BEFORE THE OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STANDING ORDER NO. 9
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
ASSIGNING CASES AND SIGNING ORDERS

The Commissioner of Health delegates the authority to act as an Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") and to issue Final Agency Orders for all administrative matters before the Oklahoma State Department of Health ("Department") to licensed attorneys in the State of Oklahoma with a general knowledge of the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act and the administrative rules of the Department (63 O.S. §1-106 and 75 O.S. §311.1).

An ALJ may be an employee of the Department or a vendor who has a contract with the Department. An ALJ under contract does not have an office at the Department and has other commitments which affect their availability.

The functions of the ALJ are separate and apart from the Office of the General Counsel. The ALJ is not responsible to or subject to the direction or supervision of an employee or agent engaged in investigatory functions for the Department, and does not perform any investigatory or prosecutorial functions for the Department. The ALJ is not an owner, stockholder, employee or officer of, nor has any other business relationship with any corporation, partnership or other business or entity that is subject to the jurisdiction or regulation of the Department.

An attorney from the Office of General Counsel may be delegated as an ALJ **only** for involuntary discharge hearings regarding long term care facilities, as the Department does not enter appearances nor have an interest in the outcome of said matters.

A case is assigned to an ALJ by the Hearing Clerk according to assigned dockets and/or availability.

Any available ALJ may sign orders, including consent orders, provided the consent order is signed by the attorneys for all parties.

Adopted: June 1, 2015.

/s/Suzanne Nichols_____
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

/s/Michael Mitchelson_____
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

/s/Kim Heaton_____
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

/s/Jan Preslar_____
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

/s/Mary Womack_____
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

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