

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HARDEE, HIGHLANDS, AND POLK COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

SPECIAL ORDER

**AMENDING EXHIBITS B, C and F OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 1-1.69
“ASSIGNMENTS OF JUDGES JULY 6, 2026 THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2027”**

WHEREAS, Administrative Order No. 1-1.69 provides for the assignments of judges from July 6, 2026, through January 3, 2027; and

WHEREAS, Brenda Freeman, Esquire, was recently appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to fill the Polk County Court vacancy created by appointment of Judge Kevin M. Kohl to the Circuit Court; and

WHEREAS, Gary Ellis, Esquire, was recently appointed by Governor Ron DeSantis to fill the Highlands County Court vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Anthony Ritenour; and

WHEREAS, for the prompt and efficient administration of justice, it is necessary to amend Exhibits B, C and F; it is therefore

ORDERED and DIRECTED that, effective October 15, 2026, Exhibits B, C, and F to Administrative Order No. 1-1.69 are hereby superseded by the attached amended Exhibits B, C and F.

DONE AND ORDERED on this 14th day of October 2026.

s/James A. Yancey, Chief Judge

Original: Polk County Clerk of Courts

Copies:

All Judges

Hardee County Clerk of Courts

Highlands County Clerk of Courts

Polk County Clerk of Courts

Electronic Bar Mailing

EXHIBIT B**WEEKEND, HOLIDAY AND DUTY ASSIGNMENT INCLUDING FIRST APPEARANCE HEARINGS
AND JUVENILE DETENTION HEARINGS****JULY 6, 2026 THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2027**

Weekend and holiday hearings for all three counties are held in Bartow. (First Appearance and Juvenile Detention Hearings required on all listed dates.)

8:00 A.M. - JUVENILE DETENTION HEARINGS AND FIRST APPEARANCE HEARINGS

DAY	DATE	JUDGE
Saturday and Sunday	July 11th and 12th	PATTEY
Saturday and Sunday	July 18th and 19th	BUTZ
Saturday and Sunday	July 25th and 26th	SPOTO
Saturday and Sunday	August 1st and 2nd	HORTON
Saturday and Sunday	August 8th and 9th	GIBSON
Saturday and Sunday	August 15th and 16th	WATERS
Saturday and Sunday	August 22nd and 23rd	MCDANIEL
Saturday and Sunday	August 29th and 30th	SWENSON
Saturday, Sunday and Monday*	September 5th, 6th, and 7th	A. KAYLOR
Saturday and Sunday	September 12th and 13th	RAMIREZ
Saturday, Sunday and Monday*	September 19th, 20th and 21st	WELLS
Saturday and Sunday	September 26th and 27th	MOORE
Saturday and Sunday	October 3rd and 4th	BARBER
Saturday and Sunday	October 10th and 11th	WARD
Saturday and Sunday	October 17th and 18th	STAMEY
Saturday and Sunday	October 24th and 25th	COWDEN
Saturday and Sunday	October 31st and November 1st	ABDONEY
Saturday and Sunday	November 7th and 8th	G. HILL
Wednesday*	November 11th	KOHL
Saturday and Sunday	November 14th and 15th	FRANKLIN
Saturday and Sunday	November 21st and 22nd	SITES
Thursday and Friday*	November 26th and 27th	BOWMAN
Saturday and Sunday	November 28th and 29th	CORBETT
Saturday and Sunday	December 5th and 6th	HARB
Saturday and Sunday	December 12th and 13th	DENMARK
Saturday and Sunday	December 19th and 20th	OJEDA
Thursday and Friday*	December 24th and 25th	ELLIS
Saturday and Sunday	December 26th and 27th	BASSETT
Thursday and Friday*	December 31st and January 1st	FREEMAN
Saturday and Sunday	January 2nd and 3rd	FLYNN

***Denotes Holiday**

Exhibit B: 1-1.69

Amended 10/14/2026 (Effective 10/15/2026)

Notes:

1. Juvenile Detention and First Appearance Hearings on holidays and weekends for all three counties are conducted in Courtroom 8E in the Polk County Courthouse in Bartow, FL. The hearings will begin at 8:00 a.m. Please be on time to hold to a minimum the hours of overtime for support personnel.

2. Regular weekend duty hours are from 5:00 p.m. Friday until 8:30 a.m. Monday. Holiday weekend duty shall begin at 5:00 p.m. on the last regular working day and conclude at 8:30 a.m. on the next regular working day. Isolated single day holiday duty shall begin at 5:00 p.m. on the proceeding day and conclude at 8:30 a.m. on the day following the holiday.

EXHIBIT C

DUTY JUDGE SCHEDULES FOR POLK COUNTY JULY 6, 2026 THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2027

Except on Friday, regular workday duty shall begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude at 8:30 a.m. the following morning. Friday regular workday duty will conclude at 5:00 p.m. that day, at which time the weekend duty judge assignment will begin.

JULY

SITES 6	PATTEY 7	PINCKET 8	RAFOOL 9	RAMIREZ 10
OJEDA 13	SPOTO 14	SWENSON 15	WATERS 16	WELLS 17
WILLIAMSON 20	WINSTEAD 21	YANCEY 22	ABDONEY 23	BOWMAN 24
BUTZ 27	CARPANINI 28	COMBEE 29	CORBETT 30	DENMARK 31

AUGUST

FRANKLIN 3	GRAVITT 4	HARB 5	G. HILL 6	J. HILL 7
GIBSON 10	GRODE 11	PATTEY 12	A. KAYLOR 13	S. KAYLOR 14
MCDANIEL 17	MOORE 18	OJEDA 19	PINCKET 20	RAFOOL 21
RAMIREZ 24	SITES 25	SPOTO 26	SWENSON 27	WATERS 28
WELLS 31				

SEPTEMBER

	1 WILLIAMSON	2 WINSTEAD	3 YANCEY	4 ABDONEY
7 HOLIDAY	8 BOWMAN	9 BUTZ	10 CARPANINI	11 COMBEE
14 CORBETT	15 DENMARK	16 FRANKLIN	17 GIBSON	18 GRAVITT
21 HOLIDAY	22 HARB	23 G. HILL	24 J. HILL	25 A. KAYLOR
28 S. KAYLOR	29 GRODE	30 MCDANIEL		

OCTOBER

			1 BOWMAN	2 RAFOOL
5 RAMIREZ	6 WELLS	7 SPOTO	8 SWENSON	9 WILLIAMSON
12 WATERS	13 WINSTEAD	14 HARB	15 ABDONEY	16 BUTZ
19 SITES	20 FREEMAN	21 BASSETT	22 CORBETT	23 GIBSON
26 PINCKET	27 CARPANINI	28 COMBEE	29 DENMARK	30 FRANKLIN

Exhibit C: 1-1.69

Amended 10/14/2026 (Effective 10/15/2026)

NOVEMBER

GRAVITT 2	BASSETT 3	RAFOOL 4	J. HILL 5	MCDANIEL 6
A. KAYLOR 9	S. KAYLOR 10	HOLIDAY 11	G. HILL 12	OJEDA 13
BUTZ 16	PINCKET 17	MOORE 18	RAMIREZ 19	SITES 20
SPOTO 23	SWENSON 24	WATERS 25	HOLIDAY 26	HOLIDAY 27
WELLS 30				

DECEMBER/JANUARY

	WILLIAMSON 1	WINSTEAD 2	ABDONEY 3	CARPANINI 4
BOWMAN 7	PATTEY 8	COMBEE 9	DENMARK 10	FRANKLIN 11
GIBSON 14	GRAVITT 15	GRODE 16	HARB 17	G. HILL 18
J. HILL 21	CORBETT 22	WELLS 23	HOLIDAY 24	HOLIDAY 25
A. KAYLOR 28	FREEMAN 29	BASSETT 30	HOLIDAY 31	HOLIDAY 1

EXHIBIT F
COUNTY COURT CALENDAR
JULY 6, 2026 THROUGH JANUARY 3, 2027

COUNTY JUDGE	JUDICIAL ASSISTANT/ADDRESS				
M0 Jordan Wells County General Civil	Kayla Ruiz, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-2559; Fax (863) 534-4106 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J168, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
L1 John B. Flynn County Court Lakeland Criminal Relief	Jaime Crisafulli, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 603-6637; Fax (863) 682-4253 930 E. Parker St., Lakeland, FL 33801 Phone: (863) 534-4628 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J142, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	LKD	LKD	LKD	LKD	LKD
M1 R. Carson Bassett County Small Claims/ Evictions	Ashley Avirett, Judicial Assisnt Phone: (863) 531-8620; Fax: (863) 534-4098 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J119, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
M2 Allison C. Kaylor County Small Claims/ Evictions (M2 through November 1)	Verena Kelly, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-6908; Fax: (863) 534-4454 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J172, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
M2 Brenda Freeman County Small Claims/ Evictions (Effective November 2)	Karlie Freidank, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-4669; Fax: (863) 534-7783 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J159, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW

COUNTY JUDGE	JUDICIAL ASSISTANT/ADDRESS				
W3 David E. Stamey, Jr. County Court Northeast Criminal Relief	Amanda Leatherwood, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 401-2472 200 Government Center Blvd., Lake Alfred, FL 33850 Phone: (863) 534-7769; Fax: (863) 534-7722 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J136, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	NE	NE	NE	NE	NE
M4 Anne T. Gibson County Criminal	Leslie Carroll, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-4649; Fax: (863) 534-4108 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J122, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
M5 Stacie Kaylor County Criminal	Caitlyn Clyatt, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-7704; Fax: (863) 534-4094 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J118, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
M6 Allison C. Kaylor County Criminal (Effective November 2)	Verena Kelly, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-6908; Fax: (863) 534-4454 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J172, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
M7 Bob Grode County Criminal	Angela Jones, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-4643; Fax: (863) 534-7721 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J101, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
M8 Hope M. Pattey County Administrative Judge Simplified DOM/PSC/Evictions	Jessica Hooks, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-4650; Fax: (863) 534-4689 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J171, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW

COUNTY JUDGE	JUDICIAL ASSISTANT/ADDRESS				
M9 Sarah E. Corbett County General Civil	Jessica Faustino, Judicial Assistant Phone: (863) 534-2566; Fax: (863) 534-4106 P.O. Box 9000, Drawer J131, Bartow, FL 33831-9000				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW	BTW
David N. Horton Hardee County Court/RJ	Leslie Forrester, Judicial Assistant Hardee County Courthouse Phone: (863) 773-3174; Fax: (863) 773-4165 417 West Main St., Suite 335, Wauchula, FL 33873				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	Wauchula				
Gary Ellis Highlands County Court (Effective November 2)	Jessica LeConey, Judicial Assisant Highlands County Courthouse Phone: (863) 402-6614; Fax: (863) 402-6930 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870				
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI
	Sebring				
Lakeland Branch Courthouse:		Judge's Office: (863) 603-6637; Clerk: (863) 534-4000 930 East Parker St. Lakeland, FL 33801			
Northeast Government Center:		Judge's Office: (863) 401-2484; Clerk: (863) 534-4000 200 Government Center Blvd., Lake Alfred, FL 33850			