

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE  
17TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND  
FOR BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: I-06-D-3A

IN RE:

ASSIGNMENT OF COURT  
INTERPRETERS AND FEES

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In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge by Rule 2.050 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, and Section 29.004, Florida Statutes, which provides that: "Court foreign language and sign-language interpreters and translators essential to comply with constitutional requirements" are part of the state court system elements to be provided from general revenue,

It is therefore, ORDERED that:

1. A centralized Court Interpreters Program is a division of Court Administration and shall be operated in accordance with procedures promulgated by the Court Administrator.
2. Court interpreters, whether staff or freelance, are appointed to serve the court pursuant to Florida Statutes 90.606 and 90.6063. As officers of the court, court interpreters are bound by a professional code of ethics.
3. Court interpreters are provided for defendants, victims, witnesses and family members in criminal cases. Proceedings covered include first appearances, arraignments, pre and post trial motion pre-trial conferences, jury and non-jury trials, domestic violence injunction hearings, dependency and juvenile hearings, violation of probation hearings, guardianship proceedings and Baker Act hearings.
4. Court interpreters are provided to deaf persons who are complainants, defendants, witnesses, jurors, or otherwise parties in all judicial proceedings.
5. Freelance court interpreters shall be compensated at a contract rate approved by the Chief Judge. When the Circuit has not entered into a contract with a freelance court interpreter, the hourly fee shall be consistent with existing contract rates for the same service, or as ordered by the presiding judge. The State of Florida shall compensate freelance interpreters upon receipt of an approved Court Interpreters Attendance Authorization form and invoice of the provided services.
6. This Administrative Order supersedes Administrative Order I-03-D-3 and is effective immediately.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida, on this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 2006.

/s/DALE ROSS  
DALE ROSS, Chief Judge

[General Disk #14]