



DOCKET DIRECTIVE RE:
Reassignment of Cases
from Docket of Hon. Leslie Kim Smith
to Business Court Judges

DD #:
DD 2024-16

Rescinds:
n/a

Court Address

Coleman A. Young Municipal Center: 2 Woodward Avenue, Suite 711, Detroit, MI 48226

Court Telephone

(313) 224-5261

This Docket Directive is issued pursuant to MCR 8.110(C)(3)(b) and MCR 8.111 and is necessary for purposes of administrative efficiency.

This Docket Directive concerns the following cases, which were previously assigned to Hon. Leslie Kim Smith in her role as the Presiding Judge of the Civil Division/Chief Judge's designee for these cases:

- Nuisance abatement cases (excluding Land Bank cases)
- City of Detroit property tax collection cases
- Miscellaneous proceedings cases
- All causes of action to quiet title arising from tax foreclosure actions
- Land Bank cases
- Tax foreclosure actions

IT IS ORDERED:

Effective January 1, 2025:

1. The following cases (pending and post-judgment) are reassigned from the docket of Hon. Leslie Kim Smith to the judges of the Business Court.:
 - a. All nuisance abatement actions (CH), drug house actions (CF), nuisance abatement actions involving commercial property (CH), nuisance abatement actions involving illegal dumping, littering, dangerous conditions and/or blight violations (CH) in which the City is a named plaintiff (excluding cases filed by the Detroit Land Bank Authority); and
 - b. All civil lawsuits (CH) brought by the City of Detroit pursuant to the Detroit City Charter at § 8-403(7) seeking to collect unpaid property taxes pursuant to MCL 211.47(2).

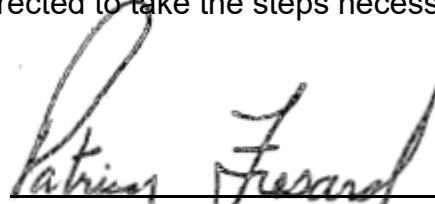
In order to establish a docket of these cases for each Business Court judge, cases will be reassigned in an equalized number from Judge Leslie Kim Smith's docket and to the Business Court judges.

Newly filed cases in the above categories will be randomly assigned to the judges of the Business Court.

2. All Miscellaneous Proceedings cases (PZ), excluding Judicial Tenure Commission cases and Jury Commission cases, will be reassigned to the docket of Hon. Sheila Ann Gibson, in her role as Presiding Judge of the Civil Division.
3. All causes of action to quiet title, whether or not the City of Detroit, Wayne County Treasurer, or County of Wayne is a named party, that arise from tax foreclosure actions heard on the tax foreclosure docket will be reassigned from the docket of Judge Leslie Kim Smith, in an equalized number, to all Civil Division judges. Newly filed cases to quiet title arising from tax foreclosure actions will be randomly assigned to all Civil Division Judges.
4. All nuisance abatement actions (CH) or expedited quiet title actions (CH) in which either the Detroit Land Bank Authority or the Wayne County Land Bank Corporation is a named plaintiff will be reassigned from the docket of Judge Leslie Kim Smith to the docket of Hon. Sheila Ann Gibson, in her role as Presiding Judge of the Civil Division.
5. The Tax Foreclosure Docket encompassing all Housing and Real Estate cases (CH) involving tax foreclosure claims in which the City of Detroit, Wayne County Treasurer, or the County of Wayne is a named party (excluding Case No. 24-008179-CH) will be reassigned from the docket of Judge Smith to the docket of Hon. Sheila Ann Gibson, in her role as Presiding Judge of the Civil Division.
6. A Plaintiff will clearly identify in the caption of the complaint any action that should be assigned to a designated judge or group of judges in accordance with this docket directive by specifying if the case is a Land Bank case (CH), a City of Detroit blight abatement case (CH), a City of Detroit property tax collection case (CZ), or a Tax Foreclosure Docket case (CH).

The Wayne County Clerk, the Third Circuit Court Case Processing Department, and the Third Circuit Court Information Technology Systems Bureau are directed to take the steps necessary to accomplish this Directive.

Dated: 12/16/2024



Hon. Patricia P. Fresard, Chief Judge
Third Judicial Circuit of Michigan