MODIFICATION TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN
(Effective 01-01-2009)

The Circuit Judges in and for the Twentieth Judicial District of the State of Arkansas, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 14 issued by the Arkansas Supreme Court on April 6, 2001, propose the following plan for allocation of caseload within this district.

Amended Plan

All case assignments, allocations, definitions and directives pursuant to the original plan unless specifically herein modified shall remain the same and shall not in any manner be modified.

MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS

Paragraphs II & IV shall be amended as follows:

II. (a)(d) Second Division 30% of all cases filed by OCSE, including reopens.

IV. Fourth Division – Honorable David M. Clark

> **Faulkner County** – 70% of all cases filed by the Office of Child Support Enforcement including reopen cases.
>
> **Van Buren and Searcy County** - Paragraph C All child support Enforcement cases including reopen cases.

The undersigned submit this Modification of their Plan based upon the directives of Administrative Order No. 14 after taking into consideration the interest of the Judges involved, the litigants, and an equitable and agreeable division of the caseload.

Submitted this _____ day of July, 2009.

Honorable David L. Reynolds
First Division

Honorable Michael A. Maggio
Second Division

Honorable Charles E. Clawson, Jr.
Third Division

Honorable David M. Clark
Fourth Division

Honorable Rhonda K. Wood
Fifth Division

ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN
For The Twentieth Judicial District
(Effective 01-01-2009)

The Circuit Judges in and for the Twentieth Judicial District of the State of Arkansas, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 14 issued by the Arkansas Supreme Court on April 6, 2001, propose the following plan for allocation of caseload within this district.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

The judges of the Twentieth Judicial District shall meet periodically (no less than quarterly) and shall consider case management, administrative procedures, forms, calendars, etc. Any modification of this plan shall be by written agreement signed by a majority of the judges of the district to be submitted to the Arkansas Supreme Court for approval. The case coordinators of each division shall meet as necessary to coordinate the use of courtrooms. Each year a calendar shall be printed and published indicating courtroom assignments.

CASE ASSIGNMENT AND ALLOCATION

The judges of the district have arrived at the following case assignment and allocation plan after considering the individual training and experience of each judge, the caseload and frequency of hearings in all the counties of the district, mandated time requirements, courtroom facilities and the availability of jurors:

RANDOM ASSIGNMENT

The Clerk of the Court shall assign newly filed cases by random drawing of colored marbles (or computerized method when available from the Administrative Office of the Courts) in the following proportions:

I. **First Division** - Honorable David L. Reynolds

Faulkner, Searcy and Van Buren Counties

a. 50% of all Criminal cases;

b. 10% of all Domestic Relations (excluding cases filed by the Office Child Support Enforcement.);

c. All petitions seeking permanent Orders of Protection;

d. All Domestic Relations cases involving parties who have pending or permanent Orders of Protection (issued in the Twentieth Judicial District); and

e. All felony and misdemeanor cases involving domestic violence filed in Circuit Court.

II. **Second Division** - Honorable Michael A. Maggio

Faulkner County

a. 20% of all Domestic Relations cases (excluding cases filed by the Office Child

b. 60% of all Civil cases;

c. 50% of all Probate cases;

d. 30% of all cases filed by the Office of Child Support Enforcement; and

e. All felony and misdemeanor cases filed in Circuit Court alleging violation of the Arkansas Hot Check Law.

Searcy and Van Buren Counties

a. 80% of all Civil cases; and

b. 50% of all Probate cases.

III. Third Division – Honorable Charles E. Clawson, Jr.

Faulkner County, Searcy and Van Buren Counties

a. 50% of all Criminal cases;

b. 10% of all Domestic Relations cases (excluding cases filed by the Office Child Support Enforcement.); and

c. All Drug Court cases.

IV. Fourth Division – Honorable David M. Clark

Faulkner County

a. 60% of all Domestic Relations cases (excluding cases filed by the Office Child Support Enforcement.);

b. 20% of all Civil cases;

c. 50% of all Probate cases;

d. 70% of all cases filed by the Office of Child Support Enforcement;

e. All Dependency-Neglect cases;

f. All Domestic Relations cases where custody is an issue and the child/children are already under the jurisdiction of Fourth Division Circuit Court;

g. Adult Protective Services cases;

h. All Probate cases concerning residents at the Conway Human Development Center; and

i. FINS and Juvenile Delinquency cases where the family is already under the jurisdiction of Fourth Division Circuit Court and the Fourth Division Circuit Court believes it necessary for judicial economy and the interests of the parties.

Searcy and Van Buren Counties

a. 80% of all Domestic Relations cases (excluding cases filed by the Office Child Support Enforcement.);

b. 50% of all Probate cases;

c. All Child Support Enforcement Cases;

d. All Dependency-Neglect cases;

e. All Domestic Relations cases where custody is an issue and the child/children are already under the jurisdiction of Fourth Division Circuit Court;

f. All Adult Protective Services cases; and

g. FINS and Juvenile Delinquency cases where the family is already under the jurisdiction of Fourth Division Circuit Court and the Fourth Division Circuit Court believes it necessary for judicial economy and the interests of the parties.

V. **Fifth Division**– Honorable Rhonda K. Wood

Faulkner, Searcy and Van Buren Counties

a. 20% of all Civil cases;

b. All Juvenile Delinquency cases;

c. All Juvenile FINS cases;

d. All Teen Court cases;

e. All Criminal cases where juveniles are charged as adults, and any co-defendants. This will include all first appearance, plea and arraignments and any future proceedings in these cases; and

f. Dependency-Neglect cases where the juvenile is already under the jurisdiction of Fifth Division Circuit Court and the Fifth Division Circuit Court believes it necessary for judicial economy and the interests of the parties.

SUPPLEMENTAL AND EMERGENCY PROCEEDINGS

It is preferable for the judge assigned to a case to handle all proceedings pertaining to that case. With the courts being mindful of the following provisions:

a. **Uncontested Matters:** The judges of each division shall preside over uncontested matters when presented
b. **Emergency and ex parte orders:** Emergency and ex parte orders shall be presented to and heard by the judge assigned unless that judge is unavailable.
c. **Probation Revocations:** Probation revocations shall be assigned to the division that sentenced the defendant, unless prohibited by time limitations.
d. **Reopening of Cases:** Cases that were closed prior to July 1, 2007 and re-opened

d. **Reopening of Cases:** Cases that were closed prior to July 1, 2007 and re-opened shall be assigned in accordance with this plan. Cases that were closed after July 1, 2007 shall be reassigned to the same division, the exception being that Fourth Division cases closed between July1, 2007 and December 31, 2008 shall be reopened in Fifth Division and Fifth Division cases closed between July 1, 2007 and December 31, 2008 shall be reopened in Fourth Division.

e. **Exchange**: All Judges may sit on exchange when necessary for judicial economy.

f. **Assignment of Cases**: Assignment according to the plan does not negate the authority of each judge to hear all types of cases when appropriate.

g. **Conflicts:** Each division shall accept transfer assignments on rotating bases from other divisions in cases where a judge has a conflict with a case. The clerk shall make adjustments by exchanging marbles for the judges involved in the exchange.

The undersigned submit this Plan based upon the directives of Administrative Order No. 14 after taking into consideration the interest of the judges involved and after seeking an equitable and agreeable division of the caseload.

SUBMITTED THIS TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2008.

HONORABLE DAVID L. REYNOLDS
FIRST DIVISION

HONORABLE MICHAEL A. MAGGIO
SECOND DIVISION

HONORABLE CHARLES E. CLAWSON, JR.
THIRD DIVISION

HONORABLE RHONDA K. WOOD
FOURTH DIVISION

HONORABLE DAVID M. CLARK
FIFTH DIVISION