IN THE STATE COURT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGE STATE OF GEORGIA

2023 MAR -2 AM 10: 02

BEVERLY LOGAN, CLERK

ORDER ASSIGNING CIVIL CASES AND ACTIONS CLARKE COUNTY, GEORGIA

This Order is entered pursuant to Uniform State Court Rule 3.1 and supersedes all previous orders assigning civil cases and actions.

Reassignment of Cases Assigned to Judge Ethelyn Simpson

All civil cases previously assigned to Judge Ethelyn Simpson shall be reassigned to Judge Ryan S. Hope.

Assignment of New Civil Cases

The Clerk shall utilize a case assignment system to assign case types as listed on the Civil Case Initiation Forms in equal proportion between the judges. Cases involving allegations of Medical Malpractice Tort and Product Liability Tort shall be assigned equally.

Class Action Cases

When a Complaint is filed indicating that a Plaintiff will seek class action certification, the Clerk shall review previous class action filings to determine which judge received the last class action case and assign the newly filed case to the other judge.

Cases Pursuant to Uniform State Court Rule 3.2

Actions involving substantially the same parties, subject matter, or factual issues shall be assigned to the same judge when practical. If a case is refiled after dismissal, it will be assigned to the same judge who presided over the dismissed case. If more than one case is pending involving the same parties, subject matter or factual issues, the cases will be assigned to the judge assigned to the case that was filed first.

Designation of Assigned Cases

Cases assigned to Judge Auslander will be designated "CEA". Cases assigned to Judge Hope will be designated "RSH".

This Order shall be placed on the minutes of the State Court of Athens-Clarke County.

So Ordered, this day of March, 2023.

Charles E. Auslander, III, Judge State Court of Athens-Clarke County **Ryan S. Hope**, Judge

State Court of Athens-Clarke County