

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. I-03-B-8

IN RE:
JUDICIAL ASSIGNMENTS

WHEREAS: the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) shall convene in Miami, Florida, November 16, 2003 through November 23, 2003;

WHEREAS: As a result of the FTAA, many new comers will visit Broward County and may need judicial services from an already over taxed judicial system;

WHEREAS: Judicial Rules of Administration 2.050(b)(3) mandates the Chief Judge to develop an administrative plan for the proper, efficient and prompt disposition of cases;

WHEREAS: Broward County is currently experiencing jail overcrowding and is under a Federal District Court Order concerning the same;

WHEREAS; because of limited Judicial, State Attorney, Public Defender, Clerk of Court resources, it is necessary to better utilize the available personnel;

In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge by Rule 2.050 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, it is

ORDERED that:

- 1) The Seventeenth Judicial Circuit experiences a case backlog, jail cap and staffing shortages. These issues require the establishment of special procedures to efficiently handle all matters involving the judiciary as a result of the FTAA Conference.
- 2) Judge Steve P. DeLuca is hereby appointed as an Acting Circuit Judge and shall be assigned to preside and handle all court related activities, both civil and criminal, as relevant to this Order and the FTAA Conference.
- 3) A second Special Magistrate/First Appearance court session shall be conducted daily from the North Satellite Courthouse to expedite the processing of any person arrested in conjunction with the FTAA Conference.

- 4) The Broward Sheriff's Office will coordinate the implementation of this Order. BSO shall identify all persons arrested in conjunction with the FTAA Conference and thereafter notify the Clerk of Court so that magistrate dockets can be prepared and the court session(s) scheduled.
- 5) Any and all persons arrested in conjunction with the FTAA Conference shall be held, remanded pending appearance before the Special Magistrate Judge.
- 6) The Special Magistrate Judge shall conduct the first appearance hearing(s) according to the Rules of Criminal Procedure, and set bond or establish pretrial release conditions on a case by case basis.
- 7) The Clerk of Court shall notify and provide dockets to the Office of the State Attorney and Public Defender for each special magistrate/first appearance session.
- 8) This Order shall be effective beginning 6:00 A.M., November 15, 2003 and expire at 6:00 P.M., November 22, 2003.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida, on this the 13th day of November, 2003.

/s/DALE ROSS
DALE ROSS, CHIEF JUDGE

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