

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER-SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

This matter came on administratively before the Honorable Michael D. Fritz, Chief Judge of the Seventh Judicial District. As Chief Judge, the undersigned exercises general administrative authority over the courts of the Seventh Judicial District. Minn. Stat. § 484.69, subd. 3. "All referees are subject to the administrative authority and assignment power of the chief judge of the district... and are not limited to assignment to family, probate, juvenile or special term court." Minn. Stat. § 484.70, subd. 1.

The duties and powers of referees include hearing and reporting all matters assigned by the chief judge. Minn. Stat. § 484.70, subd. 7(a); *see also Griffis v. Luban*, 601 N.W.2d 712, 714 (A standing order on the assignment of certain matters to referees, if signed by the acting chief judge of the district and within their scope of administrative authority and assignment power, is valid). All orders and findings recommended by a referee become an effective order when countersigned by a judge. Minn. Stat. § 484.70, subd. 7(e).

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 484.69, subd. 3, the undersigned now makes the following:

ORDER

1. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 484.69, subd. 3, the general administrative authority of the Chief Judge of the Seventh Judicial District includes assignment of cases to a referee.
2. All Parent Education Orders, Continuance Orders, ICMC Orders, Scheduling Orders, IFP Orders, Court Appointed Attorney Orders, Orders for Court Visitor, Orders for Hearings in HRO and OFP cases, Orders Granting Filing Fee Waivers in HRO cases, and Telephone Appearance Orders that are handled by a referee shall not require a counter signature by a District Court Judge.
3. Original Conciliation Court Orders that are handled by a referee shall not require a counter signature by a District Court Judge. All other Conciliation Court Orders, such as motions to vacate, appeals, or transcribed judgments shall continue to require a counter signature by a District Court Judge.

4. This Order shall be in effect until modified, cancelled, or replaced by a subsequent Order.

Dated: December 16, 2024

BY THE COURT:

Michael D. Fritz
Chief Judge, 7th Judicial District