

The Supreme Court of South Carolina

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER FOR THE FAMILY COURTS

Pursuant to the provisions of Article V, Section 4 of the South Carolina Constitution, which vests the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court with administrative authority over the unified judicial system, the following administrative order affecting the Family Courts is adopted, and all rules or orders in conflict herewith are revoked. THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

(a) Whenever a domestic relations or juvenile case has been filed and entered in the File Book for more than two hundred seventy (270) days without having been continued, tried or otherwise disposed of, the clerk of court shall strike the case from the File Book with leave to restore.

(b) No domestic relations or juvenile case may be continued beyond two hundred seventy (270) days from the file of filing except by written order of the Chief Administrative Judge upon a showing of good cause. Any order of continuance which continues a domestic relations or juvenile case beyond two hundred seventy (270) days shall state the reasons for the continuance and shall set the case for trial and final disposition at a time and date certain.

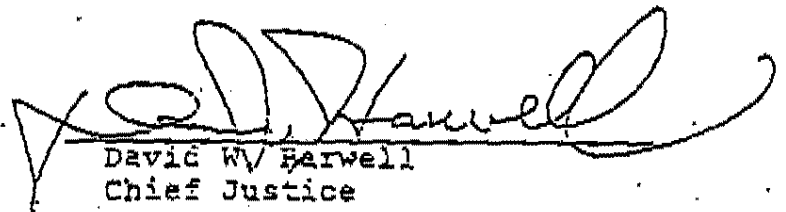
(c) Any case stricken from the File Book pursuant to paragraph (a) above shall be restored only upon the

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written order of the Chief Administrative Judge, obtained after written application is made and good cause shown why the case should be continued as a pending case, and provided that the order restoring the case to the File Book shall set the case for trial and final disposition at a time and date certain.

The striking of a case from the active docket is an administrative function only, and does not affect the merits of a case. Accordingly, all orders issued before such striking remain in full force and effect, unless limited by their terms. Additionally, voluntary or court-ordered discovery may be conducted pursuant to Rule 25, SCRFC even though a case has been struck from the File Book.

This order shall take effect immediately.



David W. Barwell
Chief Justice

June 5, 1992

Columbia, South Carolina