

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. I-97-K-2

IN RE:

PRO BONO SERVICE

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**WHEREAS,** The Florida Supreme Court has held that "every lawyer...who is a member of the Florida Bar has an obligation to represent the poor when called upon by the courts and that each lawyer has agreed to that commitment when admitted to practice law in this state, "In re Amendments to Rules Regulating the Florida Bar, 573 So.2d 800, 806 (Fla. 1990); and

**WHEREAS,** The Supreme Court approved a modification of recommendation No. 24 of The Florida Bar/Florida Bar Foundation Joint Commission on the Delivery of Legal Services to the Indigent in Florida which requires each circuit to develop a plan to provide pro bono legal services to the circuit's indigent population, see In re Amendments to Rules Regulating the Florida Bar, 598 So.2d 41 (Fla. 1992); and

**WHEREAS,** Legal Aid Service of Broward County has served the poor for twenty-three years and Broward Lawyers Care presently has the expertise and resources to administer this circuit's pro bono plan; and

**WHEREAS,** the chief judge of each judicial circuit is mandated to appoint and convene a circuit pro bono committee;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** it is ORDERED as follows:

**GOAL**

1. Each member of the Florida Bar who practices in the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit will be encouraged to perform pro bono service by providing free legal service to the poor (125% of federal poverty income level standard) through the circuit's pro bono program which shall be administered by Broward Lawyers Care and Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc.

2. The provision of pro bono legal services to the poor may be fulfilled by providing 20 hours of legal service or making a \$350.00 contribution to Broward Lawyers Care/Legal Aid Service.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY

3. Broward Lawyers Care is designated as the administrative agency to implement this circuit's pro bono plan.

4. The administrative agency shall (a) provide intake and referral of clients, (b) provide malpractice insurance and litigation costs on cases referred through the program, (c) establish quality control procedures, (d) provide CLE accredited training for pro bono attorneys, and (e) undertake other responsibilities as directed by the circuit's pro bono committee to implement the circuit's pro bono plan.

5. The administrative agency shall submit to the circuit pro bono committee a recommended plan for meeting the needs of our indigent population for legal services by December 15th. The plan shall identify available resources and shall establish priorities.

6. The agency shall submit to the circuit pro bono committee, by January 31st of each year, an annual report with recommendations to update the plan.

#### CIRCUIT PRO BONO COMMITTEE

7. A circuit pro bono committee shall be established to plan, develop, prepare in written form, coordinate and establish the circuit's voluntary pro bono plan.

8. The circuit pro bono committee shall consist of the following:

A. The President of the Board of Directors of Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc.

President shall serve as Chairman of Committee.

B. The Chief Judge or a judge designated by the Chief Judge.

C. The Executive Director of Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc.

D. The President of the Broward County Bar Association.

E. The Director of Broward Lawyers Care.

F. One (1) client eligible member

G. One (1) representative selected from the South Broward Bar Association.

H. One (1) representative selected from the North Broward Bar Association.

I. One (1) representative selected to represent a law firm.

J. One (1) representative from, and selected by, each of the following bar associations:

Federal Bar

Criminal Defense Bar  
Hispanic Bar  
Broward County Women Lawyers  
Broward County Trial Lawyers  
County Attorney  
T.J. Reddick Bar

K. One (1) representative of Florida Bar Board of Governor's.

L. One (1) public member selected by the other members of the Circuit Pro Bono Committee.

9. The circuit pro bono committee shall meet at least twice a year to review and, if necessary, revise the circuit's plan. Further, the committee shall review the manner in which the administrative agency is implementing the plan consistent with the policies and procedures established by the committee.

10. The chief judge shall provide The Florida Supreme Court with a copy of the circuit's annual plan together with a copy of the administrative agency's annual report.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, this 22th day of December, 1997.

/s/DALE ROSS  
DALE ROSS, Chief Judge