

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER # 15, 4th SERIES

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Administrative Order No. 15, 4th Series
Date of Implementation: January 1, 2021

In Re: ORDER APPOINTING BLUE EARTH COUNTY CONCILIATION COURT REFEREES

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2018, the Honorable Michelle A. Dietrich issued Fifth Judicial District Administrative Order No. 15, 3rd Series, which appointed and authorized certain persons to act as referees in conciliation court in Blue Earth County to address a judicial shortage in the Fifth District; and

WHEREAS, Blue Earth County, which has only four resident judges, continues to have a judicial need of 4.9 judges as measured by the most recent judicial weighted caseload study; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 491A.03, subd. 1, permits the chief judge of the district to appoint one or more suitable persons to act as referees in conciliation court and to establish qualifications for the office, specify the duties and length of service of referees, and fix their compensation; and

WHEREAS, due to the continued inadequate court budget, a shortage of judges and a shortage of court time in the Fifth Judicial District, the appointment of referees to preside over conciliation court cases would continue to alleviate the delays in processing of other cases; and

WHEREAS, Nicholas Maxwell, Joseph Bromeland, Paul Moosbrugger, and Wade Davis are suitable persons to act as referees in conciliation court.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. Nicholas Maxwell, Joseph Bromeland, Paul Moosbrugger, and Wade Davis are appointed to act as referees in Blue Earth County conciliation court until they resign, they no longer meet the qualifications for the office, or further order of the court.
2. The referees shall not receive any compensation or remuneration for serving as a referee in conciliation court.
3. The referees shall be authorized to practice law in Minnesota and not have any record of public discipline by the Minnesota Lawyers Board of Professional Responsibility. In the event that a referee does not meet this qualification of the office, that referee shall immediately notify the district court administrator of Blue Earth County and the chief judge of the Fifth Judicial District.
4. The referees shall attend any training as requested by the district court judges of Blue Earth County.
5. The referees shall not preside over any matter that does not fall within the jurisdiction of the conciliation court as set forth in Minn. Stat. § 491A.01.

Dated this 14th day of September, 2020

Michelle A. Dietrich, Chief Judge
Fifth Judicial District