

(DIRECTIVE)

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

CHIEF JUSTICE DIRECTIVE—NUMBER 4

By the authority vested in me as Chief Justice of the United States of America by the Efficient Function and General Duties Act of 2016, including the power to broadly provide for the “orderly administration of justice”,

I, CHIEF JUSTICE KOTWARRIOR, find that it is necessary to ensuring the timely and fair administration of justice that there be a uniform system for the assignment of cases in the district court. Accordingly, I hereby order as follows:

Section 1. Case Assignment. Every case, civil or criminal, within the federal district court shall be assigned according to the provisions of this Directive. If a case is in a assigned list and a judge has been added to the card in accordance with this Directive, the case is assigned to them.

Sec. 2. Reorganizing Process Board. The pending federal judge lists (both civil and criminal) shall be removed. The “taken by federal judge” list shall be renamed “judge assigned”, or a reasonable equivalent, the “civil case – judge taken” list shall be renamed “civil case – judge assigned”, or a reasonable equivalent.

Sec. 3. Butler Configuration. Cases shall be assigned via the Butler Trello Bot. The Bot shall be configured to perform the following operations:

(1) whenever a case is added to the distribution list, add a federal district judge, a retired justice assigned to active service, or a justice riding circuit to the card at random;

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(2) whenever a case is added to the distribution list, if it has a criminal case label, move it to the “judge assigned” list; and

(3) whenever a case is added to the distribution list, if it does not have a criminal case label, move it to the “civil case – judge assigned” list.

Sec. 4. Duty. It is the inherent duty of each federal district judge to complete cases assigned to them with proper dispatch.

MANDATORY REPORT—CONGRESS & THE PRESIDENT

Pursuant to section 3 of the Efficient Function and General Duties Act of 2016, I am writing to inform you that I have taken action under the authority of the same.

1. I have established a system for the assignment of civil and criminal cases to federal district judges, retired justices, and justices riding circuit.

2. I have determined that it is necessary to the orderly administration of justice that a system for the assignment of cases be in effect.

3. I am obligated under the EFGDA to “see that the business of the several courts ... is attended to with proper dispatch” and “with regard to general liberties.” The establishment of a uniform system for the assignment of cases is central to the fulfillment of that role.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Clara Mudda Holmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'C'.