

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 6.103-12/13*

**ASSIGNMENT OF CASES
SOUTH COUNTY PROBATE/GUARDIANSHIP
MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
DIVISIONS "IX" "IY" AND "IZ"**

In the interest of judicial economy and to increase the efficiency of service to litigants, the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit created two additional Probate and Guardianship Divisions "IX" and "IZ" on August 12, 2011. **Based upon review of the pending South County Family and Probate/Guardianship caseloads and judicial rotations, effective January 22, 2013, Probate Division "IZ" was temporarily closed and the pending cases were evenly divided between probate divisions "IX" and "IY" and newly filed Probate/Guardianship/Marchman and Mental Health/Substance Abuse cases were assigned only to divisions "IX" and "IY".**

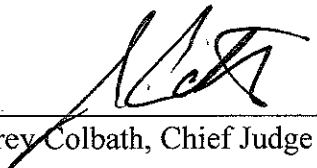
Court Administration will re-open Probate/Guardianship Division "IZ" effective December 1, 2013. Therefore, the ratio assignment for newly filed Probate/Guardianship/Marchman and Mental Health/Substance Abuse cases requires adjustment.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

- 1. Effective December 1, 2013, newly filed South County Probate/Guardianship/Marchman and Mental Health/Substance Abuse cases shall be randomly assigned in the following manner: Division "IX" thirty-three percent (33%), Division "IY" thirty-three percent (33%), and Division "IZ" thirty-four percent (34%).**
- 2. All Ex-parte and emergency hearings scheduled in Division "IZ" prior to the rotations on January 22, 2014 (should any arise) will be heard by the divisional Judges in Divisions "IX" and "IY" in the following manner: Division "IX" will handle odd numbered cases, and Division "IY" will handle even numbered cases. Following rotations on January 22, 2014, the Judge assigned to the Division "IZ" will handle all cases assigned to that Division.**
- 3. The Administrative Office of the Court shall monitor the pending caseloads for each of the South County Family Divisions to ensure equity amongst the divisions in light of other assignments.**

4. To the extent that this Administrative Order differs from Administrative Order 6.101-1/13 (as amended), this Administrative Order controls.

DONE and **SIGNED** in Chambers at West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, this 30 day of December, 2013 *nunc pro tunc* December 1, 2013.



Jeffrey Colbath, Chief Judge

*supersedes admin. order 6.103-1/13