

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER: A-2023-26-C

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REGARDING  
WEEKEND AND HOLIDAY DUTY 2024**  
**(Amended only to transfer Judge McCourt to Marion and Judge Helm to Lake)**

The undersigned having considered that (1) Rule 3.130(a) of the Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure provides for the prompt first appearance of all arrested persons, (2) it is the opinion of a majority of the Circuit and County Court Judges of the Fifth Judicial Circuit that such judges share the responsibility for first appearance duty on weekends and holidays, and (3) matters other than first appearance hearings sometimes arise during weekend and holidays, it is upon consideration thereof and pursuant to Rule 2.215 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration:

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows:

1. When a single holiday falls within a regular work week the judge assigned to duty the preceding weekend shall also be assigned to duty on such holiday. In Lake and Marion counties, when a holiday falls on a Friday, the duty will switch at noon and the holiday will be split between the two judges on that day. It will be the responsibility of the morning duty judge to handle all bond hearings and shelters.
2. The Administrative Judges of Citrus, Hernando, and Sumter Counties shall enter an appropriate administrative order or otherwise establish policy to provide for availability of a duty judge during periods not covered by this order. In those counties, weekend duty shall begin at 5:00 P.M.
3. In Marion County, the duty judge shall be responsible, on a 24-hour basis, for handling emergency matters in the absence of the judge assigned to the division where the emergency arises, including at all times the courthouse is open.
4. Nothing in this Order shall preclude judges from trading or accepting responsibility for another judge's duty. Should any judge be unavailable for assigned duty it shall be his or her responsibility to contact another judge to be available.
5. It shall be required in Lake County that no later than 11:30 a.m. on the Friday preceding a weekend the on-duty judge shall deliver to the next on duty judge the cell phone and iPad in order to

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provide 24-hour emergency contact with such judge through the Lake County Sheriff's Department.

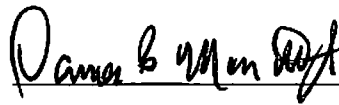
6. Any County Court Judge on weekend or holiday duty is hereby assigned and appointed to act as a circuit court judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit should an emergency arise requiring the actions of a circuit court judge during his or her duties.

7. The Circuit Court or County Court Judge responsible for weekend or holiday first appearance duty in those counties wherein any juvenile(s) are being held awaiting a judicial hearing pursuant to Chapter 39.F.S. shall also be responsible for conducting such juvenile hearing. It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Children and Family Services to notify the judge on duty of the need for such hearing.

8. The attached document contains the duty rotation schedule. **THIS DUTY SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. PLEASE SEE THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT WEBSITE FOR THE MOST CURRENT SCHEDULE.**

9. The provisions of this Order shall become effective at 12:01 a.m., May 13, 2024

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, at Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024.



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Daniel B. Merritt, Jr., Chief Judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit

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## WEEKEND and HOLIDAY DUTY 2024

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JANUARY, 2024

LAKE COUNTY

MARION COUNTY

TRI-COUNTY

1 (Holiday)	Pepperman	Brigham	Carney
6,7	Rada	Rogers	Helm
13,14	Curington	Hodges	Morley
15 (Holiday)	Curington	Hodges	Morley
20,21	Davis	King	Merritt Jr.
27,28	Mosley	Cotton	Barbee

### FEBRUARY, 2024

3,4	Jones	Bass	Hatcher
10,11	McCourt	Herndon	Bell
17,18	Welke	Sanders	Hitzemann
24,25	Takac	Youmans	Falvey

### MARCH, 2024

2,3	Monty	Barnes	Fritton
9,10	Baxley	Craggs	Spaight
16,17	Nimeth	Jerald	Healis
23,24	Pepperman	Tatti	Eineman
29 (Holiday)	Pepperman AM/Rada PM	Tatti AM/Landt PM	Howard
30,31	Rada	Landt	Howard

### APRIL, 2024

6,7	Curington	Thompson	Scaglione
13,14	Davis	Brigham	Toner
20,21	Mosley	Rogers	Militello
27,28	Jones	Hodges	Vergara

### MAY, 2024

4,5	McCourt	King	Carney
11,12	Welke	Cotton	New County Judge
18,19	Takac	Bass	Morley
25,26	Monty	Herndon	Merritt, Jr
27 (Holiday)	Monty	Herndon	Merritt, Jr.

### JUNE, 2024

1,2	Baxley	Sanders	Barbee
8,9	Nimeth	Youmans	Hatcher
15,16	Pepperman	Barnes	Bell
22,23	Rada	Craggs	Hitzemann
29,30	Curington	Jerald	Falvey

LAKE COUNTY

MARION COUNTY

TRI-COUNTY

4 (Holiday)	Curington	Jerald	Fritton
5 (Holiday)	Curington AM/Davis PM	Jerald AM/McCourt PM	Fritton
6,7	Davis	McCourt	Fritton
13,14	Mosley	Landt	Spaight
20,21	Jones	Thompson	Healis
27,28	Helm	Brigham	Eineman

AUGUST, 2024

3,4	Welke	Rogers	Howard
10,11	Takac	Hodges	Scaglione
17,18	Monty	King	Toner
24,25	Baxley	Cotton	Militello
31	Nimeth	Bass	Vergara

SEPTEMBER, 2024

1	Nimeth	Bass	Vergara
2 (Holiday)	Nimeth	Bass	Vergara
7,8	Pepperman	Herndon	Carney
14,15	Rada	Sanders	New County Judge
21,22	Curington	Youmans	Morley
28,29	Davis	Barnes	Merritt, Jr.

OCTOBER, 2024

3 (Holiday)	Davis	Barnes	Merritt, Jr.
5,6	Mosley	Craggs	Barbee
12,13	Jones	Jerald	Hatcher
19,20	Helm	McCourt	Bell
26,27	Welke	Landt	Hitzemann

NOVEMBER, 2024

2,3	Takac	Thompson	Falvey
9,10	Monty	Brigham	Fritton
11 (Holiday)	Monty	Brigham	Fritton
16,17	Baxley	Rogers	Spaight
23,24	Nimeth	Hodges	Healis
28 (Holiday)	Nimeth	Hodges	Eineman
29 (Holiday)	Nimeth AM/Pepperman PM	Hodges AM/King PM	Eineman
30	Pepperman	King	Eineman

DECEMBER, 2024

1	Pepperman	King	Eineman
7,8	Rada	Cotton	Howard
14,15	Curington	Bass	Scaglione
21,22	Davis	Herndon	Toner
24 (Holiday)	Davis	Herndon	Toner
25 (Holiday)	Davis	Herndon	Toner
28,29	Mosley	Sanders	Militello