

2019

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MILLER & LAFAYETTE COUNTIES, ARKANSAS  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT – SOUTH

In accordance with Administrative Order No. 14, adopted by the Supreme Court of Arkansas on December 13, 2012, the following Administrative Plan is hereby submitted for approval:

**CIRCUIT COURT ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN**

- a. **Administrative Policy:** The circuit judges of the Eighth South Judicial District shall meet semi-annually in January and July of each year, and at any other agreed upon times, to establish the case management and administrative procedures to be used within the Eighth South Judicial District. All policies, procedures and/or amendments thereto must be signed and approved by a majority of the judges.
- b. **Case Assignment and Allocation:** All civil, criminal, juvenile and domestic relations cases will be assigned by the Circuit Clerk. All probate cases will be assigned by the County Clerk. Both Clerks will utilize the amended random selection method established by the Eight South Judicial District on July 1, 2017. Case Assignment **Order #6**, signed by all three Circuit Judges (copy attached). This method assigns an equal apportionment of criminal, civil, domestic relations, juvenile and probate cases to each Judge. Petitions to Revoke a Probated or Suspended Sentence are treated as a reopened case and assigned accordingly. Reopened chancery/domestic relations and criminal cases are assigned to the Judge who had the original assignment.
- c. **Caseload Estimate:** The random assignment of cases apportions the caseload equally among the Judges within the Eighth South Judicial District. Caseloads will be reviewed at each of the regularly scheduled meetings to

determine if a workload imbalance exists, and if such an imbalance exists, an amended plan will be submitted to the Supreme Court for approval.

- d. **Conflicts/Recusal:** If any judge has a conflict in a case and recuses, then that case is randomly reassigned by the Clerk to a remaining judge and that case will be heard by that judge unless he also has a conflict. Should the second judge recuse, the case is transferred to the remaining judge by the Clerk. If that judge recuses, the last judge to recuse will be responsible for contacting the Supreme Court to request an assignment of a judge. The trial court assistant for the last recusing judge will assist the assigned judge in contacting attorneys and setting the time and place for any and all hearings that may be necessary.

SIGNED AND SUBMITTED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.



CARLTON D. JONES  
Circuit Judge – Division One



BRENT HALTOM  
Circuit Judge – Division Two



KIRK D. JOHNSON  
Circuit Judge – Division Three

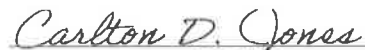
## 2019 MILLER COUNTY DRUG COURT

### ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

The 8S Miller County Drug Court Program has been in operation since 2001. This Program was assigned to Division One on a voluntary basis and at the request of DCC. Court sessions are conducted in Miller County. The program primarily utilizes a post adjudication process, but may accept pre-adjudication participants. It is open to felony defendants who have committed eligible offenses, and are recommended by the Prosecuting Attorney's office, and successfully complete a drug/alcohol assessment, physical and mental assessment by the Drug Court counselor. The program is conducted in conformance with Arkansas Drug Court statutes (A.C.A. 16-98-301) and complies with applicable laws involving the assessment of fines, fees, court cost and probation fees. The program receives staff funding and treatment funding from the Department of Community Corrections and collection of court fees. The program generally takes a minimum of at least 18 months to complete.

The members of the drug court program team include the deputy prosecuting attorney, deputy public defender, Department of Community Corrections staff (probation officer, counselor and administrative assistant) and local court staff (Circuit Judge, Trial Court Assistant and Secretary). They are 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; to determine the acceptance of participants into the program; to monitor the participants throughout their time in the program and also to participate in determining whether a participant should be rewarded for their efforts, sanctioned for any failures or violations within the program; and eligibility for graduation.

SIGNED AND SUBMITTED this 3rd day of July, 2019.


  
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CARLTON D. JONES  
DRUG COURT JUDGE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MILLER & LAFAYETTE COUNTIES, ARKANSAS  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT SOUTH

CASE ASSIGNMENT ORDER #6

Effective July 1, 2019, all new cases will be assigned by the random selection method of 1/3 each to Division 1 – Judge Carlton D. Jones, Division 2 – Judge Brent Haltom and Division 3 – Judge Kirk Johnson. Clerks may deviate, upon consultation with the Administrative Judge, in instances wherein a criminal defendant has multiple successive criminal court filings. Said method is to be strictly adhered to by the Clerks, so that an equitable distribution of the cases can be maintained. Any order in conflict with this order is replaced by this order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2019

  
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CARLTON D. JONES  
Circuit Judge – Division 1

  
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BRENT HALTOM  
Circuit Judge – Division 2

  
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KIRK JOHNSON  
Circuit Judge – Division 3