

IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE No. SRCAD 2023-02

RE: PROCEDURES FOR RECUSALS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

AMENDS SRCAD 2021-01

WHEREAS, SRCAD 2021-01, *Procedures for Recusals and Disqualifications*, established procedures reassigning cases due to a recusal or disqualification *within* Santa Rosa County, and

WHEREAS, recently appointed Circuit Judge Steven C. Warrick now presides over Division D (Dependency/Delinquency/Probate/Guardianship), and

WHEREAS, Judge Warrick may have known conflicts arising from his previous representation as an attorney, which would require him to recuse/disqualify from a case, it is therefore,

ORDERED, effective immediately, the Clerk of Court shall utilize the following procedures when reassigning Division D cases due to a recusal or disqualification, within Santa Rosa County:

Division D Dependency Cases – Any Dependency case wherein the Division D judge disqualifies/recuses, the case shall be reassigned to Circuit Judge J. Scott Duncan. Should Judge Duncan disqualify/recuse, the case shall be randomly reassigned among the remaining circuit judges. If all circuit judges disqualify/recuse, the case shall be randomly reassigned among the county judges.

Division D Delinquency – Any Delinquency case wherein the Division D judge disqualifies/recuses, the case shall be reassigned to Circuit Judge Clifton Drake. Should Judge Drake disqualify/recuse, the case shall be randomly reassigned among the remaining circuit judges. If all circuit judges disqualify/recuse, the case shall be randomly reassigned among the county judges.

Division D (Probate/Guardianship) – Any Probate/Guardianship case wherein the Division D judge disqualifies/recuses, the case shall be reassigned to Circuit Judge Darlene F. Dickey. Should Judge Dickey disqualify/recuse, the case shall be randomly reassigned among the remaining circuit judges. If all circuit judges disqualify/recuse, the case shall be randomly reassigned among the county judges.

Upon disqualification/recusal of all judges in Santa Rosa County, and, when randomly reassigning cases received from another county, the Clerk of Court shall follow the procedures as outlined in Administrative Order 2012-58.

This administrative directive amending SRCAD 2021-01 shall remain in effect until further order of the Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, Milton, Florida, this the 5th day of June, 2023.

/S/ J. SCOTT DUNCAN
J. SCOTT DUNCAN
ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

Copies to:

The Honorable John L. Miller, Chief Judge
All Judges, Santa Rosa County
Donald C. Spencer, Clerk of Court, Santa Rosa County
Kasey Watson, Trial Court Administrator
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