

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER #15, 2ND SERIES

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Administrative Order No. 15, 2nd Series
Date of Implementation: February 1, 2010

In Re: ORDER PROVIDING APPOINTMENT OF BLUE EARTH COUNTY
CONCILIATION COURT REFEREES

The Fifth Judicial District is 1.3 judges short of its full complement as measured by the judicial weighted caseload study for the third quarter 2009. Due to an inadequate court budget, a shortage of judges and a shortage of court time in the District, the appointment of referees to preside over conciliation court cases would help to provide more time to alleviate the delay in processing of other cases.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 491A.03, subd. 1, the Chief Judge of the district may appoint one or more suitable persons to act as referees in conciliation court and the Chief Judge of the district shall establish qualifications for the office, specify the duties and length of service of referees, and fix their compensation.

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 491A.03, subd. 2, "the court administrator of the district court shall serve as the court administrator of conciliation court. The court administrator shall account for and pay over to the appropriate official all fees received by the court administrator."

Blue Earth County has a weighted caseload need of 4.3 judges; has three resident judges; receives judicial assistance of approximately a .5 judge; and, is experiencing delay in scheduling.

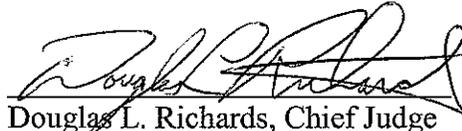
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1) Effective February 1, 2010 the following persons are appointed to act as referees in Blue Earth County Court for a period of one year:
 - a. Howard Haugh
 - b. Marlin Kunard
 - c. Eileen Wells
 - d. Ryan Magnus

- 2) The referees shall not receive any compensation or remuneration for serving in the position of a Conciliation Court Referee.
- 3) If, if any time, said persons fall out of good standing with the Board of Professional Responsibility, they shall immediately cease acting as referee and notify the chief judge of the district and the court administrator.
- 4) Said persons are required to attend such training, if any, as approved by the Blue Earth County Judges.
- 5) At no time shall the specified referees preside over any matter that does not fall within the requirements of conciliation court cases as provided for in Minn. Stat. § 491A.01.
- 6) The Blue Earth County Court Administrator shall continue to serve as the court administrator of Conciliation Court. The court administrator shall account for and pay over to the appropriate official all fees received by the court administrator.
- 7) Blue Earth County shall provide suitable quarters and security for the appointed referees.

Dated:

~~4/30/10~~ 5/25/2010


Douglas L. Richards, Chief Judge
Fifth Judicial District

4/30/10

Amended to include additional referees.