

DC Admin
FILED
At _____ o'clock _____ M.
AUG 25 2022
Donna Starkey
Clerk of District Court Brazoria Co., Texas
BY _____ DEPUTY

§ IN THE DISTRICT COURTS
§
§ OF BRAZORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

ORDER EQUALIZING CASELOADS AND DIVIDING THE DOCKET

On June 16, 1977, the Judges of the District Courts of Brazoria County entered an Order Equalizing Caseloads and Dividing the Docket (hereafter called the Order). Since 1977, the Courts of Brazoria County have from time to time amended the Order. With the addition of an Associate Judge to the 461st District Court of Brazoria County, the Courts have again considered the equitable allocation of dockets.

On the 23rd day of August, 2022, it is therefore ORDERED by the Judges of the 149th Judicial District, the 239th Judicial District, the 300th Judicial District, the 412th Judicial District and the 461st Judicial District that effective January 1, 2023 the docket of the District Courts of Brazoria County, Texas shall be divided as follows:

- A. **Family Law:** shall be filed 45% in the 300th District Court and 55% in the 461st District Court on a pro rata basis.
 - a. All CPS cases shall be filed in the 300th District Court
- B. **Tax Cases:** All actions for recovery of ad valorem taxes shall be filed in the 239th District Court.
- C. **Inmate Civil Cases:** All actions filed by inmates pursuant to Chapter 14 C.P.R.C. shall be filed in the 412th District Court.
- D. **Other Civil Cases:**
 - a. All civil cases (other than Family Law, Tax and Inmate Civil Cases) shall be filed on a pro rata basis among three (3) District Courts as follows:
 - i. 33.33% in the 149th District Court
 - ii. 33.33% in the 239th District Court
 - iii. 33.33% in the 412th District Court
 - b. The District Clerk of Brazoria County shall assign by lot (using a system approved by the presiding judge) all such cases according to the above stated percentages. Assignment to a

specific court shall be determined and made after a case has been filed.

E. The percentages allocated to each District Court for Civil and Criminal cases may be changed by action taken at any meeting of the Judges of the above listed District Courts at which 100% of the Judges are present and approve the new allocations or by Order signed by all District Judges.

F. Criminal Cases:

a. All criminal cases involving defendants charged with criminal offenses occurring on the premises of, or while under the authority of, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (the TDCJ Docket) shall be filed in the 412th District Court.

b. All capital murder cases shall be assigned by the Presiding Judge for the District Courts of Brazoria County, Texas. All other murder cases shall be on a rotating basis.

c. All felony cases, except for the TDCJ Docket, murder cases and capital murder cases, shall be filed on a pro rata basis among five (5) District Courts as follows:

i. 20% in the 149th District Court

ii. 20% in the 239th District Court

iii. 20% in the 300th District Court

iv. 20% in the 412th District Court

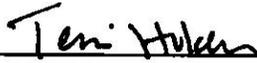
v. 20% in the 461st District Court

d. Grand Juries shall be organized and empaneled by the District Judges for District Courts, the 149th District Court, the 239th District Court, the 300th District Court, the 412th District Court, and the 461st District Court on an alternating basis as determined by the Judges.

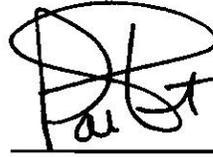
G. Transfers: A matter pending in any of the above-mentioned Courts may be heard by any judge having jurisdiction, with permission of both judges involved, without necessity of a formal transfer.

H. Central Jury Panels: All jury panels for courts of record sitting in Brazoria County shall be assigned from a central panel as provided by law and according to the approved system on file in the office of the District Clerk.

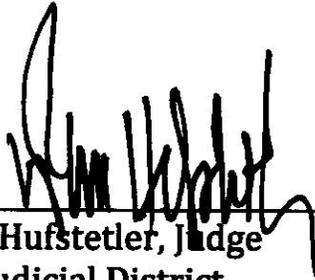
SIGNED AND ORDER this 24 day of AUGUST, 2022.



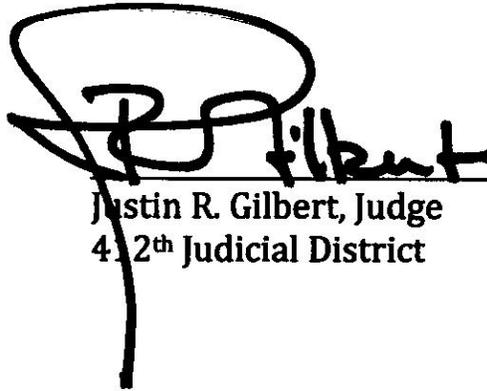
Terri Holder, Judge
149th Judicial District



Pat Sebesta, Judge
239th Judicial District



Randy Hufstetler, Judge
300th Judicial District



Justin R. Gilbert, Judge
412th Judicial District



Patrick Bulanek, Judge
461st Judicial District