

**ORDER GOVERNING TOBACCO LITIGATION AND
RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE AND LIEN FORECLOSURE CASES**

WHEREAS, it has been determined that case filings and workload demand has increased substantially in the family court subdivisions where spouses and children experience trauma and crises requiring expeditious judicial intervention; and

WHEREAS, litigants in the family courts are frequently resource challenged often appearing in court without legal representation; and

WHEREAS, an urgent need exists to allocate scarce judicial resources to address the needs of family court litigants; and

WHEREAS, Subdivision 32 is de-activated effective January 1, 2018, and the current caseload from Subdivision 32 shall be reassigned via separate order to Subdivision 43 pursuant to the revised Business Court criteria or to one of the general Circuit Civil Subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, tobacco litigation cases have previously been assigned to Business Court Subdivisions 32 and 43; and

WHEREAS, residential mortgage and lien foreclosure cases have previously been assigned to Subdivision 32-A and Subdivision 43-A; and

WHEREAS, due to the reallocation of judicial resources to address the aforementioned needs of family court litigants, tobacco litigation cases and residential mortgage and lien foreclosure cases must be reassigned;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Frederick J. Lauten, in order to facilitate the efficient operation of the administration of justice, and pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, hereby

order that, **effective January 1, 2018**, unless otherwise provided herein, to continue until further order, and superseding any provisions in prior Administrative Orders which may be inconsistent:

1. All tobacco litigation cases currently assigned to Subdivisions 32 and 43 shall be reassigned to Circuit Judge Lisa T. Munyon.

2. All residential mortgage and lien foreclosure cases currently assigned to Subdivisions 32-A and 43-A shall be randomly reassigned among the general Circuit Civil Subdivisions.

DONE AND ORDERED at Orlando, Florida this 20th day of November, 2017.

_____/s/_____
Frederick J. Lauten
Chief Judge

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