Serial: 106883

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

No. 89-R-99015-SCT

FILED

SEP 0 1 2003
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SUPREME COURT
COURT OF APPEALS

RE: LOCAL RULES OF THE COUNTY AND YOUTH COURTS OF HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

ORDER

This matter has come before the Court en banc on petition of the judges of the County and Youth Courts of Harrison County for approval of a new Local Rule on Case Assignment. Having considered the petition, this Court finds that the petition should be granted and that the rule should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the petition of the judges of the County and Youth Courts of Harrison County for approval of a new Local Rule on Case Assignment is granted, and that such rule as set forth in the order of the First Chancery Court District of Mississippi attached as Exhibit "A" hereto is approved.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the clerk of the Supreme Court shall spread this order on the minutes of the Court and shall forthwith forward a true certified copy of this

order to West Publishing Company for inclusion in the Southern Reporter, Second Series (Mississippi Edition).

SO ORDERED, this the 2rd day of September, 2003.

COURT

McRAE, P.J. AND DIAZ, EASLEY AND GRAVES, JJ., NOT PARTICIPATING

EXHIBIT "A" TO SUPREME COURT ORDER

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HARR CTY COURT

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IN THE COUNTY AND YOUTH COURTS OF HARRISON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

LOCAL RULE ON CASE ASSIGNMENT

BE IT SO ORDERED, that pursuant to the authority vested in me as Senior County Judge for Harrison County, Mississippi, and having the agreement of the other Judges, the following schedule order shall take effect beginning July 1, 2003:

- (1) Judge Ward is assigned to hear Youth Court matters, with emphasis on abuse, termination of parental rights, CHINS, and neglect cases.
- (2) Judge Midcalf will preside over cases in the First Judicial District during the January, February, May, June, September, and October terms of Court, and will preside over cases in the Second Judicial district for the March, April, July, August, November, and December terms of Court. Judge Hewes will preside over cases in the First Judicial District during the March, April, July, August, November and December terms, and will preside over cases in the Second Judicial District for the January, February, May, June, September and October terms of Court.
- (3) Judge Hewes shall be responsible for presiding over 75% of the delinquency cases at Youth Court with those cases being designated as referral numbers ending in 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9 preceded by and odd number, and all companion cases thereto. Judge Ward shall be responsible for presiding over the remaining 25% of delinquency cases with those cases being designated as referral numbers ending in 1, 6, and 9 preceded by an even number, together with all companion cases thereto. Either Judge may hear detention and shelter hearings. In the event of recusal of the assigned Judge, the other shall be assigned to hear the matter.
- (4) Judge Midcalf will hear all DUI first offense cases, along with ancillary criminal matters thereto. All remaining criminal matters, including DUI second offense cases, shall be assigned equally and randomly to Judge Hewes and Judge Midcalf.

(5) All civil cases filed in either Judicial District shall be assigned randomly by computer as follows: 60% to Judge Midcalf, 30% to Judge Hewes and 10% to Judge Ward, with the exception of cases and motions triable within five days notice. This list would include replevins, unlawful entry and detainers, claims and deliveries, and judgment debtor examinations and other possessory writs. These cases may be heard by the Judge assigned to sit at the Courthouse where the matter is to be heard.

SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED, this the 271 day of June, 2003.

GASTON H. HEWES, JR.
SENIOR COUNTY COURT JUDGE