

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A-2021-07**

**IN RE: CASE ASSIGNMENT FOR SUMTER COUNTY  
CASE NUMBER 2019-DR-000543AXMX**

**THIS CAUSE** came on to be heard before the undersigned Chief Judge regarding the reassignment of Sumter County case 2019-DR-000543AXMX. In order to maintain judicial integrity, and to prevent actual or perceived conflict of interest, a recusal/reassignment of the above referenced case is appropriate, it is therefore;

**ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

1. With the approval and consent of Sumter County and Circuit Court Judges, Senior Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, the Honorable Daniel Merritt, Sr., and Citrus County Circuit Court Judge, the Honorable Richard A. Howard, case number 2019-DR-000543AXMX filed in Sumter County is to be reassigned to the Honorable Richard A. Howard.
2. The Sumter County Clerk of the Courts is hereby directed to assign 2019-DR-000543AXMX to The Honorable Richard A. Howard.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers in Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida, on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel B. Merritt, Jr  
Chief Judge  
Fifth Judicial Circuit