

FILED

DEC 03 2015

CHOCTAW SUPREME COURT
BY: *[Signature]*
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IN THE SUPREME COURT
OF THE
MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

**ORDER DIRECTING CIVIL COURT JUDGES TO PRESIDE ON AN INTERIM BASIS
ONLY IN THE CRIMINAL COURT OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW
INDIANS**

THE COURT HAVING BEEN DULY NOTIFIED of the immediate emergency medical absence, on a temporary basis only, of the Hon. Timothy Taylor, the regularly appointed Choctaw Tribal Criminal Court Judge, from his service on the bench, and this absence being for out-of-state emergency medical surgery and recovery for an estimated period of approximately 6 – 12 weeks' duration,

And the Court being mindful of the provisions of CTC §1-3-6(1)(b) governing Hearing of Cases During Absences or Vacancies, which in pertinent part provides as follows:

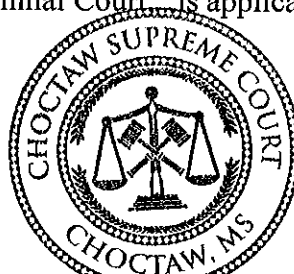
(1) In the event one of the courts of the Choctaw Court System is without a judge due to absence or vacancy the following rules shall govern:

[* * *]

(b) a judge of the Civil Court shall preside in the Criminal Court,

And further, this Court being mindful of its recent ruling in the case captioned *Pierceson Farve vs Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, SC 2014-7 (July 21, 2015)*, wherein at pages 9 – 10 this Court explicitly recognized among judicial absences or vacancies being situations contemplated as capable of triggering CTC §1-3-6(1)(b) as reasonably “including absences due to sickness [and] medical treatment,” and such is the situation here,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Court does recognize and finds the direction of CTC § 1-3-6 Hearing of Cases During Absences or Vacancies providing: “(1) In the event one of the courts of the Choctaw Court System is without a judge due to absence or vacancy the following rules shall govern: [* * *] (b) a judge of the Civil Court shall preside in the Criminal Court.” is applicable here,



And, applying same, Hon. Jeffrey T. Webb, Senior Judge, and Hon. Christopher A. Collins, Associate Judge, both of the Civil Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, are hereby ordered to preside in the Choctaw Tribal Criminal Court until such time as Criminal Court Judge Timothy Taylor is medically able to return and resume his duties.

SO ORDERED AND ADJUDGED this the 3rd day of December, 2015.


KEVIN BRISCOE, CHIEF JUSTICE