

Changes to Lee County Civil/Criminal Court
Notice #2

Beginning October 1st, the second phase of the initiative to divide County Court into civil and criminal divisions will be implemented. Over the weekend, the Clerk of Court will start reassigning all criminal cases formerly assigned to Judge Gill and Judge Mirra to the 6 criminal county court judges who will handle the CT/MM criminal matters. Previously, all County Civil cases were re-assigned to either Judge Gill, Judge Mirra or Judge Leontiev (Group 9). All reassignments will be completed over the weekend, and County Court will be fully bifurcated by start of business, Monday, October 4, 2021. To determine the judge to whom your case may have been reassigned, please check the Clerk of Court website.

IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA

ORDER

EFFECTIVE October 4, 2021, the approximate percentage of assignments for County Court cases in Lee County shall be as follows:

LEE COUNTY

Honorable Josephine M. Gagliardi	
Criminal – Lee County	
Misdemeanors, Ordinances & Criminal Traffic	16.7%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%
Honorable Devin S. George	
Criminal – Lee County	
Misdemeanors, Ordinances & Criminal Traffic	16.7%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%
Honorable Zachary M. Gill	
Civil – Lee County	
Civil and Other Civil	33.3%
Evictions	33.3%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%
Honorable Maria E. Gonzalez	
Criminal – Lee County	
Misdemeanors, Ordinances & Criminal Traffic	16.7%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%
Honorable Archie B. Hayward, Jr.	
Criminal – Lee County	
Misdemeanors, Ordinances & Criminal Traffic	16.7%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%
Honorable Erik Leontiev	
Civil – Lee County	
Civil and Other Civil	33.3%
Evictions	33.3%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%
Honorable Nicole L. Mirra	
Civil – Lee County	
Civil and Other Civil	33.3%
Evictions	33.3%
Small Claims	11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions	11.1%

hereby certify this document to be a true and correct copy of the record on file in my office
Linda Doggett, Clerk of Circuit/
County Court, Lee County, FL
Dated:

Filed Lee County Clerk of Courts 10/1/2021

By 
Deputy Clerk



Honorable Tara Pascotto Paluck
Criminal – Lee County
Misdemeanors, Ordinances & Criminal Traffic 16.7%
Small Claims 11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions 11.1%

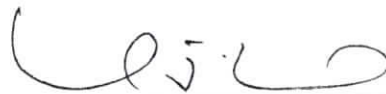
Honorable H. Andrew Swett
Criminal – Lee County
Misdemeanors, Ordinances & Criminal Traffic 16.7%
Small Claims 11.1%
Civil Traffic Infractions 11.1%

The assignments are to be made by an approved random selection method unless otherwise indicated, and certified to the Court Administrator on behalf of the County Administrative Judge. **NO** case shall be specifically assigned or reassigned without a **written** Order issued by the Chief Judge or Administrative Judge.

THE CLERK is hereby directed to change the assignment to comply with the above.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers, in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, this

1st day of October, 2021.



Michael T. McHugh
Chief Judge

SAW:tb



Changes to Lee County Civil/Criminal Court

County Court, in Lee County, is being separated into two divisions: criminal and civil with six criminal judges and three civil judges. These changes will take effect beginning September 8th, 2021. This stems from the Florida Supreme Court directive (AOSC 20-23 Amendment 12 and local AO 1.13) in which Trial Courts are required to implement civil case management procedures in circuit and county court. This includes Small Claims cases in which the rule has been invoked. The Lee County Clerk will begin the migration of the Lee County Civil (CC) cases and appropriate Small Claims (SC) cases on September 3rd, 2021.

The reassignments will be divided as follows:

- CC cases currently assigned to Judge Hayward and Judge Gonzalez will be reassigned to the new judge;
- CC cases currently assigned to Judge Gagliardi and Judge Swett will be reassigned to Judge Gill;
- CC cases currently assigned to Judge George and Judge Paluck will be reassigned to Judge Mirra.

The Circuit is awaiting the appointment of the ninth Lee County Judge by Governor Ron DeSantis. Judges Gill and Mirra will cover the civil dockets until the newly appointed judge arrives.

For assistance with the G9 docket please contact Judge Mirra's office at (239) 533-2954 or Judge Gill's office at (239) 533-2677. All orders are to be submitted via the E-Portal by selecting G9.

Small Claims (SC) cases in which the rule already has been invoked will be reassigned according the same methodology used for the reassignment of CC cases. All SC cases in which the rule has not been invoked will remain with the currently assigned judge. All civil traffic cases will remain with their currently assigned judge.

Judges Gill and Mirra will continue to cover their criminal dockets for the month of September until October 4th when the criminal case reassignment of active criminal county cases will occur. More information will be released regarding the criminal case reassignments at a future date.