

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PASCO AND PINELLAS COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2024-013 PA-CIR

RE: PASCO CIRCUIT COURT JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS – MARCH 12, 2024

EAST PASCO JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS

CRIMINAL COURT SECTIONS

Sections 1, 2

All Criminal cases, including violations of
probation, excluding technical violations

Judge Gregory G. Groger

Technical violations of probation

Judge Linda H. Babb

Criminal jury trials, as needed

Judge Susan Barthle and
Judge Alicia Polk

Section 30

Adult Drug Court, Veterans Court

Judge Kemba Johnson Lewis

JUVENILE COURT SECTIONS

Sections 5, 28

All Juvenile Delinquency*

Judge Linda H. Babb

Sections 6, 29

All Juvenile Dependency*

Judge Linda H. Babb

Section 40

Family Dependency Treatment Court,
Early Childhood Court, and all dependency
matters related to the Family Dependency
Treatment Court case

Judge Kemba Johnson Lewis

*During the absence of the assigned juvenile dependency judge, Judge Susan Barthle is designated as a juvenile court judge in Pasco County for the purpose of handling shelter hearings and other juvenile matters in the juvenile dependency division.

PROBATE COURT SECTIONS

Sections A, X

Risk Protection Orders, Baker Act petitions,
and Marchman Act petitions assigned to
these sections only

Judge James R. Stearns

Judge Linda H. Babb

CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT SECTIONS

Section B

Circuit Civil cases
Writs of Habeas Corpus excluding Writs

Judge Alicia Polk

of Habeas Corpus pertaining to child custody

Section Y

Circuit Civil cases

Writs of Habeas Corpus excluding Writs
of Habeas Corpus pertaining to child custody

Judge Susan Barthle

J1

50% Residential foreclosure cases

Judge Susan Barthle

J4

50% Residential foreclosure cases

Judge Alicia Polk

J5

50% Commercial foreclosure cases

Judge Susan Barthle

J8

50% Commercial foreclosure cases

Judge Alicia Polk

FAMILY COURT SECTIONS

Section C

50% Domestic violence cases including any
indirect criminal contempt affidavits prosecuted
by the State Attorney's Office

Judge Benjamin S. Thomas

Section C1

50% Domestic violence cases including any
indirect criminal contempt affidavits prosecuted
by the State Attorney's Office

Judge Brian Gnage

Section C2

Dating, repeat, and sexual violence and
stalking cases.

Judge Linda H. Babb

Section K

50% Domestic relations cases

Judge Benjamin S. Thomas

Section L

50% Domestic relations cases

Judge Brian Gnage

Section M

50% U.I.F.S.A., Department of Revenue
Child Support cases

Judge Benjamin S. Thomas

Section M1

50% U.I.F.S.A., Department of Revenue
Child Support cases

Judge Brian Gnage

Section DZ

50% Adoption, including joint petitions for
adoption by step-parent, relative adoptions and
private adoptions, and paternity cases, out-of-

Judge Benjamin S. Thomas

county enforcement and modification orders filed in domestic cases, Writs of Habeas Corpus pertaining to child custody, petitions for custody, actions filed under Chapter 742

Section EZ

Judge Brian Gnage

50% Adoption, including joint petitions for adoption by step-parent, relative adoptions and private adoptions, and paternity cases, out-of-county enforcement and modification orders filed in domestic cases, Writs of Habeas Corpus pertaining to child custody, petitions for custody, actions filed under Chapter 742

Section UF

Judge Linda H. Babb

Unified Family Court (dependency and delinquency cases with family-related domestic relations or domestic violence) and Chapter 39 adoptions emanating from DCF termination of parental rights proceedings

WEST PASCO JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS

CRIMINAL COURT SECTIONS

Section 3

Judge Mary M. Handsel

50% Criminal cases, including section 3 violations of probation; Indirect criminal contempt affidavits filed in Section Q1 and prosecuted by the State Attorney's Office

Section 4

Judge Joshua Riba

50% Criminal cases, including section 4 violations of probation; Indirect criminal contempt affidavits filed in Section Q2 and prosecuted by the State Attorney's Office

Criminal jury trials, as needed

Judge Kimberly Sharpe Byrd
and Judge Declan P. Mansfield

Section 31

Judge Kemba Johnson Lewis

Adult Drug Court, Veterans Court

JUVENILE COURT SECTIONS

Sections 7, 9

Judge James R. Stearns

All Juvenile Delinquency**

Sections 8, 26

Judge Lauralee G. Westine

All Juvenile Dependency**

Section 41

Judge Kemba Johnson Lewis

Family Dependency Treatment Court,

Early Childhood Court, and all dependency matters related to the Family Dependency Treatment Court case

**** During the absence of the assigned juvenile dependency judges Kimberly Sharpe Byrd and Dustin Anderson are designated as juvenile court judges in Pasco County for the purpose of handling shelter hearings and other juvenile matters in the juvenile dependency division.**

PROBATE COURT SECTIONS

Sections I, J

Judge James R. Stearns

CIVIL COURT SECTIONS

Section G

50% Circuit Civil cases
Writs of Habeas Corpus excluding Writs of Habeas Corpus pertaining to child custody

Judge Kimberly Sharpe Byrd

Section H

50% Circuit Civil cases
Writs of Habeas Corpus excluding Writs of Habeas Corpus pertaining to child custody

Judge Declan P. Mansfield

Section J2

50% Residential Foreclosures

Judge Kimberly Sharpe Byrd

Section J3

50% Residential Foreclosures

Judge Declan P. Mansfield

Section J6

50% Commercial Foreclosures

Judge Kimberly Sharpe Byrd

Section J7

50% Commercial Foreclosures

Judge Declan P. Mansfield

FAMILY COURT SECTIONS

Section E

50% Domestic Relations cases

Judge Dustin Anderson

Section F

50% Domestic Relations cases

Judge Daniel D. Diskey

Section N1

50% U.I.F.S.A. and Department of Revenue child support cases

Judge Dustin Anderson

Section N2

50% U.I.F.S.A. and Department of Revenue child support cases

Judge Daniel D. Diskey

Section Q1

Judge Dustin Anderson

50% Domestic violence cases

Section Q2

50% Domestic violence cases

Judge Daniel D. Diskey

Section Q3

Dating, repeat, and sexual violence
and stalking cases

Judge Declan P. Mansfield
Judge Kimberly Sharpe Byrd

Section Z1

50% Adoptions, including joint petitions for
adoption by step-parent, relative and private
adoptions, paternity cases, out-of-county
enforcement and modification orders filed in
domestic cases, Writs of Habeas Corpus
pertaining to child custody, petitions for custody,
actions filed under Chapters 752, Fla. Stat.

Judge Dustin Anderson

Section Z2

50% Adoptions, including joint petitions for
adoption by step-parent, relative and private
adoptions, paternity cases, out-of-county
enforcement and modification orders filed in
domestic cases, Writs of Habeas Corpus
pertaining to child custody, petitions for custody,
actions filed under Chapters 752, Fla. Stat.

Judge Daniel D. Diskey

Section FC

Unified Family Court (dependency and
delinquency cases with family-related
domestic relations or domestic violence)

Judge Lauralee G. Westine

Section P

County Court Appeals

Pasco Grand Jury Proceedings

Judge Mary M. Handsel

Effective March 12, 2024, Administrative Order 2023-045 is hereby rescinded.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida, this _____
day of March 2024.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON MARCH 12, 2024
BY SHAWN CRANE, CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Judges
The Honorable Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney
The Honorable Sara Mollo, Public Defender
The Honorable Nikki Alvarez-Sowles, Clerk & Comptroller, Pasco County
The Honorable Chris Nocco, Pasco County Sheriff
Jennifer Parker, Trial Courts Administrator
Michele Emmerman, Deputy Trial Courts Administrator
Ita M. Neymotin, Regional Counsel, Second District
Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel, Second District
Kimberly Thompson, Chief Operations Officer, Pasco County Clerk's Office
Bar Associations, Pinellas and Pasco County
Law Libraries, Pinellas and Pasco County