



## GENERAL CIVIL CASE ASSIGNMENTS

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
C03 2026-10

RESCINDS:  
C03 2024-20

Court Address  
2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 711, Detroit, MI 48226

Court Telephone No.  
(313) 224-5261

This Administrative Order rescinds and replaces Administrative Order 2024-20.

### IT IS ORDERED:

Pursuant to the provisions of MCR 8.111(B) Assignment of Cases, it is ordered that the following system be used effective upon SCAO approval:

1. All cases must be assigned “by lot” within the following case type categories:
  - a. License Restoration cases (AL): each judge shall be assigned a minimum of ten (10) cases before any judge receives an eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) case.
  - b. Superintending Control cases (AS): each judge shall be assigned a minimum of one (1) case before any judge receives a second (2<sup>nd</sup>) case.
  - c. All other appeals from lower courts and administrative agencies (AA, AE, AP, AV) and all other extraordinary writs, including post-adjudicated habeas corpus (AH), and actions for mandamus and quo warranto or other writs (AW), excluding the following:
    - i. all actions involving election issues;
    - ii. all matters in which the Third Circuit Court is a party;
    - iii. all appeals from Wayne County Veteran Services determinations; and
    - iv. all MCL 28.425d appeals for the failure to provide a receipt, failure to issue a license, or the issuance of a notice of statutory disqualification to carry a concealed pistol.
  - d. Except as provided in subpart e., “other civil matters” case types (CC, CD, CE, CH, CK, CL, CP, CR, CZ), excluding cases identified in the caption as brought by a Land Bank (CH), a City of Detroit blight abatement case (CH), or City of Detroit property tax collection case (CZ).
  - e. For the purpose of administrative efficiency, the following cases shall be assigned to the docket of the Chief Judge or a judge or group of judges designated by the Chief Judge in a Docket Directive:
    - i. all actions involving election issues;
    - ii. the Property Forfeiture Docket encompassing property forfeiture cases (CF);
    - iii. the Tax Foreclosure Docket encompassing all Housing and Real Estate cases (CH) involving tax foreclosure claims in which the City of Detroit, Wayne County Treasurer, or the County of Wayne is a named party;

- iv. all nuisance abatement actions (CH) or expedited quiet title/foreclosure actions (CH) that are filed by the Detroit Land Bank Authority or the Wayne County Land Bank Corporation;
  - v. all nuisance abatement actions (CH), drug house actions (CF), nuisance abatement actions involving commercial property (CH), nuisance abatement actions involving illegal dumping, littering, dangerous conditions and/or blight violations (CH) in which the City of Detroit is a named plaintiff (excluding cases filed by the Detroit Land Bank Authority);
  - vi. all civil lawsuits (CH) brought by the City of Detroit pursuant to the Detroit City Charter at § 8-403(7) seeking to collect unpaid property taxes pursuant to MCL 211.47(2);
  - vii. all petitions requesting the authorization of a grand jury. The Chief Judge shall decide whether to grant or deny the petition requesting the authorization of a grand jury.
- f. Other General Civil cases (CZ) involving fire insurance escrow claims filed pursuant to MCL 500.2845 in which the City of Detroit is the named plaintiff are to be assigned by lot in groups of not more than fifty (50) cases to each judge selected.
  - g. All MCL 117.4q(17) appeals of an administrative hearing officer's decision in a MCL 117.4q blight violation hearing (AA).
  - h. All causes of action to quiet title, whether or not the City of Detroit, Wayne County Treasurer, or County of Wayne is a named party, that arise from tax foreclosure actions heard on the Tax Foreclosure Docket.
  - i. Medical Malpractice (NH), Other Professional Malpractice (NM), and Products Liability cases (NP), excluding cases involving exposure to asbestos or personal injuries due to silicone gel implant devices.
  - j. For the purposes of administrative efficiency, all Products Liability (NP) cases and Other General Civil causes of action in which injury is claimed as a result of exposure to asbestos or personal injury due to silicone gel implant devices shall be assigned to a designated judge.
  - k. All other civil damage cases (ND, NF, NI, NO, NS, NZ), excluding cases involving exposure to asbestos or personal injuries due to silicone gel implant devices.
  - l. All ancillary or other special proceedings, which may be treated as cases (PC, PD, PR, and PS).
  - m. For the purposes of administrative efficiency, Other General Civil Cases (CZ) filed to obtain a Writ of Garnishment per MCL 600.4027 and MCL 117.4q in a matter arising out of the filing of a Notice of Administrative Judgment ordered by the City of Detroit Department of Administrative Hearings shall be assigned to a designated judge.
  - n. For the purposes of administrative efficiency, all civil proceedings filed that relate to or arise out International Transmission Company's (ITC's) attempt to gain easements for purposes of ITC's vegetation management program through condemnation proceedings shall be

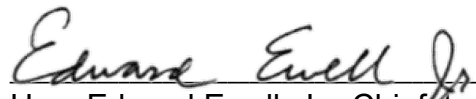


judges have received at least four (4) cases, except as noted for case categories 1.(a), 1.(b), 1.(e), and 1.(f).

5. Business Court cases (CB) shall be assigned by blind draw to the judges appointed to the Business Court pursuant to MCL 600.8031, *et seq.*
6. Pursuant to MCR 2.112(O)(3), in order to ensure that business or commercial disputes are assigned to the Business Court, if the Court, on its own initiative, determines that an action is a “business or commercial dispute” as that term is defined at MCL 600.8031, *et seq.*, the Court shall assign the case to the Business Court. This determination shall be made by a judge designated by the Chief Judge.
7. If it is determined that, due to a fluctuation in civil or business court filings and for the efficient administration of justice, it is necessary to equalize a Business Court docket, the Case Processing Department shall adjust the draw for that docket so as to create a more fair and equitable distribution of cases amongst all judges.
8. Disqualification of a judge.
  - a. If a judge is disqualified or for other good reason cannot undertake an assigned case, the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division shall assign it to another judge by written order stating the reason for the reassignment. All cases must be reassigned “by lot”.
  - b. When a judge is disqualified from hearing a case, the case shall be exchanged for a comparable case from the docket of the judge receiving the reassigned case as determined by that judge. The criteria for determining a comparable case shall include: case type, case age, and number of plaintiffs and defendants.
9. The Chief Judge shall be excluded from those judges available for “by lot” assignments. The Chief Judge shall also be excluded from receiving cases pursuant to MCR 8.111(D)(1) that arise out of the same transaction or occurrence as a civil case previously assigned to the Chief Judge if either party in the case to be reassigned has made a jury demand and that demand remains in full force and effect.

5/26/2026

Date

  
Hon. Edward Ewell, Jr., Chief Judge  
Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan

**From:** [Region1 Info](#)  
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**Subject:** C03 2026-10 General Civil Case Assignments- Approved  
**Date:** Thursday, May 28, 2026 9:48:58 AM

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C03 2026-10 General Civil Case Assignments- Approved  
C03 2024-20 General Civil Case Assignments- RESCINDED

This is to advise that we have reviewed the above referenced administrative order and find that it conforms to the requirements of MCR 8.112(B). This order is being accepted and filed until advised by your court of any change.

Donald Coleman  
Region 1 Administrator  
Michigan State Court Administrative Office  
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Detroit, MI 48202  
313-972-3300

*Megan Burkall*

**Regional Management Assistant, Region VI**  
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