

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2020-037 PI-CIR

**RE: ASSIGNMENT OF TRAFFIC CASES IN PINELLAS COUNTY**

In order to create an additional traffic section and provide for the assignment of cases in the traffic division in Pinellas County, and

In accordance with Article V, section 2, Florida Constitution, Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, and section 43.26, Florida Statutes, it is

**ORDERED:**

1. The Pinellas County Clerk of the Circuit Court (Clerk) is directed to assign all cases filed in the Traffic Division in Pinellas County in accordance with this Administrative Order and the Local Rules.
2. Criminal Traffic and Non-criminal Traffic Infraction cases are to be assigned based upon the ZIP code of the agency issuing the citation except as provided in this Administrative Order.
  - a. Cases filed in Pinellas County from the following agencies will be assigned at the Pinellas County Justice Center:

**South County Traffic I**

Bay Pines V.A. Police Service  
Department of Transportation  
Gulfport Police Department  
Indian Shores Police Department  
Kenneth City Police Department  
Pinellas County Schools Police  
Pinellas Park Police Department  
Treasure Island Police Department  
University of South Florida

50% of Civil traffic infraction cases where a county judge is requested pursuant to Florida Rules of Traffic Court Rule 6.630(k)

**South County Traffic II**

Florida Highway Patrol  
St Petersburg Police Department

50% of Civil traffic infraction cases where a county judge is requested pursuant to Florida Rules of Traffic Court Rule 6.630(k)

- b. Cases filed in Pinellas County from the following agencies will be assigned to Sections 51 and 52 at the North County Traffic Facility:

Belleair Police Department  
Clearwater Police Department  
Largo Police Department  
Tarpon Springs Police Department

- c. Cases filed in Pinellas County from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will be assigned to either the North County Traffic Facility or the Pinellas County Justice Center based on the assignment of the deputy, trooper, or officer issuing the citation. Deputies, troopers, and officers will be assigned to either the North County Traffic Facility or the Pinellas County Justice Center in a manner that results in an even distribution of cases between Sections 51 and 52, South County Traffic I, and South County Traffic II.
  - d. The Clerk shall provide the Administrative Office of the Courts with a report at least semi-annually that provides the percentage of cases that are assigned to Sections 51 and 52, South County Traffic I and South County Traffic II.
  - e. When a judge has entered an order recusing himself or herself from all cases of a named party or attorney, the Clerk shall:
    - i. Reassign all cases from that party or attorney to the other traffic facility unless otherwise directed, and
    - ii. Assign future cases so that cases from that party or attorney are not assigned to the recused judge.
  - f. When a judge has entered an order of disqualification in an individual case, the Clerk shall reassign that case to the other traffic facility unless otherwise directed.
3. Non-criminal traffic infraction cases will continue to be calendared pursuant to Administrative Order 2017-032 or subsequent Administrative Order. If a county court judge is required in such a case, it will be calendared pursuant to paragraph two of this Administrative Order.
  4. No previously assigned cases are to be reassigned based upon this Administrative Order unless a reassignment is based on a recusal or disqualification order.
  5. Cases shall be scheduled so that citations from each law enforcement agency are calendared to minimize the time officers are in court.
  6. A motion to re-open a case from a former section that is now closed is to be assigned in accordance with this Administrative Order. A motion to re-open a case from an open section is to be assigned to the former section unless the judge assigned to that section has entered an order of recusal.
  7. The Clerk and Pinellas County Business Technology Services shall take the necessary action to implement this Order. No changes to the Administrative Order or exceptions to the terms of this Administrative Order may be made unless authorized in writing by the Chief Judge.

Administrative Order 2018-058 PI-CIR is hereby rescinded.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of November 2020.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 4, 2020  
BY ANTHONY RONDOLINO, CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Pinellas Judges  
The Honorable Bernie McCabe, State Attorney  
The Honorable Bob Dillinger, Public Defender  
The Honorable Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pinellas County  
The Honorable Bob Gualtieri, Sheriff, Pinellas County  
Gay Inskip, Trial Courts Administrator  
Ita M. Neymotin, Regional Counsel, Second District  
Ngozi Acholonu, Assistant Regional Counsel, Second District  
Jewel White, County Attorney, Pinellas County  
Barry A. Burton, County Administrator, Pinellas County  
Emily Norton, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, General Counsel  
Harold Vielhauer, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, General Counsel  
Major Joseph Franza, Florida Highway Patrol, Troop Commander  
Captain Maurice Hensley, Florida Highway Patrol, Pinellas Park District Commander  
Jeff Rohrs, BTS Chief Information Officer, Pinellas Business Technology Services  
Tim Staney, Program Manager, Pinellas Business Technology Services  
Tonya Rainwater, Justice CCMS Project Sponsor  
Local Law Enforcement Agencies  
Bar Associations, Pasco and Pinellas Counties  
Law Libraries, Pasco and Pinellas Counties