	<b>JOINT ORDER ADOPTING THIRD CIRCUIT COURT FAMILY COURT PLAN</b>	<b>LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER C03 2025-12J P82 2025-05J</b>
		<b>RESCINDS: C03 2023-06J P82 2023-01J</b>

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

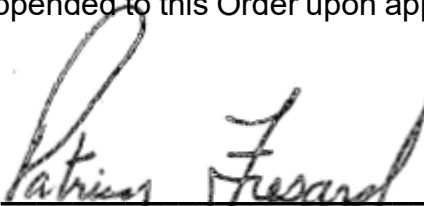
Court Telephone No.  
(313) 224-5261


This Administrative Order rescinds and replaces Third Circuit Court Administrative Order 2023 – 06J and Wayne County Probate Court Administrative Order 2023-01J.

**IT IS ORDERED:**

This Joint Local Administrative Order is issued in accordance with 2002 Public Act 682. The purpose of this Order is to adopt the Family Court Plan appended to this Order upon approval by the State Court Administrative Office.

**Dated: June 24, 2025**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Perez Fresard, Chief Judge  
Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Braxton, Chief Judge  
Wayne County Probate Court

## FAMILY DIVISION ESTABLISHMENT

### I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Authority. Pursuant to MCL 600.1011, as amended by 2002 PA 682, each judicial circuit is required to establish a family court plan (FCP or “the Plan”). Supreme Court Administrative Order 2003-2 requires the family court plan to be submitted for approval to the State Court Administrative Office (SCAO) for filing in accordance with the statute and guidelines provided by the SCAO. The Chief Circuit Judge and the Chief Probate Judge shall enter into an agreement establishing how the family division will be operated in the circuit and how the services will be coordinated. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court has the authority to determine the duration of a Judge’s service pursuant to the family court plan in furtherance of this goal. This court has a multi-judge family division and the Chief Judge has selected a Presiding Judge to serve in that capacity. See Appendix A for further detail.
- B. Goals. The goal(s) of this FCP are described below. The Plan has been designed to ensure the efficient and effective operation of the Family Division of the Wayne County Circuit Court, while addressing the intent of “one family, one judge” and meeting the Court’s mission of serving the community by providing accessible and equal justice for all. The Plan takes into account the volume of Family Division cases in Wayne County, creating an equitable distribution of workload, maximizing efficiency in considering SCAO’s time standards and furthers the goal of ensuring Family Division Judges are committed to and experts in the practice of family law.
- C. Operation. This FCP supersedes prior plans that have been approved for the operation of the family division. This Plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary including when family division judicial assignments change, and at least every 2 years, by the Chief Circuit and Chief Probate Judges to ensure that the Plan meets the statutory requirements and complies with the Family Court Plan Requirements and Guidelines provided by the SCAO. Administrators in the Circuit and Probate Courts will review and modify the plan upon any changes to operations or practice, or upon the change of any Judges serving in the Family Division. The Administrators shall consult with the Executive Court Administrator and the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court and the Chief Judge of the Probate Court as to any modifications needed. The Chief Judges shall meet to discuss and agree upon any modifications. In the event that there are no operational or judicial changes that require modification to the plan, the Court Administrators shall at least review the plan every two years.

### II. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. JUDICIAL RESOURCES / SERVICE

- 1. The Family Division of the Circuit Court shall consist of two sections, the Domestic Relations Section and the Juvenile Section. The number and names of the Judges presently assigned to each of the two Sections of the Family Division are listed in the attached Appendix A. The Chief Judge in his or her discretion may increase or reduce the number of Circuit Judges serving in the Family Division

depending on his or her review of the needs of the Third Circuit Court. Any such increase or reduction shall be reflected in a revised Appendix A. As changes occur regarding judicial service within either of the Sections of the Family Division, Appendix A will be updated and immediately forwarded to the Regional Office of the State Court Administrative Office.

2. Family Division Judges. Judges' service to the Family Division shall be consistent with the goal of developing sufficient judicial expertise in family law to properly serve the interests of the families and children whose cases are assigned to that Judge. The duration of a Circuit Judge's service pursuant to this Plan in either the Domestic Relations Section or the Juvenile Section shall be a minimum of three years, unless otherwise directed by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court shall have the authority and flexibility to determine the duration of any Circuit Judge's service to the Family Division.

<b>Judge-Family Juvenile Six (6) Judges</b>	<b>Current Term Expiration</b>	<b>Start Date in Family Juvenile</b>
<u>Hon. Sheila Ann Gibson</u>	January 1, 2029	Spring 2024 <sup>1</sup>
Hon. Karen Y. Braxton	January 1, 2031	<b>January 2013</b>
Hon. Todd Briggs*	January 1, 2031	January 2025
Hon. Jerome C. Cavanagh	January 1, 2031	January 2007
Hon. Judy Hartsfield*	January 1, 2027	<b>January 2025</b>
Hon. Adrienne G. Scruggs	January 1, 2031	January 2025
<b>Judge-Family Domestic Twelve (12) Judges</b>	<b>Current Term Expiration</b>	<b>Start Date in Family Domestic</b>
Hon. Helal A. Farhat	January 1, 2027	March 2019
Hon. Yvonna C. Abraham	January 1, 2029	July 2021
Hon. Eric W. Cholack	January 1, 2029	January 2009
Hon. Melissa A. Cox	January 1, 2029	January 2017
Hon. Susan A. Dabaja	January 1, 2029	April 2022
Hon. Christopher D. Dingell	January 1, 2027	January 2025 <sup>2</sup>
Hon. Lawrence Elassal	January 1, 2031	January 2024
Hon. Alexis. A Glendening	January 1, 2029	August 2015
Hon. Nicole N. Goodson	January 1, 2027	November 2022
Hon. Mary Beth Kelly	January 1, 2027	January 2021 <sup>3</sup>
Hon. Carla G. Testani	January 1, 2027	January 2019
Hon. Regina Triplett	January 1, 2029	January 2023

\* All judges assigned to the family division have discussed their assignment with their Chief Judge and acknowledged it will continue through their term or until reassignment as determined by their Chief Judge.

3. Judicial Expertise. Each Judge listed above may attend New Judge

\*Probate Court Judge assigned to serve in the Circuit-Family Division.

<sup>1</sup> Was assigned to the Family Division from Fall of 1999 through 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Was assigned to the Family-Juvenile Division from January 2003 to December 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Was assigned to Family from May 1999 to January 2002, from January 2008 to December 2010 and January 2021 to present.

Orientation as well as continued training consistent with MCJE rules, and is encouraged to attend training that informs the position and current skillset. Training opportunities are provided by the Michigan Judicial Institute (MJl), under MCL 600.1019. Each Judge selects and attends training and belong to organizations and associations that aligns with their docket and/or interests. Examples of such training include, but are not limited to domestic violence training, the Institute of Continuing Education Family Law Institute, American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers conference, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges training, Michigan Judicial Institute trainings. The rest of the court staff, including contracted staff, is provided with training opportunities afforded by local, state and national family division associations and organizations, MJl or other organizations. Staff are involved in relevant statewide associations and are active participants in trainings, meetings and workgroups.

4. Judicial Service. All Judges in “the Plan” will serve full time in the family division, under MCL 600.1011(3), where sufficient caseload and judicial resources exists. Judge Todd Briggs and Judge Judy A. Hartsfield are Probate Court Judges assigned to serve full time in the Family Division-Juvenile Section.

## B. ASSIGNMENT OF CASES

Cases involving members of the same family (aka “one family-one judge”) is defined as “When 2 or more matters within the same jurisdiction of the family division of circuit court involving members of the same family are pending in the same judicial circuit, those matters, whenever practicable, shall be assigned to the Judge to whom the first case was assigned.” [MCL 600.1023]. The term “whenever practicable” is not defined in statute but generally means to the greatest extent possible to further the goals of the family court plan described in section I(B).

1. Case Assignment. Case assignments will continue to be identified by case type codes, as per 1996 PA 388.
  - i. The Family Division – Domestic Relations Section will continue to hear all cases involving divorce, child custody, parenting time, paternity, child and spousal support, personal protection orders, emancipation of minors, parental consent waivers, and name changes.
  - ii. The Family Division – Juvenile Section will continue to hear cases involving adoption, child abuse and neglect, juvenile guardianship, and delinquency.

In accordance with MCR 8.111(B), all new judicial case assignments, except as otherwise stated, will be randomly drawn by lot to the Judges assigned to the appropriate Section of the Family Division. When two or more matters within the jurisdiction of a Section of the Family Division involving members of the same family are pending, those matters, whenever practicable, will be

assigned to the Family Division Judge who received the first filing involving a member of the immediate family.

2. Definitions.

For purposes of this FCP, the term “family” means: legal, adoptive or putative parents, legal guardians and child(ren).

For purposes of this FCP, the term “family member” means: a member of the immediate family.

For purposes of this FCP, the term “pending” means: the case is pre-judgment, meaning from time of filing of the complaint to the time the final judgment closes the case.

3. One Family-One Judge. To the extent practicable, all matters within the jurisdiction of the Family Division will be assigned to the same Judge to further the concept of “one family-one judge”, as follows:

- i. When a new child custody case is brought by an individual who became a guardian, temporary guardian, or limited guardian of a child through a Probate Court proceeding, the Circuit Court Judge shall confer with the Probate Judge who appointed the guardian and determine whether the child custody case should be reassigned to the Probate Judge. In the absence of an agreement, the child custody case shall be reassigned to the Probate Court.
- ii. When an action for divorce, annulment of a marriage, or emancipation of a minor is brought by an individual who became a guardian, temporary guardian, or limited guardian through a Probate Court proceeding, the Circuit Judge shall confer with the Probate Judge who appointed the guardian. If it is determined by the Probate Court Judge that the guardianship is no longer necessary, the action shall be adjudicated by the Domestic Relations Judge.
- iii. When a proceeding for child custody is commenced in the Domestic Relations Section that involves a child who is already the subject of a child protective proceeding pending before the Juvenile Section, the child custody action shall be referred to the Juvenile Section Judge for determination.
- iv. When a child protective proceeding is commenced in the Juvenile Section regarding a child who is already subject to a child custody proceeding in the Domestic Relations Section, the child custody proceeding shall be referred for determination to the Juvenile Section Judge already assigned to the child protective proceeding. If the Juvenile Section Judge finds there is jurisdiction over the Juvenile Section case, then the Juvenile Judge shall fully adjudicate the child custody proceeding, including making the child custody determination. The case shall then be referred back to the Domestic Relations Judge or their docket successor for all post-judgment matters.

- v. Parental Consent Waivers: All parental consent waivers shall continue to be assigned on a rotation basis within the Domestic Relations Section.
  - vi. Personal Protection Orders: All matters concerning personal protection orders shall continue to be assigned to the Personal Protection docket and heard by the Domestic Relations Judges on a rotation basis, except that when a personal protection matter relates to a currently pending Family Division action that is not a personal protection action, the personal protection matter will be decided by the Judge to whom the Family Division action is assigned.
  - vii. Extreme Risk Protection Orders: All matters concerning extreme risk protection orders shall continue to be assigned to the Extreme Risk Protection Order docket and heard by the Domestic Relations Judges on a rotation basis, except that when an extreme risk protection order matter relates to a currently pending Family Division action that is not an extreme risk protection order action, the extreme risk protection order matter will be decided by the Judge to whom the Family Division action is assigned.
  - viii. Children Absent from Placement without Legal Permission (AWOLP) Docket: Pursuant to Local Administrative Order C03 2025-11 or its successor, all AWOLP matters will be assigned to a designated Juvenile Section docket.
4. Prior Matters. When cases or motions are filed, the clerk's office shall review the case inventory and court records to see if the family, as defined herein, has a prior pending matter, as defined herein.
  5. Case Types. The primary case types of the family division are ABAC, AD, AF, AG, AM, AN, AO, AU, AY, DC, DJ, DL, DM, DO, DP, DS, DZ, EE, EJ, EM, EP, ER, EV, EZ, ID, JA, JG, NA, NC, NB, PH, PJ, PP, PW, TL, UE, UF, UI, UM, UN, VF, and VP. The ancillary case types that may be included in the Plan, if concurrent jurisdiction plans or other court configurations require it are CA, CY, DD, GA, GL, GM, JA, LG, MI, NC, and PO. FH (felony, non-payment of child support) cases are heard in the Criminal Division.
  6. Concurrent Cases. Cases not otherwise specified in this order may be transferred to a Judge upon agreement of the two Judges.
  7. The district and municipal courts of Wayne County shall be permitted to participate in the Juvenile Cases in District Court (JCDC) concurrent jurisdiction program of the Third Circuit Court, upon compliance with the requirements in MCL 600.401, et seq., and Mich S Ct Administrative Order 2003-1.

#### C. REASSIGNMENT OF CASES

1. Disqualifications. Disqualifications will first be handled as described under MCR 8.111(C)(1). Cases must be reassigned first with the court's family

division, then within the remaining bench, and finally by SCAO assignment.

- i. If a Judge is disqualified or for other good reason cannot undertake an assigned case, a Presiding Judge of the Family Division shall assign it to another Judge by written order stating the reason for the reassignment. If all Division Judges are disqualified, the full bench will be considered prior to seeking an assignment from SCAO. All cases must be reassigned "by lot".
  - ii. 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.
2. **Transfer.** Upon a Judge leaving service in the Family Division, the Judge's assigned cases will be reassigned to a successor Judge pursuant to previously approved Case Assignment Local Administrative Orders and Third Circuit Court Docket Directives regarding the transfer of cases. Reassignment of cases shall be in accordance with MCR 8.111(C). The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court will issue Administrative Orders and Docket Directives as necessary to implement administrative oversight of cases.
  3. **Dispute.** Any dispute on proper reassignment shall be resolved by the Chief Judge and/or Presiding Family Division Judges.

#### D. STAFFING AND FACILITIES

1. **Administrative Structure.** A family division organizational chart is included as Appendix A. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court has supervisory authority over the administration of the Family Division of the Circuit Court. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court has the authority and flexibility to determine the duration of a Judge's service in the family division.
  - i. The family division of the Circuit Court shall consist of the Family Division-Domestic Relations Section and Family Division-Juvenile Section, as described above.
  - ii. So long as the Probate Court has 8 Judges, 2 Probate Judges may be assigned to serve within the Family Division. At the discretion of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court, a Probate Judge designated to serve under this Plan may be assigned to the Domestic Relations Section or the Juvenile Section. When a Probate Judge assigned to the Family Division leaves the Division, the Chief Judge of the Probate Court may propose a Probate Judge to serve in the Family Division of the Third Circuit Court exercising jurisdiction pursuant to MCLA 600.1021. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court may reject that proposal, but must then assign a Circuit Court Judge to replace that Probate Judge.
  - iii. Probate Judges serving pursuant to the plan have the same power and authority as Circuit Judges in family division matters within this county/circuit in addition to powers and authority of a Judge of

probate court.

- iv. The Friend of the Court shall provide assistance and services to and for the family division, as required by statute. The Friend of the Court and personnel thereof are under the jurisdiction, control, and supervision of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court. In accord with MCL 552.503(5), the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court will manage the Friend of the Court and will continue efforts to improve the Friend of the Court services provided to families.
- v. Attorney Referees may be assigned to either section or both sections of the family division, pursuant to that Referee's specific assignment and local administrative order.
- vi. Family Assessment Services (FAS) assists the Family Division by performing the following assessments, in the Juvenile Section: competency/criminal responsibility, psychological assessments on designated cases, Juvenile Mental Health Court, pre-dispositional (including risk and needs and mental health assessment), diversion, best interest, permanency planning, custody/parenting time assessments on the abuse/neglect docket and adoption home studies. In addition, in the Juvenile section the following treatment services are provided: sex offender treatment, competency restoration and parenting group. In the Domestic Section the following assessments are provided to assist the Bench with processing of cases: custody, parenting time, psychological testing and mediation.
- vii. The Judges of each of the Sections of the Family Division will hold periodic meetings. In addition, periodic joint meetings of the two Sections shall be held.
- viii. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court shall enforce time standards applicable by statute, Supreme Court Administrative Order, and Local Administrative Order. A Docket Review Committee of the Circuit Court shall exist for both the Domestic Relations and the Juvenile Section. The Docket Review Committee of the Juvenile Section shall consist of at least one Probate Judge if any Probate Judge adjudicates Juvenile Section cases. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court will manage the facilities of the Third Circuit Court.
- ix. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court will manage the budget process for the Third Circuit Court, including the Family Division.
- x. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court shall ensure the Court undertakes efforts to better promote and deliver services to families. The Court will establish a diversity plan with training programs for Family Division Judges and employees to ensure court services are easily accessible by users and that the Court programs and services meet the needs of users of court services.
- xi. Pursuant to MCR 8.110(B)(2) and MCL 600.1011(3), the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court may appoint a Presiding Judge of the entire Family Division, or separate Presiding Judges for each of the two Sections, i.e., the Domestic Relations Section and Juvenile Section.
- xii. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court may add or remove any judge from either the Domestic Relations Section or the Juvenile Section in accord



with MCR 8.110(C).

- xiii. Pursuant to MCL 600.1043, staff, Friend of the Court, family counseling services, county juvenile officers and assistant juvenile officers, and all other state and public agencies that provide assistance to families and juveniles shall continue to do so, and the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court or their designee shall meet regularly with the Director of the Wayne County Department of Juvenile and Youth Services to evaluate services provided pursuant to court orders. As warranted, services of those agencies identified in MCL 600.1043 shall continue to be coordinated through the Wayne County Department Juvenile and Youth Services pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding executed between the Department of Juvenile and Youth Services and the Third Circuit Court.

- 2. Remote Proceedings. Unless excepted by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court in this Family Court Plan or otherwise, Domestic Relations matters may be heard remotely via Zoom or in person at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center (CAYMC), or the Penobscot Building (PNB). Juvenile Section matters may be heard either remotely using Zoom or in person at the James E. Lincoln Hall of Juvenile Justice (LHJ), Coleman A. Young Municipal Center (CAYMC), or Frank Murphy Hall of Justice (FMHJ) Criminal Justice Center (CJC). All Juvenile trials are to be held in person.

Prejudgment Domestic Relations actions initiated by a referral from the State of Michigan (State initiated) may be heard either remotely via Zoom or at the Friend of the Court facilities at PNB.

All Judges and Referees conducting remote hearings shall comply with all applicable court rules, including but not limited to MCR 2.408.

- 3. Facilities.
  - i. Judges who are assigned to serve in the Family Division – Domestic Relations Section will be located at CAYMC, unless otherwise designated by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court. The Presiding Judge of the Domestic Relations Section may maintain two (2) offices – one at CAYMC and one at the PNB location of the Friend of the Court to hear domestic relations matters and carry out administrative responsibilities. The Presiding Judge’s staff, including the Sheriff Deputy and Courtroom Clerk assigned to the Presiding Judge, shall accompany the Judge to both locations.
  - ii. Judges assigned to serve in the Family Division – Juvenile Section will be located at LHJ, unless otherwise designated by the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court. Delinquency preliminary hearings will be heard at the Juvenile Detention Facility. Matters where an adult party is in the custody of the Wayne County Sheriff may be heard either at the LHJ or at CJC.
  - iii. All locations fall under the purview of Third Circuit security, including but not limited to Local Administrative Order 2019-08J, Establishment of a Courthouse Security Committee.

- iv. The County currently operates a Juvenile Detention Facility and employs a director of that facility. The Chief Judge of the Circuit Court will continue to monitor the status of those youth who are detained at the facility pursuant to court order.

## E. RECORDS MANAGEMENT

1. Clerks of the Court. The Wayne County Clerk is designated as the Clerk of the Court for the Family Division. The Wayne probate clerk shall maintain every record created by or filed with the probate court.
2. Plan Development. The County Clerk has been afforded the opportunity to participate in the development of plans for management of court records. Any letter of concurrence or disagreement with the Plan authored by the County Clerk regarding management of court records shall be submitted to the SCAO with the submission of the Family Court Plan for approval.
3. Filing.

Family Division cases shall be initiated as set forth below. The court files shall be maintained electronically on the Odyssey Case Management system or, if in paper form, at the site set forth below or in the Court's storage facility. Employees who initiate and maintain files shall remain within the administrative structure of the Family Division of the Circuit Court.

The Family Division records will be filed as follows:

- i. Cases and records involving abuse and/or neglect of minors, delinquency, and juvenile guardianship will continue to be filed with and maintained by the County Clerk at Lincoln Hall of Justice, by email directed to: [wcc-jv-courtserv@3rdcc.org](mailto:wcc-jv-courtserv@3rdcc.org), or by USPS mail directed to: Lincoln Hall of Justice, 1025 East Forest, Detroit, MI 48207, Attn: Room 330A. Cases and records involving adoptions will continue to be filed by email directed to: [Adoptions@3rdcc.org](mailto:Adoptions@3rdcc.org) or by USPS mail directed to: Adoptions Unit, Lincoln Hall of Justice, 1025 E. Forest. Fourth Floor, Building B, Detroit, Michigan 48207; these records shall be maintained by the Adoptions Unit.
- ii. Cases and records involving divorce, child custody, parenting time, spousal support, emancipation of minors, and name changes shall be filed with the County Clerk in Room 201 CAYMC or through available electronic means. Parental consent waivers are filed with the Presiding Judge's courtroom. Requests for personal protection orders shall be filed with the County Clerk in Room 928 CAYMC or through available electronic filing. Paternity, child support, and interstate child custody matters initiated by private litigants will be filed with the County Clerk in Room 201 CAYMC; paternity, interstate child support, and child support matters initiated by a referral from the State of Michigan shall be filed with the Friend of the Court at PNB. After filing, the listed cases and

records shall be maintained by the County Clerk, with the exception of those matters filed with the Friend of Court, which shall be maintained by the Friend of the Court.

4. Obtaining Court Records and Forms.

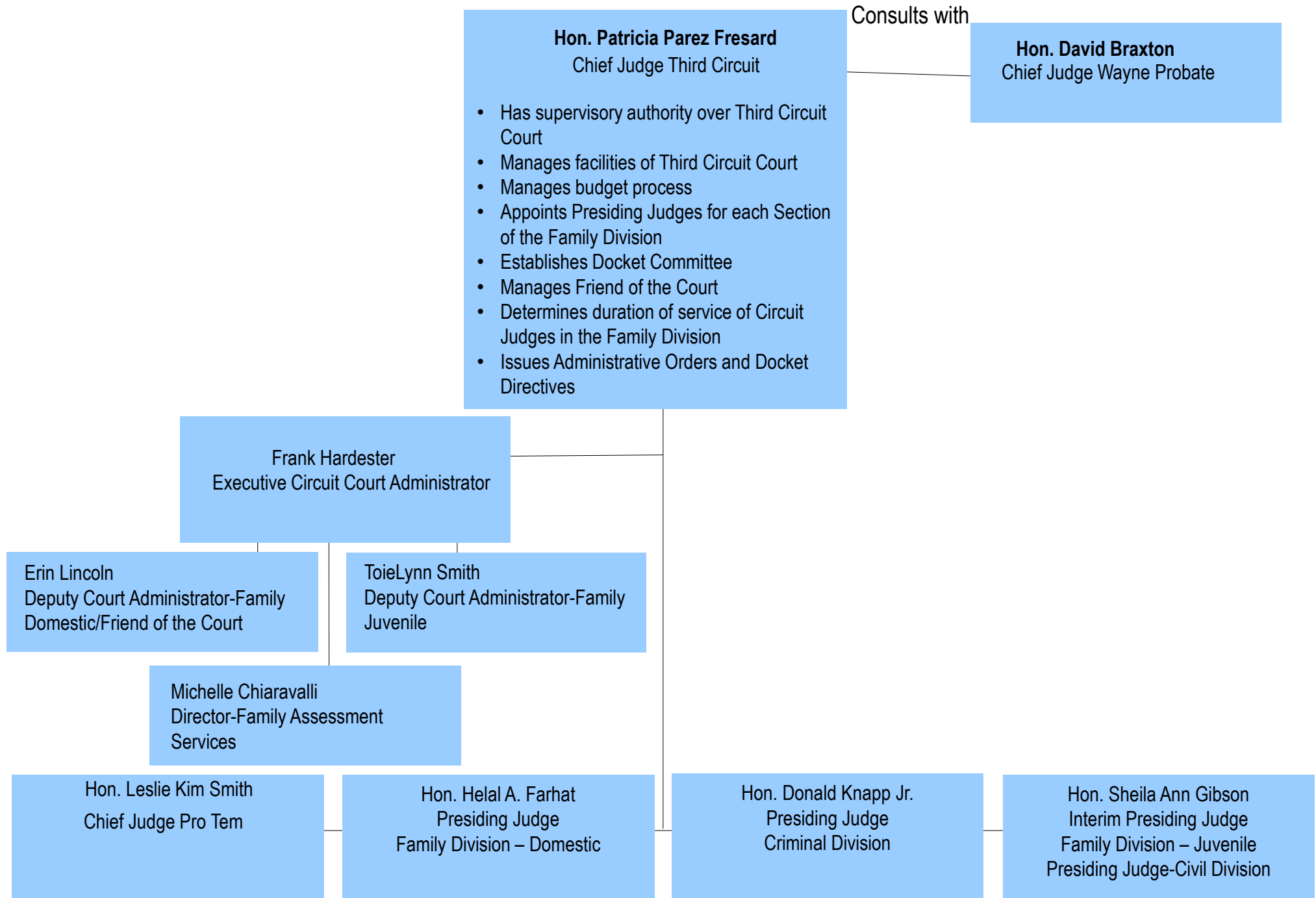
- i. Domestic Relations Court Files: Access to Domestic Relations court files that are filed at CAYMC may be obtained in person at the Wayne County Clerk's Record Room, LL-61, in the basement of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center or via email request to [wcrecordroom@waynecounty.com](mailto:wcrecordroom@waynecounty.com); copies of filed documents may be obtained for a fee. Copies of Domestic Relations files that are filed with FOC at PNB may be obtained by submitting a completed FD/FOD Form 4022 in person at the FOC cashier's window on the first floor of PNB or by USPS mail directed to: Wayne County Friend of the Court; P.O. Box 31-1443, Detroit, MI 48231-1405; a fee is charged for copies. Verified statements filed in domestic relations actions involving minors or in which child support or spousal support is requested are confidential under MCR 3.206(C)(2) and cannot be released to anyone other than the Judge, the parties, or the attorneys for the parties, without a court order. Documents listed in MCR 3.229 that were identified as confidential by the filer and were served on the other party(ies) are nonpublic. In addition, pursuant to MCR 1.109(D)(9), protected personal identifying information will be redacted from documents that are publicly available.
- ii. Juvenile Court Files: There is no public access to Juvenile court case files, MCR 3.925(D)(1) or to records designated as confidential pursuant to court rule or statute subject to the exceptions in the court rules, statutes, or case law and with the permission of the assigned Judge or their alternate. Only persons with a legitimate interest in the case files as described in MCR 3.925(D)(1) may obtain case records from the Wayne County Clerk's Office in the basement of LHJ; copies of these documents may be obtained for a fee after submission of the proper form requesting access that establishes the required legitimate interest. Further, confidential records may only be obtained by filing a motion in accord with MCR 3.925(D)(2), obtaining an order allowing the requested access, and paying a copying fee.
- iii. Adoption Files: All hard copies and converted microfilm copies of Adoption files from years 1901 through current are maintained by the Adoptions Unit of the Third Circuit Court. Adoption files are only accessible in accord with the procedures given in the Adoption Code, MCL 710.67-710.68b.

5. Access Point. Information for the public and private bar is provided on the Court's website at [www.3rdcc.org](http://www.3rdcc.org) including Third Circuit forms.
6. Internal Transfer. Third Circuit Court utilizes Odyssey for its case management system and to house case files. Judges, referees and Court staff have access to the electronic documents in Odyssey. In the event that

transfers of paper files are needed, they are effectuated by the Wayne County Clerk's Office.

7. Technological Access. All judicial officers and court staff shall have appropriate electronic case management access for the family division section(s) they serve.
8. Public Access. This FCP is posted on the court's website and is otherwise publicly available upon request.

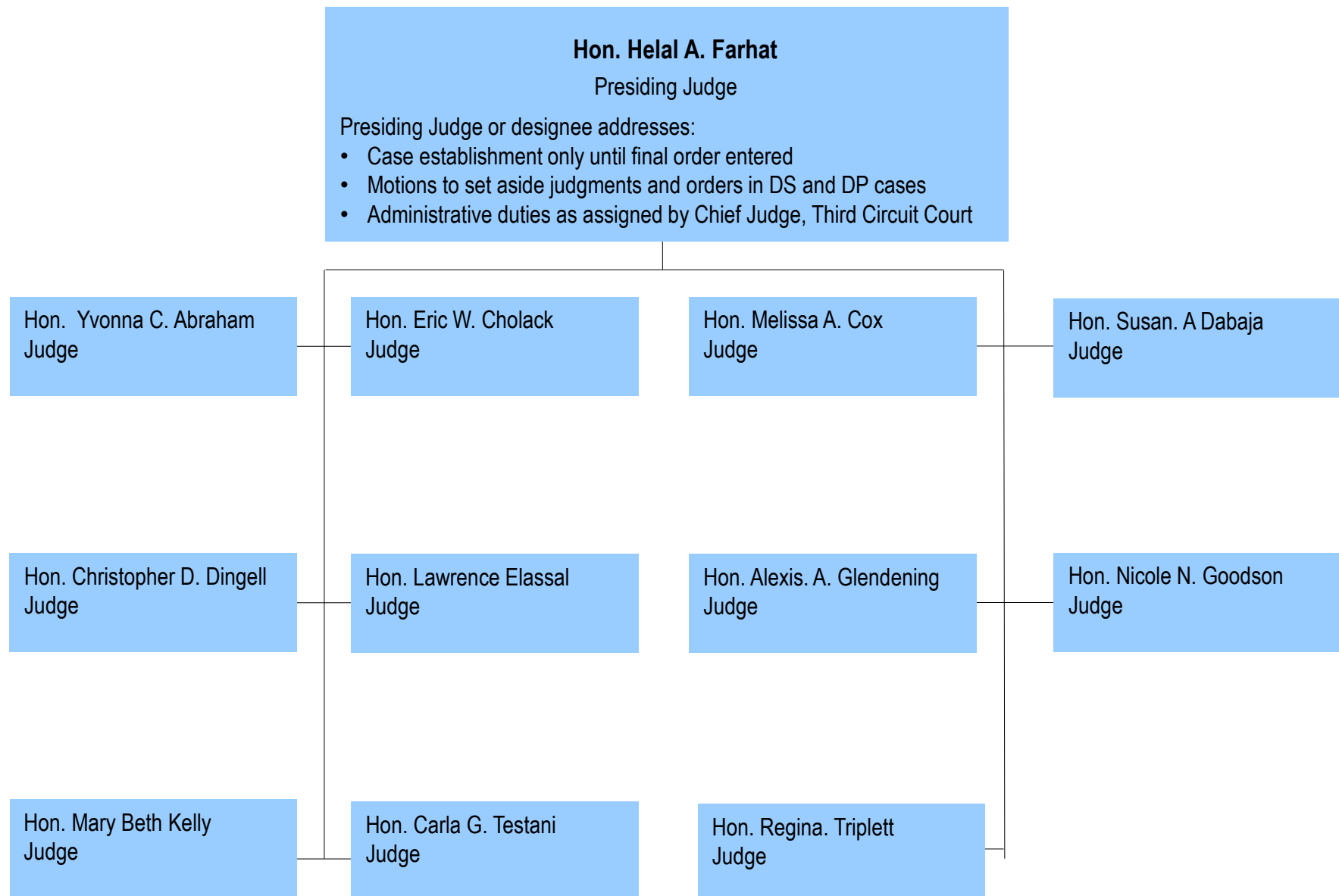
## Appendix A



**Family Division Judges – Domestic**  
**Location: CAYMC and Penobscot Building**

Section addresses cases involving:

Divorce, child custody, parenting time, paternity, child/spousal support, personal protection orders, emancipation of minors, parental consent waivers, name changes



## Family Division Judges – Juvenile

**Location: Lincoln Hall of Justice**

Section addresses cases involving:  
Adoption, guardianship, child abuse and neglect, delinquency

### Hon. Sheila Ann Gibson

Interim Presiding Judge

Presiding Judge or designee addresses:

- AWOLP cases
- Preliminary Examinations (Designated Cases)
- Child Protective Preliminary Hearing Reviews
- Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care Cases
- Interstate Compact on Juveniles Cases
- Post-adoption Motions
- Administrative duties as assigned by Chief Judge, Third Circuit Court

Hon. Karen Y. Braxton  
Judge

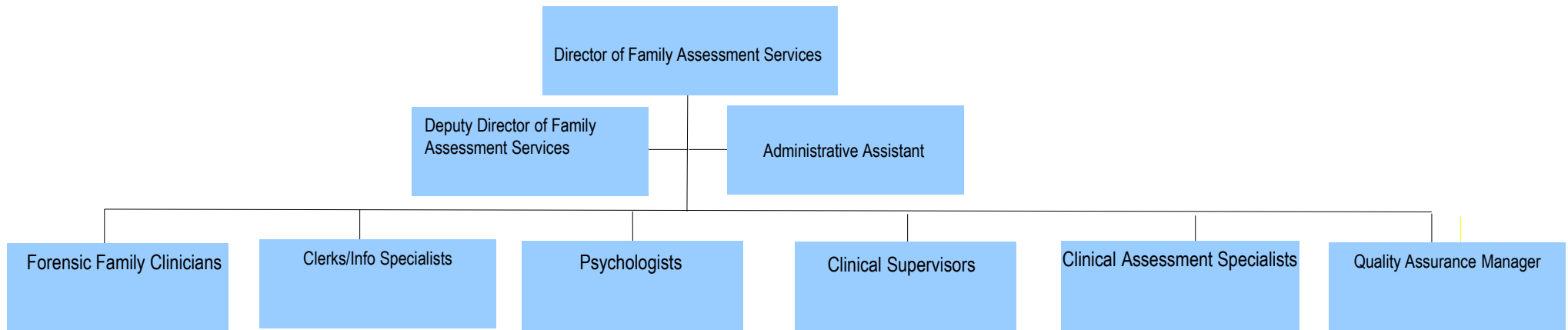
Hon. Jerome C. Cavanagh  
Judge

Hon. Adrienne G. Scruggs  
Judge

Hon. Todd Briggs  
Probate Judge

Hon. Judy Hartsfield  
Probate Judge

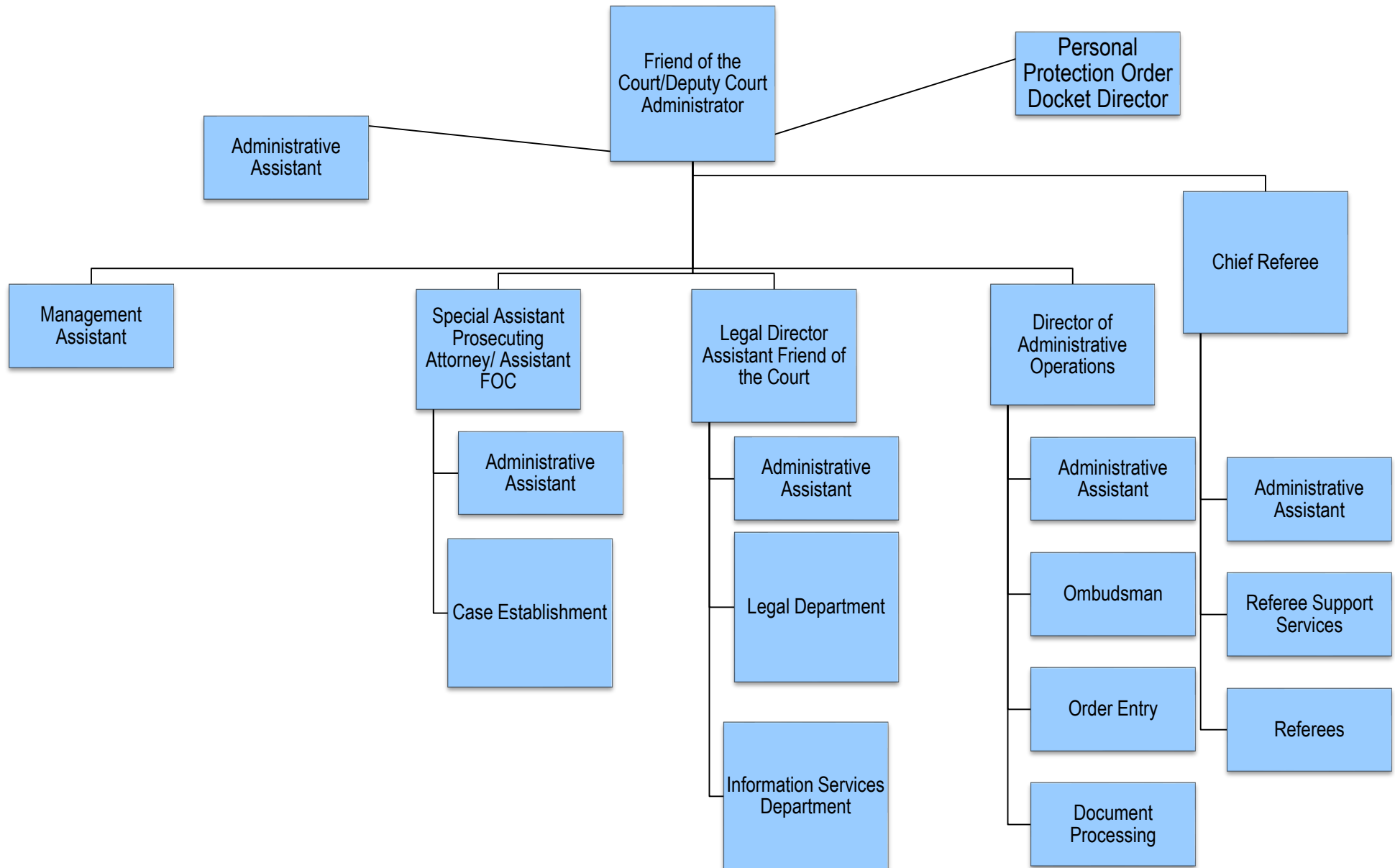
## Family Assessment Services



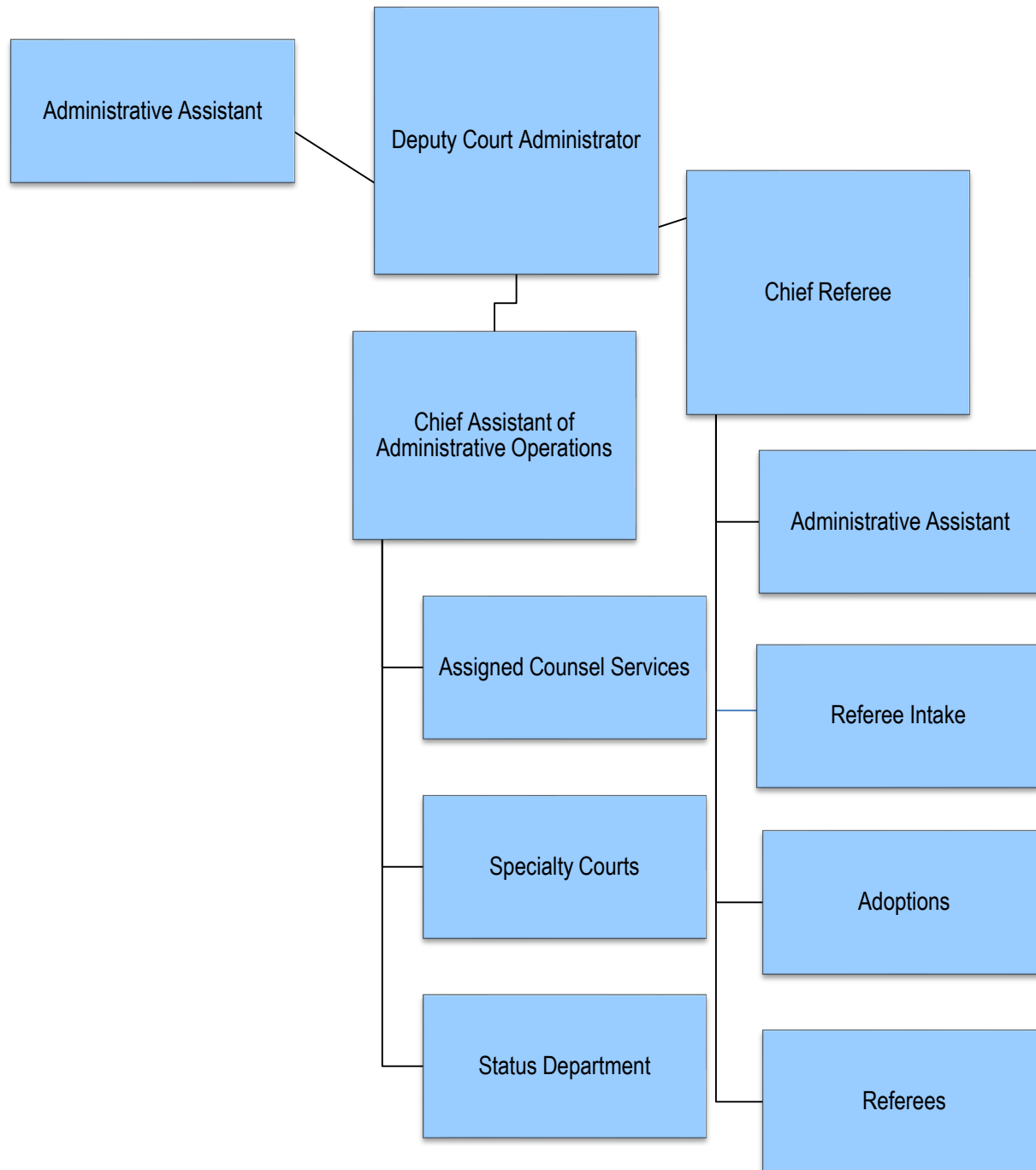
Family Assessment Services supports both the Family-Juvenile and Family Domestic Relations sections by providing in depth assessments for delinquency, child welfare, custody, parenting time, along with treatment options for delinquency.



## Family Division – Friend of the Court



## Family Division – Juvenile



**From:** [Region1 Info](#)  
**To:** [Fresard, Patricia](#); [Hardester, Frank](#); [Hon. David Braxton](#); ["April Maycock" amaycock@wcpc.us](#)  
**Cc:** [Wilson, Kimberly](#); [chudson@wcpc.us](#); [Wade, Lynn](#)  
**Subject:** C03 2025-12J/ P82 2025-05J Family Court Plan -- Approved  
**Date:** Friday, June 27, 2025 8:57:27 AM

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C03 2025-12J/ P82 2025-05J Family Court Plan -- Approved

Rescinds C03 2023-06J/2023-01J

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.

Zenell Brown  
Region 1 Administrator  
Michigan State Court Administrative Office  
P.O. Box 02984  
Detroit, MI 48202  
313-972-3300

*Megan Burkall*

**Regional Management Assistant, Region VI**  
Michigan Supreme Court | State Court Administrative Office  
P.O. Box 02984 | Detroit, MI 48202 | 313-972-3296 phone

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