

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. II-94-A-12

IN RE: PROBATE MATTERS

AUTHORIZATION OF PROBATE
GENERAL MASTERS TO HEAR
GUARDIANSHIP FEE REQUESTS

WHEREAS, Florida Probate Rule 5.697 (a) and (b) empowers the Court to appoint Masters for any particular service required by the Court in connection with the review of Guardianship Accountings, and whereas fees paid to Guardians and Guardian's Attorneys are a portion of that Accounting and because Hearings to determine if fee requests meet the criteria of Florida Statute 744.108(2) have become over burdensome for the Judges of the Probate Division, it appears that Probate General Masters could be further utilized to lift this heavy burden from the Probate Division by presiding over Hearings required pursuant to Florida Statute 744.108.

In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge pursuant to Rule 2.050, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, and pursuant to Rule 5.697, Florida Probate Rules, it is

ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Effective immediately, pending further Order of the Court, the following procedure shall be put into effect.

2. If at any time a Probate Judge determines a Petition for Fees requires an evidentiary Hearing to support the request made within said Petition or Petitions, that Probate Judge may refer said matter to a Probate General Master who presides over that Hearing in accordance with FPR 5.697 (d), (e) and (f).

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida on this the 9th day of September, 1994.

/s/DALE ROSS
DALE ROSS, Chief Judge