

**IN THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A-2026-045

2027 DUTY JUDGE SCHEDULE

Florida Statutes section 26.20 requires at least one judge to be available at all times with limited notice to hold and conduct hearings. This statute also requires at least one judge be available on Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and after hours on weekdays to hear motions for a temporary injunction *ex parte* in domestic violence cases.

It is necessary for the efficient and proper administration of justice in this circuit to assign a duty judge to not only consider *ex parte* temporary injunction domestic violence cases, but also preside over other priority matters after hours on weekdays and on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

Regularly assigned judges or coverage judges are assigned to preside over first appearance hearings, juvenile detention hearings, and juvenile shelter hearings on non-holiday weekdays. Duty judges are hereby assigned to preside over first appearance hearings, juvenile detention hearings, and juvenile shelter hearings on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

By the power vested in the chief judge under article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution; Florida Statutes section 43.26; and Florida Rule of General Practice and Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(2), it is ORDERED that judges are appointed as the duty judge according to the attached schedule for the purposes expressed in this administrative order.

1. Schedule

The attached schedule assigns duty judges sequentially according to their group number in the circuit court and county court. Any judge seeking to change their duty week with another judge must e-mail the chief judge advising of the substitution and copy the court's general counsel. All changes to the duty judge schedule are posted thereafter on the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit's webpage so that the most up-to-date schedule is accessible to all affected participants.

2. Duty Times

Duty judges are assigned for one-week periods, commencing at 8:00 a.m. on Monday and concluding at 7:59 a.m. the following Monday. Duty judges are expected to remain available at all times to handle their responsibilities as delineated in this administrative order. On Monday holidays, the duty judge and the judge serving as duty judge for the preceding week must coordinate a time to deliver the duty judge telephone to the incoming duty judge.

3. Clearing Dockets

Duty judges should clear the dockets in their regularly assigned division(s) during the entire week of their duty judge assignment enabling them to handle efficiently all responsibilities outlined in this administrative order. If a judge maintains a docket in the judge's regularly assigned division(s) during their duty week, the judge must stop what they are doing to accommodate any duty judge responsibilities that arise.

4. Protective Injunction Cases

Duty judges are assigned to review petitions for temporary injunctions for protection against domestic violence, repeat violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking (protective injunction petitions) after hours and on weekends and holidays in accordance with the following schedule:

A. Non-Holiday Weekdays

i. Time of Filing Petition

a. Petitions Filed in Tampa

Petitioners may file protective injunction petitions in person on non-holiday weekdays if they arrive to the Clerk of the Circuit Court (clerk)'s desk or are already in line at the clerk's desk in the Edgecomb Courthouse between the hours of 8:00:00 a.m. and 5:00:00 p.m. Presiding judges of Protective Injunction Divisions "G," "H," "K," and "M" are assigned to review all protective injunction petitions assigned to Protective Injunction Divisions "G," "H," "K," and "M" that are filed prior to or at 3:29:59 p.m. on non-holiday weekdays. Duty judges are assigned to review these petitions when they are filed at or after 3:30:00 p.m. on non-holiday weekdays.

b. Petitions Filed in Plant City

Petitioners may file protective injunction petitions in person on non-holiday weekdays if they arrive to the clerk's desk or are already in line at the clerk's desk in the Plant City Courthouse between the hours of 8:00:00 a.m. and 5:00:00 p.m. Presiding judges of East Circuit Protective Injunction Divisions "Q," "S," and "V"

are assigned to review all protective injunction petitions assigned to East Circuit Protective Injunction Divisions “Q,” “S,” and “V” that are filed prior to or at 3:29:59 p.m. on non-holiday weekdays. Duty judges are assigned to review these petitions when they are filed at or after 3:30:00 p.m. on non-holiday weekdays.

ii. Petition Review and Entry of Order

The clerk will notify the duty judge by e-mail that a protective injunction petition is available for review on the Judicial Automated Workflow System (JAWS) as soon as practical after the petition is filed on non-holiday weekdays. The clerk will also notify the duty judge when the last protective injunction petition of the workday has been filed and submitted to the duty judge. Upon notification, the duty judge will access JAWS to review the protective injunction petition and sign the appropriate order as soon as practical.

B. Weekends and Holidays

i. Time of Filing Petition

Petitioners may file protective injunction petitions in person on weekends and holidays if they arrive to the clerk’s desk or are already in line at the clerk’s desk in the Edgecomb Courthouse between the hours of 7:00:00 a.m. and 10:00:00 a.m. Duty judges are assigned to review all protective injunction petitions filed on weekends and holidays.

ii. Petition Review and Entry of Order

The clerk will notify the duty judge by e-mail that a protective injunction petition is available for review on JAWS as soon as practical after the petition is filed on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. The clerk will also notify the duty judge when the last protective injunction petition of the day has been filed and submitted to the duty judge. Upon notification, the duty judge will access JAWS to review the protective injunction petition and sign the appropriate order as soon as practical, taking into consideration that the duty judge is also responsible on weekends and holidays to conduct juvenile shelter hearings, juvenile detention hearings, and criminal first appearance hearings.

5. Weekend and Holiday First Appearance Hearings

Duty judges are assigned to preside over first appearance hearings via audiovisual devices from Courtroom 17, Courthouse Annex, Tampa, Florida. The starting time for these hearings is posted on the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit’s webpage.

6. Weekend and Holiday Juvenile Detention and Shelter Hearings

Duty judges are assigned to preside over juvenile detention and shelter hearings on weekends and holidays in Courtroom 16, Courthouse Annex, Tampa, Florida. The starting time for these hearings is posted on the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit's webpage.

7. Emergency Medical Treatment Cases

Duty judges are assigned to consider petitions for authorization for emergency medical treatment if the assigned judge is unavailable.

8. Judicial Waiver of Parental Notice and Consent

Duty judges are assigned to consider petitions seeking a judicial waiver of the notice and consent requirements of Florida Statutes section 390.01114 if, under the established procedure for assignment of these cases, the presiding judge is unable to timely consider the petition.

9. Organ Donation Cases

Duty judges are assigned to consider emergency petitions for appointment of a representative ad litem for the purposes of organ donation if the assigned judge is unavailable.

10. Emergency Relief – All Other Matters

Duty judges are assigned to consider emergency motions and emergency petitions if, under the established procedures for emergency matters in the respective subject matter divisions of the courts, there is no judge present in the courthouse to consider them or they are submitted for judicial consideration after a particular time. The duty judge must determine whether an emergency exists, whether the requested relief is suitable for *ex parte* consideration if such a request is made, and whether a hearing with notice to the adverse party is required under the applicable court rules. If the duty judge determines that an emergency does not exist or denies the emergency request without a hearing, the requesting party is prohibited from presenting the request to any other judge other than the division judge to whom the case is assigned or, if application is made in an unassigned action, the division judge to whom the case will be assigned. If the duty judge determines the nature of the emergency requires that a return hearing be conducted imminently, the duty judge will conduct the return hearing personally. If the duty judge determines a hearing with notice is required but does not need to be conducted imminently, the hearing will be scheduled in the division in which the case is pending or, if application is made in an unassigned action, the division in which the case will be pending.

11. Warrants & Wiretaps

Duty judges are responsible for being available during their duty week to consider both electronic and hard-copy applications for search warrants, arrest warrants, juvenile pick up orders, inspection warrants, agricultural warrants, wiretaps, pen registers, trap and trace devices, and mobile tracking devices.

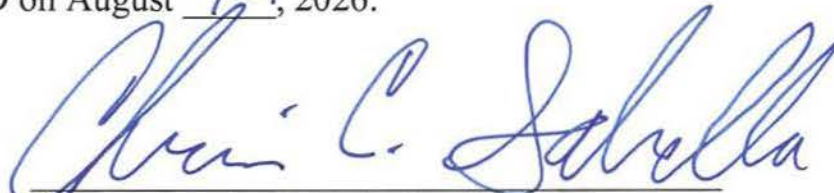
12. Hurricane & Emergency Management Plan

The chief judge may assign duty judges to preside over juvenile detention hearings, shelter hearings, and any other priority matters in addition to first appearance hearings on non-holiday weekdays if court facilities are closed due to a hurricane or other emergency event. The chief judge may also designate alternate or additional duty judges to preside over these priority matters.

13. Effective Date

This administrative order is effective January 1, 2027.

ENTERED on August 7th, 2026.



Christopher C. Sabella, Chief Judge

Attachment (4-page assignment schedule)

Original: Victor Crist, Clerk of the Circuit Court
Copy to: All Judges
Rob Snyder, Trial Court Administrator
Victor Crist, Clerk of the Circuit Court
Brandi Williams, Chief of Criminal Courts,
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Kathleen Rocamora, Chief of Civil Courts,
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Susan S. Lopez, State Attorney
Lisa B. McLean, Public Defender
Chad Chronister, Hillsborough County Sheriff
Brett Owen, Acting City of Tampa Police Chief
Rob Staley, City of Temple Terrace Police Chief
Richard Mills, Jr., City of Plant City Police Chief

Charlie Vazquez, Tampa International Airport Police Chief
Kelly Hammersley, Department of Juvenile Justice
Paul Britten, Superintendent, Hillsborough Regional
Juvenile Detention Center
Ashley G. Cannon, Managing Attorney, Children's Legal
Services
Alicia Tarrant, Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office
Michelle Farquharson, Quality Management Director,
Children's Network of Southwest Florida
Scott Swartz, Managing Attorney, Office of Regional Counsel
Lifelink Foundation, Inc., c/o Richard M. Hanchett, Esq.

DUTY JUDGE SCHEDULE 2027

(Does not reflect changes; please see www.fljud13.org for up-to-date schedule)

DUTY WEEK	FIRST APPEARANCE, DETENTION, AND SHELTER HEARINGS	JUDGE	GROUP
Monday, December 28, 2026-Sunday, January 3, 2027	Thursday, December 31, 2026 – Discretionary Holiday Friday, January 1, 2027 – New Year's Day Saturday, January 2, 2027 Sunday, January 3, 2027	Melissa C. Black*	County 14
Monday, January 4, 2027-Sunday, January 10, 2027	Saturday, January 9, 2027 Sunday, January 10, 2027	Mary Lou Cuellar-Stilo	County 15
Monday, January 11, 2027-Sunday, January 17, 2027	Saturday, January 16, 2027 Sunday, January 17, 2027	Margaret R. Taylor	County 16
Monday, January 18, 2027-Sunday, January 24, 2027	Monday, January 18, 2027 – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Saturday, January 23, 2027 Sunday, January 24, 2027	<i>Newly-Elected Judge*</i>	County 17
Monday, January 25, 2027-Sunday, January 31, 2027	Saturday, January 30, 2027 Sunday, January 31, 2027	Matthew L. Felix	County 18
Monday, February 1, 2027-Sunday, February 7, 2027	Saturday, February 6, 2027 Sunday, February 7, 2027	Christopher C. Saba	County 19
Monday, February 8, 2027-Sunday, February 14, 2027	Saturday, February 13, 2027 Sunday, February 14, 2027	Christopher E. Brown	County 20
Monday, February 15, 2027-Sunday, February 21, 2027	Saturday, February 20, 2027 Sunday, February 21, 2027	Matthew A. Smith	County 21
Monday, February 22, 2027-Sunday, February 28, 2027	Saturday, February 27, 2027 Sunday, February 28, 2027	Adam L. Bantner	County 22
Monday, March 1, 2027-Sunday, March 7, 2027	Saturday, March 6, 2027 Sunday March 7, 2027	James S. Giardina	County 23
Monday, March 8, 2027-Sunday, March 14, 2027	Saturday, March 13, 2027 Sunday, March 14, 2027	Colleen E. O'Brien	County 24
Monday, March 15, 2027-Sunday, March 21, 2027	Saturday, March 20, 2027 Sunday, March 21, 2027	Branden M. Henderson	County 25
Monday, March 22, 2027-Sunday, March 28, 2027	Friday, March 26, 2027 – Good Friday Saturday, March 27, 2027 Sunday, March 28, 2027	<i>Newly-Elected Judge*</i>	Circuit 1
Monday, March 29, 2027-Sunday, April 4, 2027	Saturday, April 3, 2027 Sunday, April 4, 2027	Jeffrey M. Rich	Circuit 2

* Denotes judge whose assignment includes at least one holiday.

DUTY JUDGE SCHEDULE 2027

(Does not reflect changes; please see www.fljud13.org for up-to-date schedule)

DUTY WEEK	FIRST APPEARANCE, DETENTION, AND SHELTER HEARINGS	JUDGE	GROUP
Monday, April 5, 2027-Sunday, April 11, 2027	Saturday, April 10, 2027 Sunday, April 11, 2027	James S. Moody III	Circuit 3
Monday, April 12, 2027-Sunday, April 18, 2027	Saturday, April 17, 2027 Sunday, April 18, 2027	Elizabeth G. Rice	Circuit 4
Monday, April 19, 2027-Sunday, April 25, 2027	Saturday, April 24, 2027 Sunday, April 25, 2027	Michael S. Williams	Circuit 5
Monday, April 26, 2027-Sunday, May 2, 2027	Saturday, May 1, 2027 Sunday, May 2, 2027	Wesley D. Tibbals	Circuit 6
Monday, May 3, 2027-Sunday, May 9, 2027	Saturday, May 8, 2027 Sunday, May 9, 2027	<i>Newly-Elected Judge</i>	Circuit 7
Monday, May 10, 2027-Sunday, May 16, 2027	Saturday, May 15, 2027 Sunday, May 16, 2027	Leland T. Baldwin	Circuit 8
Monday, May 17, 2027-Sunday, May 23, 2027	Saturday, May 22, 2027 Sunday, May 23, 2027	Kelly A. Ayers	Circuit 9
Monday, May 24, 2027-Sunday, May 30, 2027	Saturday, May 29, 2027 Sunday, May 30, 2027	Michael J. Hooi	Circuit 10
Monday, May 31, 2027-Sunday, June 6, 2027	Monday, May 31, 2027 – Memorial Day Saturday, June 5, 2027 Sunday, June 6, 2027	Lindsay M. Alvarez*	Circuit 11
Monday, June 7, 2027-Sunday, June 13, 2027	Saturday, June 12, 2027 Sunday, June 13, 2027	Paul L. Huey	Circuit 12
Monday, June 14, 2027-Sunday, June 20, 2027	Saturday, June 19, 2027 Sunday, June 20, 2027	<i>Newly-Elected Judge</i>	Circuit 13
Monday, June 21, 2027-Sunday, June 27, 2027	Saturday, June 26, 2027 Sunday, June 27, 2027	Mark R. Wolfe	Circuit 14
Monday, June 28, 2027-Sunday, July 4, 2027	Saturday, July 3, 2027 Sunday, July 4, 2027	Lawrence M. Lefler	Circuit 15
Monday, July 5, 2027-Sunday, July 11, 2027	Monday, July 5, 2027 – Independence Day Observed Saturday, July 10, 2027 Sunday, July 11, 2027	Cheryl K. Thomas*	Circuit 16
Monday, July 12, 2027-Sunday, July 18, 2027	Saturday, July 17, 2027 Sunday, July 18, 2027	Christopher C. Nash	Circuit 17
Monday, July 19, 2027-Sunday, July 25, 2027	Saturday, July 24, 2027 Sunday, July 25, 2027	Alissa M. Ellison	Circuit 18

* Denotes judge whose assignment includes at least one holiday.

DUTY JUDGE SCHEDULE 2027

(Does not reflect changes; please see www.fljud13.org for up-to-date schedule)

DUTY WEEK	FIRST APPEARANCE, DETENTION, AND SHELTER HEARINGS	JUDGE	GROUP
Monday, July 26, 2027-Sunday, August 1, 2027	Saturday, July 31, 2027 Sunday August 1, 2027	Michael J. Scionti	Circuit 19
Monday, August 2, 2027-Sunday, August 8, 2027	Saturday, August 7, 2027 Sunday, August 8, 2027	Laura E. Ward	Circuit 20
Monday, August 9, 2027-Sunday, August 15, 2027	Saturday, August 14, 2027 Sunday, August 15, 2027	Lisa D. Campbell	Circuit 21
Monday, August 16, 2027-Sunday, August 22, 2027	Saturday, August 21, 2027 Sunday, August 22, 2027	Denise A. Pomponio	Circuit 22
Monday, August 23, 2027-Sunday, August 29, 2027	Saturday, August 28, 2027 Sunday, August 29, 2027	Mark D. Kiser	Circuit 23
Monday, August 30, 2027-Sunday, September 5, 2027	Saturday, September 4, 2027 Sunday, September 5, 2027	Melissa M. Polo	Circuit 24
Monday, September 6, 2027-Sunday, September 12, 2027	Monday, September 6, 2027 – Labor Day Saturday, September 11, 2027 Sunday, September 12, 2027	Robin F. Fuson*	Circuit 25
Monday, September 13, 2027-Sunday, September 19, 2027	Saturday, September 18, 2027 Sunday, September 19, 2027	Joseph M. Tompkins	Circuit 27
Monday, September 20, 2027-Sunday, September 26, 2027	Saturday, September 25, 2027 Sunday, September 26, 2027	Christine A. Marlewski	Circuit 28
Monday, September 27, 2027-Sunday, October 3, 2027	Friday, October 1, 2027 – Rosh Hashanah Observed Saturday, October 2, 2027 Sunday, October 3, 2027	Nicholas “Nick” Nazaretian*	Circuit 29
Monday, October 4, 2027-Sunday, October 10, 2027	Saturday, October 9, 2027 Sunday, October 10, 2027	Helene L. Daniel	Circuit 30
Monday, October 11, 2027-Sunday, October 17, 2027	Monday, October 11, 2027 – Yom Kippur Saturday, October 16, 2027 Sunday, October 17, 2027	G. Gregory Green*	Circuit 31
Monday, October 18, 2027-Sunday, October 24, 2027	Saturday, October 23, 2027 Sunday, October 24, 2027	Kim H. Brennan	Circuit 32
Monday, October 25, 2027-Sunday, October 31, 2027	Saturday, October 30, 2027 Sunday, October 31, 2027	<i>Newly-Elected Judge</i>	Circuit 33
Monday, November 1, 2027-Sunday, November 7, 2027	Saturday, November 6, 2027 Sunday, November 7, 2027	Robert A. Bauman	Circuit 34
Monday, November 8, 2027-Sunday, November 14, 2027	Thursday, November 11, 2027 – Veterans Day Saturday, November 13, 2027	Richard H. Martin*	Circuit 35

* Denotes judge whose assignment includes at least one holiday.

DUTY JUDGE SCHEDULE 2027

(Does not reflect changes; please see www.fljud13.org for up-to-date schedule)

DUTY WEEK	FIRST APPEARANCE, DETENTION, AND SHELTER HEARINGS	JUDGE	GROUP
Monday, November 15, 2027-Sunday, November 21, 2027	Sunday, November 14, 2027 Saturday, November 20, 2027 Sunday, November 21, 2027	Cynthia S. Oster	Circuit 36
Monday, November 22, 2027-Sunday, November 28, 2027	Thursday, November 25, 2027 – Thanksgiving Friday, November 26, 2027 – Friday After Thanksgiving Saturday, November 27, 2027 Sunday, November 28, 2027	Leslie K. Schultz-Kin*	Circuit 37
Monday, November 29, 2027-Sunday, December 5, 2027	Saturday, December 4, 2027 Sunday, December 5, 2027	D. Michelle Sisco	Circuit 38
Monday, December 6, 2027-Sunday, December 12, 2027	Saturday, December 11, 2027 Sunday, December 12, 2027	Wendy J. DePaul	Circuit 39
Monday, December 13, 2027-Sunday, December 19, 2027	Saturday, December 18, 2027 Sunday, December 19, 2027	Christopher C. Sabella	Circuit 40
Monday, December 20, 2027-Sunday, December 26, 2027	Thursday, December 23, 2027 – Discretionary Holiday Friday, December 24, 2027 – Christmas Day Observed Saturday, December 25, 2027 Sunday, December 26, 2027	Thomas N. Palermo*	Circuit 41
Monday, December 27, 2027-Sunday, January 2, 2028	Monday, December 27, 2027 – Discretionary Holiday Friday, December 31, 2027 – New Year's Day Observed Sunday, January 2, 2028	Darren D. Farfante*	Circuit 42

(August 6, 2026)

* Denotes judge whose assignment includes at least one holiday.