

IN THE STATE COURT OF FORSYTH COUNTY

STATE OF GEORGIA

In Re: Classification and Assignment of \*  
Cases in Odyssey Case Management System \*

FORSYTH COUNTY GEORGIA  
FILED IN THIS OFFICE  
OCT 02 2018  
A. J. Cobb  
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 18- 8

CLASSIFICATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF CASES IN ODYSSEY CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Administrative Order # 15-5 is hereby updated, by amending Section 4 and adding a new Section 5 regarding assignment of related cases and parties and renumbering the remaining sections, and is replaced and superseded by this order.

Effective immediately, the Clerk of Court shall assign cases to the Judges of the State Court of Forsyth County as follows:

1. Cases filed in the Traffic Violations Bureau shall be assigned randomly to each judge in the Judicial ("TVB") Node of the Odyssey system under parameters established by the chief judge of the State Court, such that the cases are evenly distributed between the Judges.
2. All criminal cases shall be classified into predetermined case types as approved by the Chief Judge, and shall be randomly assigned in the Judicial ("State Court") Node of Odyssey system, within each designated case type to the Judges of the State Court in a weighted distribution to be determined by the Chief Judge, taking into account the existing caseloads of the judges. The initial random assignment shall be made by the Odyssey system when the Clerk or the Solicitor General opens or files a case at the Pending Accusation File ("PAF") Node of the Odyssey system. Unless otherwise required by this Order, this assignment shall be carried forward when an accusation is "filed down" with the Clerk within the Odyssey system. All cases assigned to Judge Abernathy-Maddox shall be designated to Division A, and all cases assigned to the Chief Judge shall be designated to Division B. If both judges recuse from a case or are otherwise unable to preside over a case, the case shall

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automatically be designated to Division R, to be presided over by a duly appointed judge under the Uniform Rules. The case file number shall include the case's assigned division.

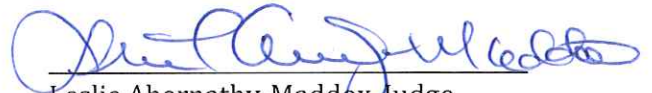
3. All civil cases shall be randomly assigned to each judge in a weighted distribution to be determined by the Chief Judge, taking into account the existing caseloads of the judges. All cases assigned to Judge Abernathy-Maddox shall be designated to Division A, and all cases assigned to the Chief Judge shall be designated to Division B. If both judges recuse from a case or are otherwise unable to preside over a case, the case shall automatically be designated to Division R, to be presided over by a duly appointed judge under the Uniform Rules. The case file number shall include the case's assigned division.
4. All civil actions involving the same parties, or all actions involving substantially the same subject matter, or substantially the same factual issues, whether pending simultaneously or not, shall be assigned to the same judge. Whenever such action is refiled, or a derivative or companion action is filed or refiled, such actions shall be assigned to the judge to whom the original action was or is assigned. Generally, such actions shall be assigned to the judge to whom the action with the lowest action number is assigned. Any questions regarding the interpretation of this rule shall be presented to the affected judges before the assignment or reassignment is made in the Odyssey system.
5. In all criminal actions, whenever an action against the same defendant is refiled, or a defendant is re-accused on a previous charge, or is accused on a subsequent charge while still under charges or serving a confinement or probated sentence on a previous action, or co-defendants are accused separately, such actions shall be assigned to the judge to whom the original action was or is assigned. Generally, such actions shall be assigned to the judge to whom the action with the lowest action number is assigned. Any questions regarding the interpretation of this rule shall be presented to the affected judges before the assignment or reassignment is made in the Odyssey system.

6. In all criminal cases, whenever a defendant is sentenced by a sitting State Court Judge to whom the case was not randomly assigned in the Odyssey case management system, e.g., a "jail case," the case shall be administratively reassigned to the sentencing State Court Judge without the necessity of an judge assignment or transfer order.

SO ORDERED, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018.



T. Russell McClelland III, Chief Judge  
State Court of Forsyth County  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit



Leslie Abernathy-Maddox, Judge  
State Court of Forsyth County  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit