



JUN 01 1999
MCR 8
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THE THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF MICHIGAN

MICHAEL F. SAPALA
CHIEF JUDGE

701 CITY-COUNTY BUILDING
2 WOODWARD AVE.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

(313) 224-5531
FAX (313) 237-1114

DOCKET DIRECTIVE 1999 - 7

STATE OF MICHIGAN
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

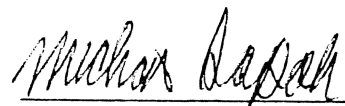
SUBJECT: **Docket Successor Policies and Processes**

This Directive, issued pursuant to MCR 8.111, further delineates the policies and processes governing the transfer of dockets between judges within the Court as follows;

1. When a judge leaves the Court, his or her docket of pending and post judgment matters shall be reassigned, in its entirety, to a "docket successor". *
2. When a judge remains with the Court but transfers to another division, his or her docket of pending and post judgment matters shall be reassigned, in its entirety, to a docket successor. EXCEPT FOR MOTIONS FOR RELIEF FROM JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO (MCR 6.502 et seq.)
3. When a judge leaves a division and subsequently returns to that division, he or she will assume an available docket, in its entirety.
4. If a judge switches between a criminal "trial" docket and a criminal "AOI" docket, all pending cases, except cases awaiting sentencing will be assigned to the docket successor. All cases awaiting sentence and all post-conviction matters shall remain assigned to the original judge.
5. All post-conviction matters shall be assigned to either the original judge or the docket successor as dictated by an appellate court order.
6. Any cases returning to the Court without an apparent docket successor shall be blind drawn by the Presiding Judge of the appropriate division.

* A docket successor is not always a judicial successor. Judicial succession is exclusively due to the filling of a vacancy on the Bench, either by election or appointment. Docket succession may be due to the filling of a vacancy or the reassignment of a judge to a different division within the court.

This directive cancels any previous directive regarding this subject.



Michael F. Sapala
Chief Judge
Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan

Date: 5-27-99