

## ADMINISTRATIVE PLAN

### District Court of Independence County 14<sup>th</sup> State Judicial District

#### 1. JUDGES.

The Independence County District Court is a state district court served by one judge.

<u>Judge</u>	<u>Division Number</u>
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Hon. Chaney Taylor	1 <sup>st</sup> Division
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Are exchange agreements with other district judges utilized?

Yes

No

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 18, at the request of the majority of the district judges of a district court, with the concurrence of a majority of the circuit judges of a judicial circuit, the administrative judge of the judicial circuit may designate one or more licensed attorneys to serve as a smalls claims magistrate to preside over the small claims division of the district court.

A small claims magistrate shall possess the same qualifications as a district court judge. The appointment shall be filed in writing and filed with the District Court Clerk.

Has a small claims magistrate has been designated by the administrative judge of the judicial circuit?

Yes

No

#### 2. DEPARTMENTS.

The statutory authority for the organization and designation of this district court is found is found at A.C.A. § 16-17-1110 (11).

The judge(s) serve(s) in the statutorily designated departments of the court as follows:

<b>Judge</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>City Designated as Department</b>
Hon. Chaney Taylor	Independence	Batesville District Court 549 W. Main Street Batesville, AR 72501

**Consolidation of City Courts with District Courts**

Pursuant to A.C.A. §16-17-1202, all city courts were consolidated with district courts on January 1, 2012, and former city courts became known as departments of the district court. If a town or city is no longer operating as a department of the district court, a copy of the local ordinance abolishing the city as a department of the court must be provided to the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Are all towns or cities statutorily designated as departments still operating as departments of the district court?

- Yes
- No

**3. OTHER JURISDICTIONAL AREAS.**

The following cities and towns have police departments but have not been designated as statutory departments of the district court. Pursuant to A.C.A. §16-17-1203, these cities and towns contribute to the operational expenses of the district court and file cases in the district court.

<b>City / Town</b>	<b>Department Where Cases are Filed / Heard</b>
N/A	

**4. COURT SESSIONS AND TYPES OF CASE BY SUBJECT MATTER (Criminal, Traffic, Civil and Small Claims).**

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 18, each department of a district court shall hear cases in all of the subject matter divisions.

Sessions of the court are generally scheduled on the following days of the week at the following times at the Batesville District court:

Criminal & traffic plea & arraignment: Every Wed 9am to 12pm;

Criminal & traffic trials: Every Wed 1pm until finished;

Civil & Small Claims: Last Wed of every month, 9am until finished;

Bond hearings, Rule 8.1 hearings, extradition hearings: Business hours, Monday through Friday, as needed;

Circuit Court Orders of Protection: Every other Thurs, 9:30 a.m. until finished

**Mandatory Holding of Court in Departments of a District Court**

Pursuant to A.C.A. §16-17-138, sessions of court must be held at least one (1) time per month in each department unless mutually waived by the district court judge and the governing body of the city or town where the department is located.

Is court held in each town or city designated as a department of the district court at least one (1) time per month?

Yes

No

Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 18, a warrant docket shall be established within the criminal division. The docket shall be divided into a "search warrant docket," designated by the prefix "SW" and an "arrest warrant docket," designated by the prefix "AW." The warrant docket is used for warrants that have been returned either executed or unexecuted when a case file has not yet been opened. If a criminal case is subsequently opened, the information in the warrant docket related to the criminal case is transferred to it.

Has the warrant docket been established within the criminal division?

Yes

No

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 18 REFERRALS FROM CIRCUIT COURT.**

Has the circuit court referred matters pursuant to Administrative Order No. 18 to be heard by a state district judge?

Yes

No

The following matters have been referred by the circuit court and have been included in the circuit court administrative plan:

Consent Jurisdiction. Upon the consent of all parties, the following types of cases are referred from circuit court:

- Civil
- Domestic Relations
- Probate

Protective Orders.

Forcible Entry and Detainers / Unlawful Detainer.

Other Matters of an Emergency or Uncontested Nature Pending in Civil, Domestic Relations or Probate Division. ***Please describe the types of other matters referred below and the location where these matters are heard.***

<u>Type of Other Matters</u>	<u>Hearing Location</u>
Ex-Parte Emergency Involuntary Commitment Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. 20-47-209 thru 210	Circuit or District Court as needed
Decedent Estate Administration	Circuit or District Court as needed
Uncontested Divorce	Circuit or District Court as needed
Defaults	Circuit or District Court as needed

Other Matters, if Justification for the Reference and Procedures to be Employed are Sufficiently Demonstrated in the Circuit Court Administration Plan Pursuant to Administrative Order No. 14. ***Please describe the types of other matters referred below and the location where these matters are heard.***

<u>Type of Other Matters</u>	<u>Hearing Location</u>
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Criminal. The following duties are referred with respect to an investigation or prosecution of an offense lying within the exclusive jurisdiction of the circuit court:

- Issue Search Warrant Pursuant to Rule 13.1
- Issue Arrest Warrant Pursuant to Rule 7.1 or A.C.A. §16-81-104
- Issue Summons Pursuant to Rule 6.1

- Reasonable Cause Determinations Pursuant to Rule 4.1 (e)
- Conduct First Appearance Pursuant to Rule 8.1
- Appoint Counsel Pursuant to Rule 8.2
- Inform Defendant Pursuant to Rule 8.3
- Accept Plea of "Not Guilty" or "Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity"
- Conduct Pretrial Release Inquiry Rules 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3
- Conduct Preliminary Hearing Pursuant to A.C.A. §16-93-307

**Digital Audio Recording Equipment**

Is digital audio recording equipment utilized to make a verbatim record of matters referred from the circuit court?

- Yes
- No

Has the State District Court Digital Audio Recording Equipment Compliance Form been provided to the Administrative Office of the Courts?

- Yes
- No

<b>6. SPECIALTY COURTS.</b>
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Does a district court judge preside over a specialty court program?

- Yes
- No

The following specialty courts are conducted:

<b>Type of Specialty Court</b>	<b>Location</b>
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<b>Independence County DWI Court</b>	<b>Batesville</b>
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a. Type of specialty docket and description of its operation:

The ICDC is a highly intensive monitoring program combined with treatment and patterned on the drug court model. It operates in compliance with the standard DWI Court model, including best practices, evidence-based sentencing and per NCDC's Ten Guiding Principles. The program is one-year long, divided into four (4) phases of thirteen (13)

weeks each, with participants progressing to each successive phase subject to successful compliance with phase requirements and program rules;

b. Statutory or legal authority on which it is based:

Statutory authority for DWI/BWI Courts may be found at A.C.A. § 16-102-101 through § 16-102-102;

c. Certification of compliance with all applicable sentencing laws, including assessment, collection and remittance of fines, fees, court costs, probation fees.

I hereby certify that the Independence County DWI Court operates in compliance with and conforms to all applicable sentencing laws, including fines, fees, court costs and probation assessments;

d. Use of court resources.

The DWI Court Team includes, but not by way of limitation, a judge, county prosecutor, city prosecutor, public defender, probation officer/case manager, evaluator, treatment provider and coordinator. Team members have attended training programs offered by the National Center for DWI Courts (NCDC) in collaboration with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The ICDC was implemented & operates according to NCDC's Ten Guiding Principles & Arkansas law;

e. Sources of funding:

The ICDC is funded, in part, by a grant from the Arkansas State Police Highway Safety Office in conjunction with NHTSA and program fees.

### **16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Drug Court Programs**

a. Type of specialty docket and description of its operation:

This specialty court was established in the circuit court administrative plan, but the judicial circuit does not have a circuit judge who is available to administer the specialty court on a consistent basis. Accordingly, the administrative plan for the judicial circuit required by Administrative Order No. 14 of the Supreme Court designated a district court judge to administer this specialty court program. A description of the program can be found on pages 4 and 5 of the circuit court plan.

b. Statutory or legal authority on which it is based:

Ark. Code Ann. §16-98-301 et seq.

c. Certification of compliance with all applicable sentencing laws, including assessment, collection and remittance of fines, fees, court costs, probation fees.

I hereby certify that the 16<sup>th</sup> Circuit Drug Court operates in compliance with and conforms to all applicable sentencing laws, including fines, fees, court costs and probation assessments;

d. Use of court resources.

A description of the program can be found on pages 4 and 5 of the circuit court plan.

e. Sources of funding:

The program is supported by staff and funded by the Department of Community Correction, by the collection of drug court fees under Act 490 of 2009 and AOC grants.

**7. OTHER PROGRAMS OR DOCKETS.**

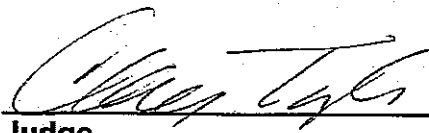
Does a district court judge preside over other programs or dockets?

Yes

No

**7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Administrative Plan is effective January 1, 2024.

  
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Judge

Dated: June 29, 2023

