

**MAGISTRATE VICKI PLANT
GENERAL MAGISTRATE
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
201 SE 6th Street
Chambers – 12131
Hearing Room – 12156
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
(954) 831-6575**

MAGISTRATE DIVISION GMX/GMZ

ARRAIGNMENTS:

All Arraignments in Judge Gillespie's division are heard on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

All Arraignments in Judge Izquierdo's division are heard on Fridays at 9:00 a.m.

All Arraignments in Judge Gamm's division are heard on Fridays at 10:30 a.m.

Arraignments are set at the Shelter hearing by the Shelter Judge

JUDICIAL REVIEWS:

The General Magistrate will set the initial Judicial Review at the Arraignment hearing

SPECIAL SET HEARINGS:

Please call the Magistrate's assistant to set a special set hearing. You must then obtain an Order of Referral from the assigned Judge. When calling the Magistrate's office, please conference in all lawyers on the case so that the date and time can be coordinated.

Please submit a copy of the Notice of Hearing, Motion and Order of Referral to Magistrate Plant's assistant within 7 days from the date of scheduling the hearing.

INTERPRETERS

If a party needs an interpreter, it is the attorney's responsibility to order same.

INMATES

It is the responsibility of the attorney representing the inmate to request that the inmate be present at all hearings.

ATTENDANCE AT HEARINGS

If an attorney accepts a case on behalf of a litigant, the attorney SHALL be personally present at all hearings unless previously excused by the Court. Telephone appearances are generally not acceptable. However, if an attorney finds themselves unable to attend a hearing and desires to appear by telephone, the attorney shall file a Motion requesting same. Magistrate Plant will review the Motion and determine if same should be granted.

Telephone appearances by a party is also generally not acceptable. If a PARTY desires to appear by phone, it is the responsibility of the attorney to file a Motion requesting same. The only exception is if the party is incarcerated or resides outside the tri-county area. Telephone appearances by incarcerated parents, or parents residing outside the tri-county area, are acceptable and no Motion need to be filed.

FAMILY LAW MATTERS:

If there is an open dependency case, or jurisdiction has been retained on a prior dependency case, the General Magistrate will hear the related family case. An Order of Referral must be entered. If the parties are pro se, the General Magistrate will obtain the Order of Referral. If the parties have private counsel, then counsel is responsible for obtaining the Order of Referral.

The General Magistrate will set and notice any hearings for pro se litigants.

Counsel of record will be responsible for calling Magistrate Plant's assistant to obtain a hearing time and notice the hearing to all parties.

If a party needs an interpreter, it is up to the party to insure a certified interpreter is present. The cost of the interpreter shall be paid by the party requesting same.