

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
TWENTY-FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
CRAWFORD COUNTY
ALL DIVISIONS
AMENDED BEGINNING 01/01/2021

The following is submitted by the elected Judges of the Twenty-First Judicial District as the Administrative Plan to be approved by the Arkansas Supreme Court to become effective January 1, 2021, and thereafter according to the rules of the Supreme Court unless otherwise amended.

The following method of new case assignment shall be used by the Clerks of the Twenty-First Judicial District:

The Twenty-First Judicial District consist of Crawford County. There are three Circuit Judges serving this District, Gary R. Cottrell, Division One, Judge Mike Medlock, Division Two and Judge Marc McCune, Division Three.

ASSIGNMENTS

The following case assignments shall be effective beginning January 1, 2021.

JUVENILE:

All Juvenile cases shall be assigned to Division Two. Juvenile cases may be assigned to Division Three as may be necessary for the administration of Justice and with the agreement of the presiding Judges.

PROBATE DIVISION:

All probate cases shall be assigned to Division Two except all civil commitments will be assigned to Division One and Adult Protective services cases shall be assigned to Division Three.

CIVIL DIVISION:

All new Civil Division cases filings are to be assigned as follows:

40% to Division One

40% to Division Two

20% to Division Three

CRIMINAL DIVISION:

All new Criminal Division cases are to be assigned as follows:

50% of all Criminal Cases and misdemeanor appeals shall be assigned to Division One.

25% of all Criminal Cases and misdemeanor appeals shall be assigned to Division Two.

25% of all Criminal Cases and misdemeanor appeals shall be assigned to Division Three

Division I shall conduct all first appearance and arraignment hearings unless otherwise agreed.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION:

All Domestic Relations Division cases are to be assigned as follows:

80% of all new cases shall be assigned to Division Three

20% of all new cases shall be assigned to Division One

DRUG COURT: The Division One Circuit Judge shall preside over the Drug Court. The 21st District drug court program has been in operation since 1998. Court sessions are conducted in Crawford County. The program now utilizes a pre-adjudication and post-adjudication process and is open to Defendants who have committed eligible offenses and are recommended by the Prosecutor. The program is conducted in conformance with state drug court statutes and complies with applicable laws involving the assessment of fines, fees, court costs, and probation fees. The program receives staff and funding from the Department of Community Corrections. The members of the drug court program team include the Prosecuting Attorney, Public Defender, treatment professionals, DCC staff and local court staff. They have been consulted for purposes of scheduling, to insure that the necessary resources are available and to avoid conflicts with other court programs and responsibilities in which team members may be required to participate.

STATE DISTRICT JUDGE: The District has one State District Judge. The Circuit Judges agree the District Judge may as needed and by unanimous consent and agreement exercise jurisdiction in all matters allowed in Administrative Order Number 18, (b)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5).

transfer hearing conducted in Division II (the FINS/Delinquent Division) of the Circuit Court. If Division II of the Circuit Court denies the Petition, the case shall remain in the original criminal division of the Circuit Court. If the Juvenile's criminal charges are transferred and converted into delinquency charges under Arkansas Code Annotated section 9-27-318, the case will then remain in the Juvenile FINS/Delinquent Division.

CASES APPORTIONMENT

Based upon the case assignments set out in this plan and the numbers provided in the 2019 Circuit Court annual report the approximate case load will be:

DIVISION I: 1461

DIVISION II: 1440


DIVISION III: 1423

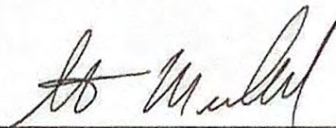
The Judges believe that the assignment of certain divisions to primarily but not exclusively hear certain types of cases will promote the administration of justice and best utilize the facilities available to the District. In making this assignment, the Judges have taken into consideration the experience and knowledge of the Judges as well as the case-load demand in certain types of cases.

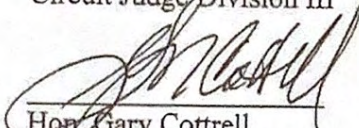
All of the Judges may sign search warrants, arrest warrants and probable cause affidavits when necessary for the administration of justice.

APPROVAL

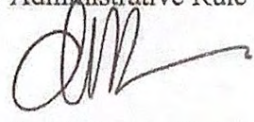
The judges of the Twenty-first Judicial District hereby approve this administrative plan and submit it to the Arkansas Supreme Court for its approval this 29 day of June, 2020.


Hon. Marc R. McCune
Circuit Judge Division III


Hon. Mike Medlock
Circuit Judge Division II


Hon. Gary Cottrell
Circuit Judge Division I

I, Charles Baker, State District Judge, hereby affix my signature to this plan for approval of those matters that involve the assignment of cases as provided by Administrative Rule 18.


Hon. Charles Baker
District Judge