

# 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District of Arkansas

## 2020 Administrative Plan

### I. Circuit Judges

1<sup>st</sup> Division – Judge Ken Casady

2<sup>nd</sup> Division – Judge Gary Arnold

3<sup>rd</sup> Division – Judge Grisham Phillips

4<sup>th</sup> Division – Judge Robert Herzfeld

### II. District Judges

Saline County District Judge Josh Newton—Benton Division

Saline County District Judge Stephanie Casady—Bryant Division

The specific Circuit Court duties carried out by the District Court judges are listed below. The Saline County District Court plan is also attached hereto pursuant to Administrative Order 14.

#### A. District Court Authority for certain Circuit Court cases

1. The Saline County District Courts shall have all authority permitted under the Arkansas Supreme Court's Administrative Rule 18.
2. The Bryant Division shall be the primary point of contact for Temporary Order of Protection Petitions and shall hear all Final Order of Protection cases which are not related to open Saline County Domestic Relations cases. The Bryant Division shall also be the primary point of contact for uncontested agency adoptions.
3. The Benton Division shall conduct first appearance hearings in felony criminal cases. The Benton Division shall preside over a specialty DWI court.

### III. Circuit Court Administrative Plan

#### A. Division of Cases

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Division
  - a. Domestic Relations 80%
  - b. Criminal 20%
  - c. OCSE/Child Support 100%
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Division
  - a. Criminal 50%
  - b. Civil 40%
  - c. DHS Dependency/Neglect 100%
  - d. Hope Court (primary judge)

3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Division
  - a. Criminal 30%
  - b. Civil 60%
  - c. Adult Drug Court 100%
4. 4<sup>th</sup> Division
  - a. Probate 100%
  - b. Domestic Relations 20%
  - c. Delinquency/FINS 100%
  - d. Hope Court (secondary judge)
  - e. Administrative Judge
5. Upon the request of any judge, the administrative judge shall convene a judges' meeting to discuss and consider amending this plan pursuant to Supreme Court Administrative Rule 14 to ensure a continuing balance of workload between the divisions.

B. Case Assignment and Allocation

1. Juvenile, DHS, Child Support Enforcement, Hope Court, and Adult Drug Court shall be assigned to the specific Division indicated above. All other cases shall be assigned by the Clerks randomly pursuant to the above percentages.
2. The Circuit and County Clerks shall assign cases according to this plan. In the event the Clerk is unable to determine in which category a particular case belongs, the Clerk shall follow the direction of the Administrative Judge.
3. Probation revocations shall be assigned to the division of the originating case and any new cases involving the same defendant shall be assigned to the original division as well.
4. To avoid the appearance of a conflict, District Court Appeals from Bryant Court will be assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Divisions in a ratio of 5:3 for criminal cases and 2:3 for civil.

C. Circuit Court Caseload Estimate by Annual Filings

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Division –1500 cases
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Division –1500 cases
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Division –1500 cases
4. 4<sup>th</sup> Division –1700 cases

This workload division among the divisions is substantially equal based upon the complexity and time required for the different types of cases and accompanying procedural and administrative duties.

IV. Recusal Procedures

In the event recusal is necessary, the recusing judge shall inquire as to whether the other judges are available to handle the case beginning with the other judges who typically hear that subject matter. The original judge's Trial Court Assistant shall prepare the order transferring the case and inform counsel or *pro se* parties of the transfer.

In the event all local judges are unable to handle the case, then the original Circuit Judge shall make the proper request to the Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court. The original judge's Trial Court Assistant shall coordinate with the Administrative Office of the Courts and the Appointed Special Judge and counsel and/or *pro se* parties regarding courtroom scheduling and any special needs.

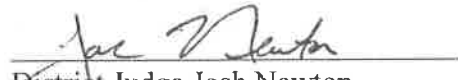
V. Specialty Dockets

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District has four Specialty Dockets all authorized by statute and previously approved by the Arkansas Supreme Court. The respective presiding judges by their signatures below hereby certify that their programs conform to all applicable sentencing laws.

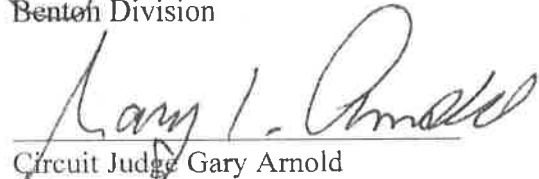
1. Saline County Adult Drug Court—Circuit Judge Grisham Phillips
2. Saline County Juvenile Drug Court—Circuit Judge Robert Herzfeld
3. Saline County Hope Court—Circuit Judge Gary Arnold
4. Saline County DWI Court—District Judge Josh Newton

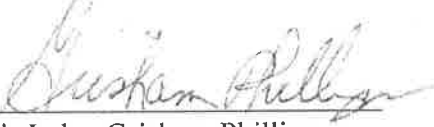
APPROVED ON THIS 14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF August, 2019.

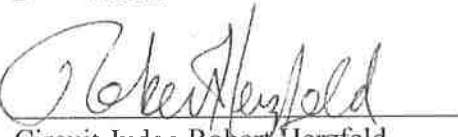
  
District Judge Stephanie Casady  
Bryant Division

  
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Administrative Judge

