



# Berrien County Trial Court

Mabel Johnson Mayfield, Chief Judge – Carrie Smietanka-Haney, Administrator

Courthouse - 811 Port Street - St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 983-7111, Ext. 8453 - FAX (269) 982-1567

[www.berriencounty.org](http://www.berriencounty.org)

## Administrative Order 2022-05

This administrative order replaces and rescinds prior Berrien County Trial Court Administrative Order 2021-06 and establishes the current assignments of the Berrien County Trial Court, effective January 3, 2023. When a judge is reassigned from or to another division or specialty court, or a vacancy occurs in a division or specialty court of the Trial Court, the transferring or vacating judge's cases shall be reassigned to the successor replacement judge in that division or specialty court (all cases filed after the date of the reassignment, any pending matters, and post-judgment matters that relate to disposed cases) pursuant to MCR 8.111(C)(2).

### IT IS SO ORDERED:

#### 1 Judge assignments

Each judge is assigned as follows:

##### **Chief Judge Pro Tem**

Angela M. Pasula

##### **Civil Division**

Donna B. Howard, Presiding Judge

Sterling R. Schrock

##### **Business Court**

Donna B. Howard

##### **Criminal Division**

Arthur J. Cotter, Presiding Judge

Gary J. Bruce

Paul S. Jancha

Charles T. LaSata

Angela M. Pasula

Jennifer L. Smith

##### **Community Court**

Arthur J. Cotter

**Drug Treatment Court**

Donna B. Howard

**Mental Health Court**

Donna B. Howard

**Swift & Sure Sanctions Probation Program**

Charles T. LaSata

**Family Division**

Brian S. Berger, Presiding Judge

Gordon G. Hosbein

Mabel Johnson Mayfield

**2 Courthouse assignments**

**2.1 Judges**

Each judge is assigned to a courthouse as follows:

**St. Joseph Courthouse**

Brian S. Berger

Gary J. Bruce

Arthur J. Cotter

Gordon G. Hosbein

Donna B. Howard

Paul S. Jancha

Charles T. LaSata

Mabel Johnson Mayfield

Angela M. Pasula

Sterling R. Schrock

Dennis M. Wiley

**Niles Courthouse**

Jennifer L. Smith

A Civil Division judge shall preside at the Niles Courthouse ½ day weekly.

**2.2 Magistrates**

One magistrate is assigned to the St. Joseph Courthouse and one magistrate is assigned to the Niles Courthouse.

**2.3 Referees**

Each Family Division referee is assigned to the St. Joseph Courthouse.

**3. Reassignment**

Pursuant to MCR 8.110, the chief judge may

change the appointment of chief judge pro tem or presiding judge of a division.

change the assignment of a judge, magistrate or referee to a division or a courthouse.

Effective Date: January 3, 2023

December 13, 2022  
Date

  
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Mabel Johnson Mayfield, Trial Court Chief Judge