

Effective date: April 18, 2024.

The purpose of this Administrative Order is to establish a system of case assignments for the 15th Judicial District Court consistent with MCR 8.111(B) and MCR 8.112. This Order rescinds and replaces Local Administrative Order 2022-02.


The chief judge of the trial court may make judicial assignments and may make adjustments to equalize judicial workloads by reassigning cases, pursuant to MCR 8.111. Further, in order to expedite the processing of certain case types, to take advantage of the expertise of a particular judge or to facilitate the application of the one judge concept, the chief judge may assign or reassign cases among judges to ensure the effective and expeditious handling of such cases.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

1. All General Civil No-Fault cases shall be assigned to Judge Joseph F. Burke.
2. All other General Civil cases shall be assigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry.
3. All Small Claims post-judgment and appeal matters shall be assigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry.
4. All Landlord-Tenant matters shall be assigned to Judge Karen Q. Valvo.
5. All Operating While Intoxicated, Operating While Visibly Impaired, and Operating with the Presence of Drugs cases wherein a 2nd or 3rd Offense Notice is charged, or a defendant is determined to be eligible, shall be assigned to Judge Joseph F. Burke and heard on the 15th Judicial District Court specialized Sobriety Court docket.
6. All cases involving substance abuse that are not originally assigned to Judge Joseph F. Burke but are subsequently determined to be eligible for Sobriety Court shall be reassigned to Judge Joseph F. Burke and shall be heard on the 15th Judicial District Court specialized Sobriety Court docket.
7. All misdemeanor cases charging violations of state law that involve intimate partner domestic violence, including cases of intimate partner stalking, as defined in MCL 400.1501 (d)(i-vii) shall be assigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry.
8. All civil infraction cases charged under the Ann Arbor City Code that are set for a Formal Hearing shall be assigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry.
9. All civil infraction cases charged under state law or University of Michigan Regents Ordinance set for Formal Hearing shall be randomly assigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry or Judge Karen Q. Valvo in a 50/50 split.
10. All vehicle impound appeal matters shall be assigned to Judge Karen Q. Valvo.

11. All cases determined to be eligible for Veterans Treatment Court in accordance with MCL 600.1200 et seq. shall be reassigned to Judge Karen Q. Valvo and shall be heard on the 15th Judicial District Court's specialized Veterans Treatment Court docket.
12. All cases determined to be eligible for Mental Health Treatment Court in accordance with MCL 600.1090 et seq. shall be reassigned to Judge Karen Q. Valvo and shall be heard on the 15th Judicial District Court's specialized Mental Health Treatment Court docket.
13. All criminal cases not otherwise excepted shall be randomly assigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry or Judge Karen Q. Valvo in a 50/50 split.
14. However, criminal cases involving repeat offenders may be assigned or re-assigned to the judge handling the oldest, active case involving that offender. This practice is to ensure that a single judge, to the extent possible, handles all active matters involving a recidivist defendant.
15. When a prosecuting official files multiple cases stemming from one incident for multiple co-defendants, all cases will be assigned to one judge. The first case filed will be assigned randomly to one judge subject to the provisions contained within this order. Any related cases will then be assigned to the same judge.
16. For all sections, except 9 and 13, if the assigned judge recuses or disqualifies himself/herself from hearing a particular case, then that case shall be randomly reassigned to one of the other 15th Judicial District Court judges.
17. For sections 9 and 13:
 - a. In the event that Judge Karen Quinlan Valvo recuses or disqualifies herself from hearing a particular case, that case shall be reassigned to Judge Miriam A. Perry.
 - b. In the event that Judge Miriam A. Perry recuses or disqualifies herself from hearing a particular case, that case shall be reassigned to Judge Karen Q. Valvo.
 - c. In the event that both Judge Miriam A. Perry and Judge Karen Q. Valvo recuse or disqualify themselves from hearing a particular case, that case shall be reassigned to Judge Joseph F. Burke.
18. All cases where assignment has not been specified in the provisions above shall be assigned by random draw to any 15th Judicial District Court judge.

Date: 3-26-24



Karen Q. Valvo, Chief Judge P56974