

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PASCO AND PINELLAS COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2004-039 PA/PI-CIR

RE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COURT

On January 1, 1996, a criminal section was created by Administrative Order 95-123. This section, known as section R, was created to handle criminal misdemeanor actions relating to domestic violence, including violations of injunctions and indirect criminal contempt proceedings. When Local Rule 11 was adopted, which provided for a domestic violence court section to hear criminal misdemeanor actions, Administrative Order 95-123 was repealed. See Administrative Order PA/PI-CIR-99-42.

The judges of this circuit proposed amendments to the Local Rules, which included repeal of Local Rule 11. The amendments to the Local Rules were approved by the Florida Supreme Court on May 19, 2004. The repeal of Local Rule 11 was not intended to repeal the criminal domestic violence section in county criminal court. It is therefore, necessary by Administrative Order to provide for the continued operation of section R. Accordingly, it is hereby

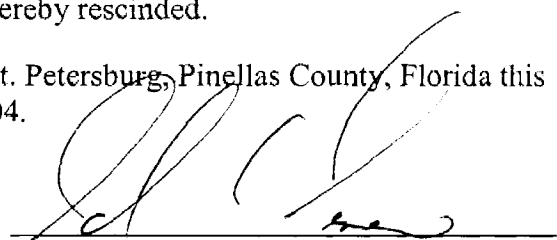
ORDERED:

1. Section R is reaffirmed and shall continue as a section of the Pinellas County criminal division. All criminal misdemeanor actions relating to domestic violence, including violations of injunctions and indirect criminal contempt proceedings shall be heard by the judge assigned to section R. Circuit court judges shall continue to hear criminal felony actions relating to domestic violence.

2. The Clerk of Court for Pinellas County shall continue to assign criminal misdemeanor actions relating to domestic violence, violation of injunctions, and indirect criminal contempt proceedings arising from violation of injunctions to section R.

Administrative Order PA/PI-CIR-99-42 is hereby rescinded.

16th **DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at St. Petersburg, Pinellas County, Florida this day of July 2004, nunc pro tunc May 19, 2004.



David A. Demers, Chief Judge

cc: All Judges
The Honorable Bernie McCabe, State Attorney
The Honorable Robert H. Dillinger, Public Defender
The Honorable Karleen F. DeBlaker, Clerk of Court, Pinellas County
The Honorable Jed Pittman, Clerk of Court, Pasco County
Carol Heath, Director, Court Services Division, Pinellas County Clerk's Office
Gay Inskeep, Trial Courts Administrator
Kerry L. Rice, Senior Deputy Courts Administrator, Pasco County
DeRita Barbary, Criminal Administration
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