw.

District Court

All new District Court cases are assigned by lot to the five District Court Judges.

Problem Solving Courts

In accordance with Saginaw County's LAOs regarding the establishment of each problem solving docket, cases will be reassigned as follows:

1. Adult Drug Treatment Court (Saginaw Recovery Court)
All felony and misdemeanor drug cases accepted into Saginaw County's Adult Drug Treatment Court are assigned to Judge Julie A. Gafkay (Females) and Judge André Borrello (Males).

2. **Mental Health Treatment Court**
All felony, misdemeanor, and juvenile delinquency cases accepted into Saginaw County's Mental Health Treatment Court are reassigned to Judge A. T. Frank or Judge Elian Fichtner.
3. **Veterans Treatment Court**
All felony and misdemeanor cases accepted into Saginaw County's Veterans Treatment court are reassigned to Judge David D. Hoffman.
4. **Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program (SSSPP)**
All felony and misdemeanor cases accepted into Saginaw County's SSSPP Court are reassigned to Judge Patrick J. McGraw and Judge Darnell Jackson.
5. **Structured Treatment and Recovery (STAR)**
All felony and misdemeanor cases accepted into Saginaw County's Structured Treatment and Recovery Court are reassigned to Judge Manvel Trice, III.

Administrative Consolidation of Problem Solving Court Participants' Other Cases

On occasion, a participant may have additional court matters that do not fall under the scope of a Problem Solving Court. There are times when it may be in the best interest of the participant to have these additional court matters handled by a Judge who conducts a Problem Solving Court. This will allow for improved case flow management, coordination of efforts, enhanced service to the participant, and increased adherence to the respective Problem Solving Court model. Reassignment will be as follows:

1. The Judge, Clerk, or Caseworker for a Problem Solving Court will consult with the originating Judge and will then notify the Court Administrator's office of a transfer request. The Court Administrator's office will then coordinate with the originating Court and respective Administrator to assure a streamlined transfer of the case to the applicable Problem Solving Court docket.

Effective Date

This plan shall take effect upon approval of the State Court Administrative Office.

2/20/2021

Date



Hon. Julie A. Gafkay, Chief Judge Circuit Court

2/20/24

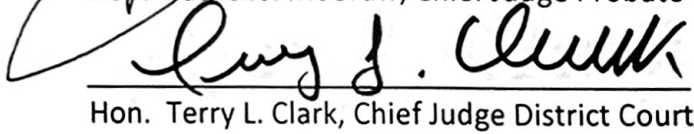
Date



Hon. Patrick J. McGraw, Chief Judge Probate Court

02-20-2024

Date



Hon. Terry L. Clark, Chief Judge District Court