



**ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPERIOR JUDGE
WHO IS ASSIGNED TO BE UNIT PRESIDING JUDGE**

Pursuant to the Vermont Constitution, Chapter II, § 30, the Supreme Court hereby promulgates the following amendment to Administrative Directive No. 29, effective February 9, 2015 (new matter underlined; deleted matter struck through):

This administrative directive describes the role and responsibilities of a superior judge who is assigned to be the unit presiding judge for one or more county units pursuant to 4 V.S.A. § 73(a) as amended on July 1, 2010.

A unit presiding judge for one or more units of the Superior Court shall:

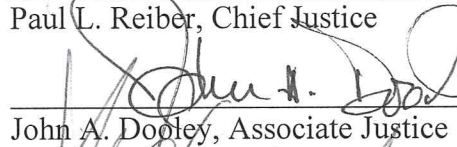
1. Work collaboratively with the Superior Court Clerk for the county unit(s) on issues related to case management, case scheduling and calendaring, court programs (e.g. litigant education, treatment court, etc.), the use of court facilities within the unit by each division, the relationship with the local bar, the relationship with the community and other issues related to the effective and efficient operation of all divisions in the county unit(s). Upon request, the unit presiding judge may consult with the ~~clerk~~ Superior Court Clerk on issues related to court personnel-;
2. Work with the Chief Superior Judge to implement administrative policies applicable to judicial officers within the presiding judge's unit(s), consistent with statewide trial court operational policies, to increase efficiencies and standardize approaches to the maximum extent possible. As authorized by the Chief Superior Court Judge and this Administrative Directive, each unit presiding judge shall be responsible for implementing administrative policy directives applicable to judicial officers across all divisions within his or her respective unit(s);
3. With input from the Superior Court Clerk and the ~~Administrative Chief Superior~~ Superior Judge as needed, allocate judicial resources assigned to the divisions within the unit in a manner that is consistent with good case management practices, case priorities and case disposition goals established by the Supreme Court and which maximizes efficiency and coverage for all divisions as needed—including addressing issues concerning adequate division coverage during judicial officer vacations and absences-;

- 3.4. ~~Work as a team with other judges~~ Allocate superior judges assigned to the unit to assure maximum coverage for the unit.;
- 4.5. In the event that there are insufficient judicial resources assigned to a unit to cover necessary court proceedings in a timely fashion, the unit presiding judge shall first determine whether a superior judge assigned as a backup to the unit is available to cover. If no superior judge is available and coverage is still inadequate to meet the need, the unit presiding judge and/or the superior court clerk may request that the ~~Administrative judge~~ Chief Superior Judge specially assign another superior judge, a retired judge or an acting judge.;
5. 6. Resolve scheduling conflicts that arise within the unit and, when there are scheduling conflicts involving the unit presiding judge's unit and another unit, work with the unit presiding judge of the other unit, to resolve the conflict based on scheduling priorities, the date of the notice, etc. Any scheduling conflicts between two units that cannot be resolved between the two unit presiding judges shall be referred to the ~~Administrative~~ Chief Superior Judge.

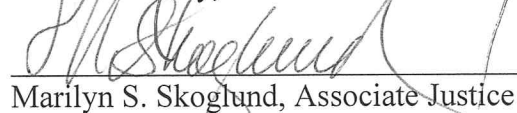
Done in Chambers at Montpelier, Vermont, this 9th day of February, 2015.



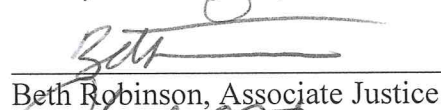
Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice



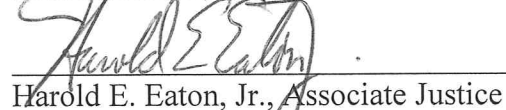
John A. Dooley, Associate Justice



Marilyn S. Skoglund, Associate Justice



Beth Robinson, Associate Justice



Harold E. Eaton, Jr., Associate Justice