

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

Order Number 2015-11-UFC

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER PROHIBITING DESTRUCTION OF UNIFIED
FAMILY COURT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT RECORDS**

(a) Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(3) states the chief judge shall “considering available resources, ensure the efficient and proper administration of all courts within [this] circuit.”

(b) Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.430 authorizes the disposition and destruction of domestic violence injunction files. The judges hearing these cases need the files preserved for a period of time longer than required by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.430 to comply with litigants’ due process rights.

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

(1) The Clerk of Court is directed to immediately cease the physical destruction and disposition of Unified Family Court Domestic Violence Court Records as may be authorized by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.430.

(2) The Clerk of Court shall note on the physical court file, progress docket, and on the electronic court records the court records are not to be physically destroyed or disposed of without further court order.

(3) The Clerk of Court may permanently record all paper documents in the court file, including the parties contact information, and thereafter request authorization for the physical destruction and disposition of the paper documents.

(4) The Clerk of Court shall not destroy or dispose of any electronic court records.

(5) The court records subject to this order are any and all arrests and/or prosecutions for domestic violence as defined by Chapter 741, Fla. Stat., or stalking, sexual violence and dating violence as defined by Chapter 784, Fla. Stat., Injunction for Protection against Dating Violence, Injunction for Protection against Domestic Violence, Injunction for Protection against Repeat Violence, Injunction for Protection against Sexual Violence, and Injunction for Protection against Stalking (which includes cyber stalking).

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Fort Lauderdale, Broward County,
Florida on March 25, 2015.

s/ Peter M. Weinstein
Peter M. Weinstein, Chief Judge