

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A-2026-048
(Supersedes Administrative Order A-2025-040)**

**ACTING COUNTY COURT JUDGES &
ACTING CIRCUIT COURT JUDGES**

It is necessary for the prompt dispatch of business in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court and the Hillsborough County Court that circuit court judges are temporarily assigned to duty in the county court and that county court judges are temporarily assigned to duty in the circuit court. Instead of entering individual assignment administrative orders, this blanket administrative order assigns all circuit court judges as acting county court judges and all county court judges as acting circuit court judges whenever the need arises.

In accordance with *Physicians Healthcare Plans, Inc. v. Pfeifler*, 846 So. 2d 1129 (Fla. 2003), this administrative order does not divest a court of jurisdiction, it does not assign a county judge to exclusively circuit work, nor does it assign a circuit judge to exclusively county work. Further, in this time of crowded dockets, expanded county court jurisdiction, and extremely limited resources in the state courts system, it is necessary to utilize judicial resources in a cost-effective manner to maximize the efficient administration of justice.

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:

1. Acting County Court Judges

Each circuit court judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit is assigned to the county court in Hillsborough County to preside over cases that are brought before the judge as a temporary judge of the county court.

2. Acting Circuit Court Judges

Each county court judge of Hillsborough County is assigned to the circuit court of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit to preside over cases that are brought before the judge as a temporary judge of the circuit court.

3. Full Authority

Each judge is vested with all the powers and prerogatives conferred by the constitution and laws of the State of Florida upon the judges of the courts to which each judge is hereby temporarily assigned.

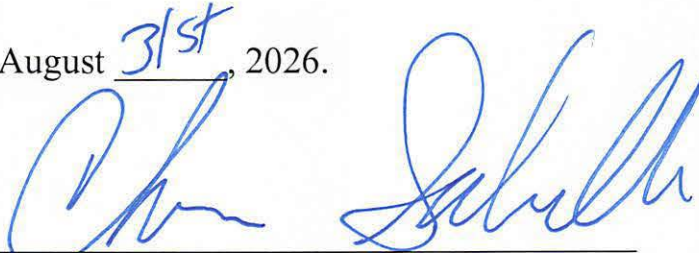
4. Previous Administrative Order Superseded

This administrative order supersedes Administrative Order A-2025-040 (*Acting County Court Judges & Acting Circuit Court Judges*).

5. Effective Term

This administrative order is effective January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2027.

ENTERED on August 31st, 2026.



Christopher C. Sabella, Chief Judge

Original: Victor Crist, Clerk of the Circuit Court

Copy: All Judges

Susan S. Lopez, State Attorney

Lisa B. McLean, Public Defender

Hillsborough County Bar Association