

TITLE IV
Chapter 22 - Application of Rules
Rule 22.0 - Application of Rules

Appendix 22.0 - Courts That Have Created Specialized Divisions or Sections of Court That Handle Family Law Proceedings

**First Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Caddo

The Family Law Division will handle all aspects of all family law matters, including, but not limited to, family law rules, family law partitions, paternity cases, disavowals, and trials from filing to the end of the case. In addition the Family Law Division will handle all aspects of all civil mental commitment matters from filing to the end of the case.

There shall be three sections of the Family Law Division to be designated as Sections D, E, and F. All cases shall be assigned to one of these sections in the manner set forth in these rules.

Judges presiding in the Civil or Family Law Division will continue to handle probation revocation hearings, sentences, and multiple offender matters in criminal cases in which the judge was presiding at the time of conviction and/or sentence.

**Second Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Bienville,
Claiborne and Jackson**

**Third Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Lincoln and
Union**

**Fourth Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Morehouse
and Ouachita**

Family law matters are heard in Civil Sections 1 through 5.

Family Docket Cases shall consist of (a) all divorces and all issues which are ancillary to a divorce proceeding; (b) all non-marital cases involving child-related issues (paternity, custody, visitation and support); (c) all family or domestic protective order issues; (d) all issues relating to community property and matrimonial regimes; and (e) enforcement of orders in any of these matters, including contempt of court (except that contempt of court alleging violation of a protective order shall be heard by the assigned judge).

**Fifth Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Franklin,
Richland and West
Carroll**

**Sixth Judicial District
Court**

Parishes of East Carroll,

Madison and Tensas

**Seventh Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Catahoula
and Concordia**

**Eighth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Winn

**Ninth Judicial District
Court**

Family law matters are heard in Divisions B, C, F, and G.

Parish of Rapides

**Tenth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Natchitoches

**Eleventh Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Sabine

**Twelfth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Avoyelles

**Thirteenth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Evangeline

**Fourteenth Judicial
District Court**

A. There shall be Family and Juvenile dockets in the Fourteenth Judicial District, and these dockets shall be allotted as follows:

Parish of Calcasieu

Effective January 1, 2013, pursuant to La. R.S. 13:587, all new family cases will be assigned to Divisions “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “E”, “F”, “G”, “H” and “I”. All new juvenile matters will be assigned to Divisions “C” and “I” and all juvenile matters presently assigned to Division “D” will be reassigned to Divisions “C” and “I”. Division “D” will retain all family matters presently assigned to

Division “D”.

Effective January 1, 2015, pursuant to La. R.S. 13:587, Division “A” will be assigned to Family and Juvenile Court. All new family cases will be assigned to Divisions “A”, “C”, and “I”. All new juvenile matters will be assigned to Divisions “A” and “I” and all juvenile matters presently assigned to Division “C” will be assigned to Division “A”. All domestic matters presently assigned to Divisions “B”, “D”, “E”, “F”, “G” and “H” will be assigned to Division “A”.

B. Matters heard on the Family and Juvenile Court Dockets shall be as follows:

(1) Juvenile matters governed by the Louisiana Children’s Code;

(2) All proceedings for the adoption of minors and for the relinquishment or termination of parental rights;

(3) Actions of separation, divorce, and annulment together with all related incidental matters as defined by La. C.C. art. 105 and the community property partitions associated with the dissolution of said marriages.

(4) All child-related issues such as the establishment or disavowal of the paternity of children, filiation, custody, visitation and support, or any other such matters as may be designated by the District Judges; and

(5) All Protective Orders filed in accordance with La. R.S. 46:2131, et seq., and R.S. 46:2151 et seq.

C. These rules shall apply to family and juvenile proceedings in all divisions of the 14th Judicial District Court.

Fifteenth Judicial District Court

Family law matters are currently heard in Divisions H and M.

**Parishes of Acadia,
Lafayette and Vermilion**

Matters heard on the Family Docket shall include:

(a) Suits for annulment, divorce and separation where there are minor children born of, adopted or legitimated by the marriage together with all related incidental matters as defined by La. C.C. Art. 105 and the community property partitions associated with the dissolution of said marriages.

(b) All child-related issues such as the establishment or disavowal of the paternity of children, filiation, custody, visitation, and support in non-marital cases, name changes for minor children, emancipations, or any other such matters as may be designated by the District Judges.

(c) All protective orders filed in accordance with R.S. 46:2131, et seq., and R.S. 46:2151 et seq., unless an annulment, separation or divorce action is pending and is a non-Family Docket matter.

Sixteenth Judicial District Court

All sections hear family law matters.

**Parishes of Iberia, St.
Martin and St. Mary**

Seventeenth Judicial District Court

Parish of Lafourche

**Eighteenth Judicial
District Court**

FAMILY DOCKET CASES DEFINED

**Parishes of Iberville,
Pointe Coupee and West
Baton Rouge**

Family Docket Cases shall consist of (a) all issues which are ancillary to a divorce proceeding, (b) all child-related issues (paternity, custody, visitation and support) and in non-martial cases, (c) all protective order issues, and (d) enforcement of orders in any of these matters, including the issue of contempt of court.

SANCTIONS

Failure by an attorney or unrepresented litigant to comply with all procedures set out herein, or any other law or procedure, including the provisions of LA. R.S. 9:2801 may result in the rejection by the Court of nonconforming pleadings, and in appropriate cases, sanctions.

WAIVER OF RULES

The Judge may, in exceptional circumstances and particular cases, deviate from these rules in the interest of justice and proper administration of the Court.

**Nineteenth Judicial
District Court**

**Parish of East Baton
Rouge**

**Family Court, Parish of
East Baton Rouge**

La. R.S. 13:1401 establishes the East Baton Rouge Parish Family Court.

**For the Parish of East
Baton Rouge**

ORGANIZATION OF THE COURT

1. The Court shall be composed of as many divisions as there are judges authorized by law for The Family Court in and for the Parish of East Baton Rouge. Presently, the Court shall be composed of four divisions designated as "A", "B", "C", and "D".
2. Whenever circumstances may require and by agreement of the judges, a judge presiding over one division of the Court may also preside over another division, exchange judicial duties or assist another judge with his judicial duties, or transfer a case from one division to another.
3. The judge who has begun a trial on the merits shall complete the said trial and shall sign any judgment which he has previously rendered. A successor judge may complete his predecessor's trials and sign judgments the predecessor judge previously rendered.

SCHEDULE OF COURT.

1. The Court will adjourn at 4:30 p.m. each afternoon; however, the Court may in its discretion remain in session. If a case is not completed or if cases remain on the docket untried, such cases shall be carried over to the next available day.
2. Court office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Court offices are generally closed from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. daily.

DUTY JUDGE.

1. The duty schedule shall be determined by the Court sitting en banc.
2. The duty judge shall be available each day of scheduled duty from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to sign all orders. Duty matters may be handled if the duty judge is available during other hours.
3. All duty matters requiring signature shall be forwarded to the judicial assistant for the duty judge, unless otherwise provided.
4. Duty matters, other than routine ones, which require review of court records, conferences with the duty judge, etc., must be presented to the duty judge by 3:30 p.m. so that the matter may be

**Twentieth Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of East Feliciana
and West Feliciana**

**Twenty-First Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Livingston,
St. Helena and
Tangipahoa**

There shall be a Family Docket in the Twenty-First Judicial District. Divisions G and H are designated as Family Court divisions through December 31, 2014, and thereafter, Divisions J and K are designated as the Family Court divisions.

Matters heard on the Family Docket shall include all actions arising under Title V and Title VII of Book I and Title VI of Book II of the Louisiana Civil Code, adoptions arising under the Louisiana Children's Code and The Children's Code, actions involving protection from family violence pursuant to R.S. 46:2131 et seq., and actions for enforcement, collection of support and paternity pursuant to R.S. 46:236.5. All family docket matters as above set forth filed subsequent to December 31, 2013, shall be randomly allotted on an equal basis between the two Family Court divisions. All family docket matters heretofore allotted to Divisions "A" through "F" of this Court shall, upon the filing of any new pleading in such case, be reallocated on a random, equal basis between the two Family Court divisions.

**Twenty-Second Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of St. Tammany
and Washington**

La. R.S. 13:621.22 establishes the Twenty-Second Judicial District Family Court.

There shall be a Family Court Docket in the 22nd Judicial District and that docket shall be allotted to Divisions K and L.

Matters heard on the Family Docket shall include:

1. Annulment of marriage, divorce and separation and related proceedings and incidental matters, including those listed in La. C.C. Art. 105.
 2. Property partitions and related proceedings and incidental matters that are associated with the dissolution of marriages.
 3. Child-related issues including, but not limited to, issues related to the paternity of children; adoption; filiation; custody, visitation, and support in non-marital cases; name changes for minor children and emancipations.
 4. Domestic violence protective orders.
 5. Separation of community property regimes.
 6. Enforcement of any orders issued in connection with the matters listed in sections (1) – (5) above, including proceedings for contempt of court.
 7. Such other matters as may be designated by en banc order of the 22nd Judicial District Court Judges.
 8. The Rules and Appendices in Titles I and II of the Louisiana District Court Rules shall apply to all family court proceedings in the absence of a specific rule contained in the Title IV Rules for Family Law Proceedings in Louisiana District Courts and the related Appendices for the 22nd Judicial District Court.
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Twenty-Third Judicial District Court

Parishes of Ascension, Assumption and St. James

Amended effective January 1, 2025.

In accordance with Louisiana Constitution Article V § 22, Act 496 of the Louisiana Legislature amended and reenacted Louisiana Revised Statute 13:621.21(A) and 621.23 creating an additional judgeship in the Twenty-Third Judicial District designated as Division “F”. Division “F” is hereby designated as the District’s Family Court Division. Matters heard on the Family Court Docket shall include all actions arising under Title V and Tile VII of Book I and Title VI of Book II of the Louisiana Civil Code, adoptions arising under the Louisiana Children’s Code and The Children’s Code, actions involving protection from family violence pursuant to La. R.S. 46:2131 et seq., and actions for enforcement, collection of support, and paternity pursuant to La. R.S. 46:236.5. All family docket matters as set forth above, filed subsequent to December 31, 2024, shall be allotted to Division F, and any other similar matters which the court en banc may designate as family law matters or cases. All family docket matters heretofore allotted to Divisions “A” through “E” of this Court prior to December 31, 2024 shall remain in the allotted Division, subject to rules and procedures related to recusal, consolidation and/or transfer as provided by the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure. The following matters are to be allotted to Division “F” for adjudication from beginning to end:

- (a) All actions for divorce, including any and all related incidental matters as defined by La. C.C. Art. 105 and the community property partitions associated with the dissolution of said marriages, covenant marriages, annulment of marriage, establishment or disavowal of paternity of children, filiation, adoption, alimony, support of children (including non-marital children), custody by habeas corpus or otherwise, visitation rights, name changes, emancipations, and all matters incidental to any of the foregoing proceedings.
- (b) The issuance, modification, or dissolution of conservatory writs for the protection of community property.
- (c) The issuance of writs of fieri facias and garnishment under judgments for alimony, child support, and attorney fees, partition proceedings following divorce judgments, and suits for separation of property.
- (d) All civil domestic protective orders issued including actions filed pursuant to The Domestic Abuse Assistance Act, The Post-Separation Family Violence Relief Act, and Uniform Abuse Prevention Orders.
- (e) Child-related issues including, but not limited to, issues related to the paternity of children; adoption; filiation; custody; visitation; financial support, including support in non-marital cases; education; name changes for minor children and emancipations.
- (f) Enforcement of any orders issued in connection with the matters listed herein, including proceedings for contempt of court.
- (g) The Judge of Division “F” shall have the authority and discretion to refer litigants, parties, and other persons over whom the Court has jurisdiction to the 23rd Judicial District Court Family Law Hearing Officer for consideration of matters consistent with the rules and procedures established herein.

For the purposes of this Section, Family Court matters shall not include tutorship or interdiction proceedings, unless necessary for and ancillary to the adjudication of a pending family or domestic matter properly filed in Division F.

Twenty-Fourth Judicial District Court

Parish of Jefferson

- A. Domestic cases in the 24th Judicial District Court shall be randomly allotted to all the divisions in the same manner as civil cases and shall be designated as domestic.
- B. Domestic Cases Defined
- Domestic cases shall consist of:
- 1. All domestic actions which involve separation, divorce or annulment proceedings; and all issues which are ancillary thereto;
 - 2. All child related actions in marital and non-marital domestic cases and all issues ancillary thereto, except as provided herein;
 - 3. All civil domestic protective orders issued including actions filed pursuant to The Domestic Abuse

Assistance Act, The Post-Separation Family Violence Relief Act and Uniform Abuse Prevention Orders;

4. All actions filed seeking to have a foreign judgment or order, or judgment or order of any other judicial district of this state, recognized and enforced which are described within these rules;

5. Enforcement of orders in any of these matters, including the issue of contempt of court.

**Twenty-Fifth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Plaquemines

**Twenty-Sixth Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Bossier and
Webster**

**Twenty-Seventh Judicial
District Court**

Parish of St. Landry

**Twenty-Eighth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of LaSalle

**Twenty-Ninth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of St. Charles

**Thirtieth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Vernon

**Thirty-First Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Jefferson Davis

**Thirty-Second Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Terrebonne

**Thirty-Third Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Allen

**Thirty-Fourth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of St. Bernard

**Thirty-Fifth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Grant

**Thirty-Sixth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Beauregard

**Thirty-Seventh Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Caldwell

**Thirty-Eighth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Cameron

**Thirty-Ninth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Red River

**Fortieth Judicial District
Court**

**Parish of St. John the
Baptist**

Civil District Court**Parish of Orleans**

1. In accordance with Act 460 of 1979, there is hereby designated a Domestic Relations Section of this court, composed of three judges or divisions. One of the said judges shall preside over Domestic Relations Section # 1, and the other over Domestic Relations Section # 2 and the third over Domestic Relations Section #3.

Each domestic relations judge may adopt additional rules regulating practice before such judge.

2. Domestic relations cases shall consist of all domestic matters, including suits for divorce or annulment, alimony, child support, custody of children, partition of community property, adoption, and any other similar matters which the court en banc may designate as domestic relation matters or cases.

3. La. R.S. 13:1138 created two dedicated, limited jurisdiction seats in Orleans Parish Civil District Court: The first two judgeships becoming vacant by death, resignation, retirement, or removal on or after August 15, 2011, shall be abolished and two new judgeships shall be created and limited, pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 15(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to family matters as provided by law, including the following domestic relations matters:

(a) Actions for divorce, annulment of marriage, establishment or disavowal of paternity of children, alimony, support of children, custody by habeas corpus or otherwise, visitation rights, and all matters incidental to any of the foregoing proceedings.

(b) The issuance, modification, or dissolution of conservatory writs for the protection of community property.

(c) The issuance of writs of fieri facias and garnishment under judgments for alimony, child support, and attorney fees, partition proceedings following divorce judgments, and suits for separation of property.

For the purposes of this Subsection, family or domestic relations matters shall not include tutorship proceedings.

Criminal District Court**Parish of Orleans**

**Forty-Second Judicial
District Court****Parish of DeSoto**
