

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR BREVARD COUNTY,
FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.:
08-04-B AMENDED
SUPERSEDES 08-04-B

**IN RE: APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF GENERAL MAGISTRATES/CHILD SUPPORT
 ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICERS IN BREVARD COUNTY**

WHEREAS, many matters involving support, alimony, custody, maintenance in family law cases, dissolution of marriages, Baker Act cases and Marchman Act cases are before the court; and

WHEREAS, the interests of the public and of the litigants require a flexible and speedy resolution of such matters and the time and resources of the court are limited; and

WHEREAS, the law of Florida makes the court responsible for the determination of such actions within time frames that cannot be met if all such cases are heard directly by the court; and

WHEREAS, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure 12.490 and 12.491 have been invoked in the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit by Administrative Order of the Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, dated February 27, 1998; it is thereupon

ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

Pursuant to Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure 12.490 and 12.491 and in accordance with the Supreme Court of Florida order dated February 27, 1998, M. Brice Corder as a member of the Florida Bar, remains appointed as General Magistrate and Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer; Jennifer Opel Taylor, a member of the Florida Bar, remains appointed as General Magistrate/Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer for the

Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, Brevard County, Florida; and Valerie Brown, a member of the Florida Bar, remains appointed as General Magistrate/Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer for the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit, Brevard County, Florida. These individuals shall take the oath required of officers by the Constitution and the oath shall be recorded in the official records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Brevard County, Florida. These individuals shall serve without requirement of bond. Furthermore, said individual shall serve under the direction and at the pleasure of the Chief Judge.

Said General Magistrate/Child Support Hearing Officer shall have the power and the duty to:

1. Conduct hearings regarding the establishment, enforcement, and modification of child support when the party seeking support is receiving services pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. §651 et seq.), as well as proceedings not brought under Title IV-D, including uncontested paternity matters. The appointed hearing officer is additionally granted all other powers and duties specified in Rule 12.491(e), Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure.
2. Conduct hearings in contested dissolution of marriage proceedings, uncontested dissolution of marriage proceedings, simplified dissolution of marriage proceedings, and dissolution of marriage proceedings involving a default, if consented to by the parties.
3. Conduct temporary relief hearings, enforcement and modification hearings in dissolution of marriage proceedings, post-dissolution of marriage proceedings, and separate maintenance actions, if consented to by the parties.
4. Conduct temporary relief hearings and final hearings in paternity actions in which paternity is not disputed, if consented to by the parties.
5. Conduct enforcement and modification hearings in actions which commenced as paternity actions and in which paternity was adjudicated, if consented to by the parties.
6. Conduct hearings in custody proceedings brought by family members, if consented to by the parties.
7. Conduct initial hearings, enforcement and modification hearings in URESA actions.
8. Conduct hearings relating to the aforesaid matters previously held and pending, e.g. discovery, etc.
9. Conduct hearings in Baker Act proceedings and Marchman Act proceedings.
10. Conduct hearings relating to name changes and/or annulments.

11. Prepare reports and recommendations when necessary in all matters heard.

12. Perform other duties as assigned or as may be necessary.

Upon conclusion of the hearing, the General Magistrate shall file the report and serve copies on the parties pursuant to Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure set forth in Rule 12.490. The General Magistrate shall include with the report a proposed order. When acting as Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officer, said individual shall evaluate the evidence and promptly make a recommended order to the court, setting forth findings of fact.

This is an Administrative Order authorized by Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.120(c), and is not a local court rule as defined in Florida Rules of Judicial Administration 2.120(b).

DONE and ORDERED this 18th day of September, 2008.

CLAYTON D. SIMMONS
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CHIEF JUDGE

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