

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA**

IN RE: CASE ASSIGNMENTS

**PUBLIC  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

No. 18-AO-0001-P  
(Supersedes No. 17-AO-0007-P)

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Effective immediately, cases in the Northern District of Iowa will be assigned as follows:

**CIVIL CASES**

1. With the exception of cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, civil case assignments will be randomly drawn from the district as a whole without regard to court divisions.
2. 28 U.S.C. § 2255 cases will be assigned to the sentencing judge who handled the underlying criminal case. If the sentencing judge is not available, the case will be assigned randomly to a district judge as any other civil case.
3. 42 U.S.C. § 1983 cases will be assigned evenly between the active district judge, the Cedar Rapids senior district judge, and the magistrate judges.
4. Social Security cases will be assigned evenly between the active district judge, the Cedar Rapids senior district judge, and the magistrate judges.
5. All other civil cases will be assigned as follows: 10% to the Sioux City senior district judge, 15% to the Cedar Rapids senior district judge, and 25% each to the active district judge and two magistrate judges.

## **CRIMINAL CASES**

6. Criminal cases arising in the Western Division and in Emmet, Palo Alto, Pocahontas, Calhoun, Carroll, Kossuth, Humboldt and Webster counties in the Central Division will be processed and adjudicated at the Sioux City Courthouse and assigned to those resident district judges in the following manner: Sioux City active district judge 75% and Sioux City senior district judge 25%.

7. Criminal Cases arising in the Eastern Division, Cedar Rapids Division and Winnebago, Hancock, Wright, Hamilton, Worth, Cerro Gordo, Franklin and Butler counties in the Central Division will be processed and adjudicated at the Cedar Rapids Courthouse and assigned to the Cedar Rapids senior district judge. However, a sufficient number of those cases will be assigned to the Sioux City active district judge such that, after excluding criminal cases that are assigned to the Sioux City senior district judge, the Sioux City active district judge will carry 50% of the total number of criminal cases in the district and the Cedar Rapids senior district judge will carry 50% of the criminal cases in the district.

8. In criminal case assignments, each resident magistrate judge is paired with the resident district judge at the same court point.

9. Supervised release proceedings will generally remain assigned to the sentencing judge. If the sentencing judge is not available then the proceeding will be reassigned by the Clerk's Office. Furthermore, 75% of supervised release proceedings arising from sentencing proceedings by the Sioux City senior district judge will be reassigned to the Sioux City active district judge. Supervised release proceedings pending at one court point may be reassigned to a resident district judge at that court point even if that judge was not the sentencing judge, or possibly to a district judge at another court point closer to the defendant's residence.

## **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

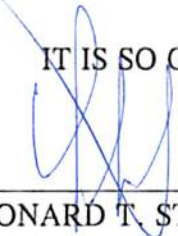
10. The Clerk of Court will create a statistical report of civil case filings and assignments and criminal case filings, defendant count, and assignments on January 1,

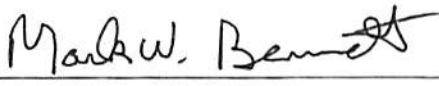
April 1, July 1 and October 1 of each year. The report will be promptly sent to each active district judge and senior district judge, along with a recommendation for addressing uneven case distributions. Among other things, the Clerk's recommendations shall address any significant disparities between the number of defendants in criminal cases assigned to the Sioux City active district judge and the number of defendants in criminal cases assigned to the Cedar Rapids senior district judge. The Chief District Judge will instruct the Clerk if any action is to be taken to equalize the case assignments based on the report.


11. The Court reserves the right to transfer cases between the judges at any time to equalize case assignments and in the interest of justice.


12. This Order supersedes Administrative Order 17-AO-0007-P.


IT IS SO ORDERED this 10 day of January, 2018.

  
LEONARD T. STRAND  
Chief Judge  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Iowa

  
MARK W. BENNETT  
District Judge  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Iowa

  
KELLY K.E. MAHONEY  
Magistrate Judge  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Iowa

  
LINDA R. READE  
District Judge  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Iowa

  
C.J. WILLIAMS  
Chief Magistrate Judge  
United States District Court  
Northern District of Iowa