

IN THE CHANCERY COURT  
IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

IN RE: AGREED DIVORCE CASES

Ab 241  
FILED  
CLERK & MASTER  
2024 SEP 11 P 1:39

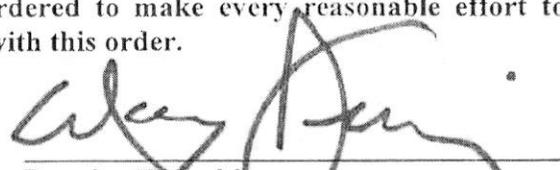
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ORDER MANDATING CIVIL DOCKET COMPLY WITH T.C.A. §16-2-509

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Several times during a calendar year, the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) reports to the clerks of the state courts the number of state court cases that were pending in each county at the end of a quarter. The data, over a long period of time, supports the conclusion that the dockets in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District need to be brought into compliance with T.C.A. § 16-2-509 - particularly with respect to an equitable distribution of the workload. The undersigned is putting down this standing order to promote the orderly and efficient administration of justice in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District and to alleviate caseload imbalance between Circuit Court and Chancery Court. The civil court judges of this district have requested, over the last few years, that the bar attempt to organically balance the dockets with only marginal effect. For example, the number of divorce cases filed in Chancery still far exceeds those filed in Circuit. Therefore, in order to attempt to balance the dockets, *and* comply with the above statute, *and* bring the dockets in Chancery and Circuit as close to mathematic equality as possible, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED, and DECREED as follows:

- (1) That all DIVORCE cases which are known to be uncontested at the time of filing shall be filed in CIRCUIT COURT as of the date of the entering of this Order.
- (2) The Circuit Court Clerk and Clerk and Master of each of the counties of the Third Judicial District shall immediately take the following actions:
  - a. Enter this order into the court's minutes.
  - b. Post at least one stamp filed copy of this order in a prominent place in the clerk's office, and at least one stamped filed copy of this order in a prominent place outside the clerk's office but inside the county courthouse.
  - c. Provide the Circuit Judge with a notification of each agreed divorce case they are assigned.
- (3) All attorneys and parties are ordered to make every reasonable effort to docket their cases in compliance with this order.

  
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Douglas T. Jenkins  
Presiding Judge 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District