

FILED  
10/23/97

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MOHAVE

CLERK

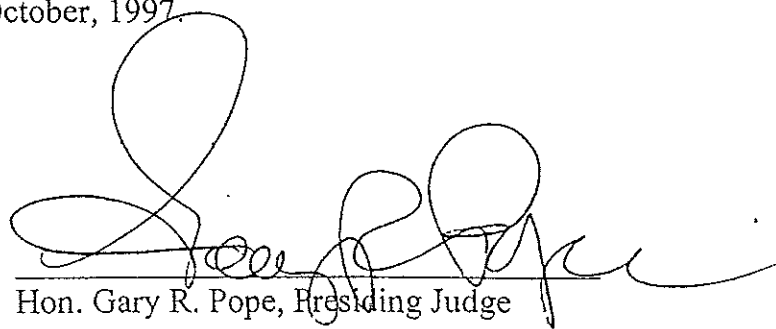
IN THE MATTER OF: )  
)  
ADOPTION OF A PROCEDURE )  
FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF )  
CASES FOR THE MOHAVE )  
COUNTY COURT SYSTEM )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
97-21

The Court having appointed a Committee to draft a procedure for case assignments and make suggestions to the Court regarding the allocation of cases in the Mohave County Superior Court System. The Court has now considered their recommendations:

IT IS ORDERED adopting the procedure outlined in the attached document as the procedure for the assignment of cases to the various Judges and Commissioners in Mohave County.

DATED this 23rd day of October, 1997.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon. Gary R. Pope, Presiding Judge  
Mohave County Court System

## **DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND CIVIL CASE ASSIGNMENTS**

### **I**

#### **NEW DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND PATERNITY CASES**

All Bullhead City and Lake Havasu City Domestic Relations and Paternity cases will be assigned to the Commissioner/Judge Pro Tempore (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Commissioner" throughout these rules). Bullhead City cases will consist of all matters where the Petitioner is a resident of the Bullhead City Justice Court precinct. Lake Havasu City cases will consist of all matters where the Petitioner is a resident of the Lake Havasu City Justice Court precinct. Kingman cases shall include all other cases. Kingman cases are assigned in accordance with current case assignments.

These case assignments shall apply regardless of the geographic location where the petition is filed. All parties will be required to file a face sheet approved by the Clerk of the Superior Court at the initial filing to establish the appropriate assignment of the matter. Bullhead City cases shall be numerically assigned beginning with 4000. Lake Havasu City cases shall be numerically assigned beginning with 7000.

Child support matters filed by the Attorney General's office and paternity cases shall be assigned to the Commissioner.

#### **DEFAULT DISSOLUTIONS**

The Commissioner shall handle all Kingman default dissolution matters which have not yet proceeded to any hearing before the assigned Judge. The Commissioner may handle default dissolution and/or stipulated decree hearings on Kingman cases which have previously come before the assigned Judge upon request of the parties and the approval of the assigned Judge.

#### **POST DECREE MATTERS**

All post decree cases shall remain with whichever Judge or Commissioner they were previously assigned, except that a Judge or Commissioner who merely heard a default hearing and signed a Decree as a matter of convenience will not retain such a case. Such cases shall remain assigned to the initial Judge or Commissioner.

## II

### BULLHEAD CITY CIVIL CASES

Bullhead City civil cases will consist of the matters where the occurrences giving rise to the cause of action occurred within the geographic boundaries of the Bullhead City Justice Court and/or where one of the parties to the matter is a resident within said geographic boundary.

Odd numbered civil filings in Bullhead City are assigned to Division One. Even numbered civil cases are assigned to Division Two.

Counsel are directed to file all original documents with the Clerk's office in Bullhead City, and provide copies of any motion, response or opposition thereto, reply to opposition and all supporting memoranda of points and authorities to the assigned judge.

The Commissioner may be administratively assigned any Bullhead City civil filing. The Commissioner may sign any uncontested pretrial order, e.g., extension of time for service, withdrawal of attorney, etc. Such execution of any order shall not be deemed an assignment to the Commissioner, but rather will be done to expedite pending uncontested motions and to eliminate unnecessary transfer of files from Bullhead City to Kingman.

Civil default cases shall remain assigned to either Division One or Two. Upon request of either the Plaintiff or the assigned Judge, the Commissioner may handle the default matter or default hearing.

Post-judgment motions and/or supplemental proceedings, unless otherwise administratively reassigned, shall remain assigned to the Judge or Commissioner who signed the final judgment or order, except that a Judge or Commissioner who merely heard a default hearing and signed a judgment as a matter of convenience will not retain such a case. Such cases shall remain assigned to the initial Judge or Commissioner.

Civil lower court appeals, special actions, mental health, probate and guardianship/conservatorship matters are assigned to Division Two, except that uncontested probates, guardianships and conservatorships filed in Bullhead City will be assigned to the Commissioner.

Name change actions are assigned to the Commissioner.

### III

#### **CASE ASSIGNMENTS**

In conformance with Rule CV-11(A), Local Rules of Superior Court - Mohave County, and Rule 42 (f) (1) (D), Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, the assignments made herein designating which Judge or Commissioner has been assigned the matter referenced by this Administrative Order are automatic upon the initial filing of the petition or complaint.

Attorney(s) or party(s) can contact the Clerk of the Mohave County Superior Court to obtain the currently established case assignments.

### IV

#### **OTHER UNCONTESTED HEARINGS**

Uncontested probates, guardianships and conservatorships that may be heard in Lake Havasu City will be assigned to the Commissioner.