

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SEVENTEENTH
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

Order Number 2008-41-Civ

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING
CIVIL TRIAL POOL**

(a) Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b) (3) states the chief judge shall “develop an administrative plan for the efficient and proper administration of all courts within that circuit.”

(b) The fiscal constraints facing the judicial branch require the Circuit to reduce and/or eliminate the use of senior judges to hear civil trials.

(c) The establishment of a civil trial pool will assist litigants in the timely trial of the cases.

(d) In accordance with the authority vested in the chief judge by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is ordered:

(1) Effective March 3, 2008 the civil trial pool is established for jury and non-jury trials which require a minimum of one (1) and maximum of four (4) trial days.

(2) Each judge assigned to the civil division shall provide notice to the Chief Judge and Administrative Judge for the Circuit Civil Division on each and every Monday for that week:

- a. If the judge is in either a jury or non-jury trial.
- b. If the judge is hearing special set hearings.
- c. If the judge’s assigned courtroom in use for trials or special set hearings.
- d. If there are any backup trials on the judge’s docket which will require a maximum of four (4) trial days.

(3) Any circuit civil judge who is not on vacation, in trial, or hearing special set matters will be assigned to the civil trial pool.

(4) The Administrative Judge for the Circuit Civil Division or designee will assign judges in the civil trial pool to those cases which are ready for trial.

(5) Attorneys and litigants who announced ready for trial at calendar call shall be prepared to commence trial upon two (2) hours notice from the assigned circuit civil pool judge.

(6) Upon assignment of a pool case by the Administrative Judge for the Circuit Civil Division or designee to a circuit civil judge, the judge for the division as originally assigned shall:

- a. Notify the litigants of the courtroom where the case will be tried.
- b. The time trial will start.

- (7) Upon assignment of a pool case by the Administrative Judge for the Circuit Civil Division or designee to a circuit civil judge, the judge assigned the case shall:
- a. Notify his or her in court deputy clerk of the case to be tried so that deputy clerk may have the court file at the trial.
 - b. Notify his or her bailiff of the date, time, and location of the trial.
 - c. Request a jury panel, in necessary, from the Clerk of Court.
- (8) The civil pool judge shall hear any and all post trial motions filed pursuant to Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.530 or 1.549(a) for the cases he or she tries from the pool.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida on March 14, 2008.

s/ Victor Tobin
Victor Tobin, Chief Judge