

# ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN—18 W JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

This administrative plan has been prepared to address changes that have occurred since the counties in this judicial circuit lost their respective local district judges. Since January 1, 2021 the people of this judicial circuit have been served by one State District Court Judge (24<sup>th</sup> District) rather than two local district judges. The 24<sup>th</sup> State District Court Judge also serves Scott County which is a part of the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

The State District Court Judge and the Circuit Judge spoke July 10, 2023 to confirm our agreement with this administrative plan.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 18 REFERRALS FROM CIRCUIT COURT.

Has the circuit court referred matters pursuant to Administrative Order No. 18 to be heard by a state district judge?

Yes

## Participating State District Judges      Assignment and Allocation of Cases

The state district judges participating in referrals from the circuit court include:

<u>Name</u>	<u>District Court Judicial District</u>	<u>Assignment and Allocation of Cases</u>
Danny Thrailkill	24 <sup>th</sup> State Court District	Criminal cases are assigned when District Court is in session. Others are assigned when Circuit Judge is unavailable or by consent of the parties.

## Matters Subject to Reference

The following matters are referred from circuit court to state district court and have been included in the administrative plan for the circuit court and the administrative plan for the district court:

Consent Jurisdiction. Upon the consent of all parties and approval by the circuit judge originally assigned, the following types of cases are referred from circuit court:

Civil

Domestic Relations

Probate

Protective Orders.

Forcible Entry and Detainers I Unlawful Detainer.

Other Matters of an Emergency or Uncontested Nature Pending in Civil,



## Specialty Court Dockets or Programs

Does a district court judge preside over a circuit court specialty court program?

- Yes x No

The following specialty courts are conducted: Drug Courts.

### Type of Specialty Court Location

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Montgomery County Drug Court	225 Fairgrounds Road, Mount Ida, AR
Polk County Drug Court	507 Church Ave., Mena, AR

a. Type of specialty docket and description of its operation:

The 18<sup>th</sup> West Judicial Circuit operates Drug Court in Montgomery and Polk Counties. It is a post-adjudication Drug Court Program. Each participant is required to enter a guilty or no contest plea and is placed on supervised probation under the supervision of a certified probation officer through Arkansas Community Correction. As a condition of the plea, each participant agrees to successfully complete the Drug Court Program and pay a \$600 program fee. Following their plea, each participant signs an agreement which sets out the Drug Court rules and requirements. Failure to comply with the rules and requirements may result in sanctions including, verbal warnings, essay writing, community service, jail sanctions, court ordered in-patient rehabilitation, or time at the Department of Community Correction.

Cases are court reviewed semi-monthly for phase one participants. Participants in upper phases are reviewed monthly. The drug court treatment team staffs its cases prior to all court reviews. The Drug Court Program adheres to National Association of Drug Court Professionals Best Practice Standards.

- b. Statutory or legal authority on which it is based: Arkansas Code Annotated section 16-98-301 et seq.
- c. The Drug Court Program conforms to all applicable sentencing laws including fines, fees, costs and assessments.
- d. The Drug Court Team involves two counselors and one probation officer provided by DCC. The team consists of the counselors, probation officer, the Prosecuting Attorney or her designee, the Public Defender, and the Circuit Judge. Also, representatives from law enforcement, mental health professionals, and adult education sometimes attend staffing. Each of these persons was consulted in the formation of the program and its operation. Scheduling was coordinated for maximum attendance. All necessary resources are available.

- e. Sources of funding: Program expenses are provided from the drug court fee collected from each participant. These funds are expended under county budgetary procedures. From time to time, drug screening expenses have been paid by the Prosecuting Attorney's Drug Control Fund. Additional resources have been obtained from AOC and DCC when available.