11/12/2025

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA

Clerk, U.S. District Court District of Montana Missoula Division

IN RE: ASSIGNMENT OF CRIMINAL CASES

STANDING ORDER No. BMM-41

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this Order shall govern all criminal case assignments for all matters filed in the divisions of this district:

Criminal cases filed in the Billings Division shall be assigned to District Judge Susan P. Watters and District Judge William W. Mercer on a random basis, such that two thirds (2/3) of the criminal cases filed shall be assigned to Judge Watters and one third (1/3) to Judge Mercer.

Criminal cases filed in the Butte Division shall be assigned to District Judge William W. Mercer and Senior District Judge Dana L. Christensen on a random basis, such that one half (1/2) of the criminal cases filed shall be assigned to Judge Mercer and one half (1/2) to Judge Christensen.

Criminal cases filed in the Great Falls Division shall be assigned to Chief District Judge Brian Morris.

Criminal cases filed in the Helena Division shall be assigned to Chief District Judge Brian Morris.

Criminal cases filed in the Missoula Division shall be assigned to District Judge William W. Mercer, Senior District Judge Dana L. Christensen, and Senior District Judge Donald W. Molloy on a random basis, such that one third (1/3) of the criminal cases filed shall be assigned to Judge Mercer, one third (1/3) to Judge Christensen, and one third (1/3) to Judge Molloy.

The clerk shall immediately inform all divisional offices, the judicial officers of this district, and the United States Probation Office of the entry of this Standing Order.

DATED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

Brian Morris, Chief Judge

United States District Court