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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO.: 22-04-B SUPERSEDES 21-37-B

IN RE: JUVENILE - ESTABLISHMENT OF TRUANCY COURT PROGRAM IN BREVARD COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature finding that poor academic performance is associated with nonattendance and that school districts must take an active role in promoting and enforcing attendance as a means of improving student performance, enacted section 1003.26, Florida Statutes, for the school superintendent to be responsible for the enforcement of school attendance by a minor child;

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature has enacted sections 984.151 and 1003.27, Florida Statutes, to provide for the establishment of a Truancy Court Program (hereinafter referred to as "Truancy Court");

WHEREAS, the purpose of Truancy Court is to provide a forum to hear and rule on truancy petitions filed against minor children alleged to be truant from their attendance at school;

WHEREAS, truancy petitions are governed by Rule 8.850, Florida Rules of Juvenile Procedure, and section 984.151, Florida Statutes;

WHEREAS, Brevard County has obtained funding to establish a program to provide assistance through its program known as "Truancy Court." Any incidental costs associated with the operation of this program shall be borne by the school district;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Chief Judge's constitutional and statutory responsibility for administrative supervision of the courts within the circuit and considering available resources, to create and maintain an organization capable of effecting the efficient, prompt, and proper administration of justice for the citizens of this State, the Chief Judge is required to provide direction, pursuant to Rule 2.215(b)(2), (3), Florida Rules of Judicial Administration; and

In accordance with the authority vested in the Chief Judge by Article V, section 2(d) of the Florida Constitution, section 43.26, Florida Statutes, and Rule 2.215, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration;

It is therefore ORDERED and ADJUDGED:

- 1. A Truancy Court Program in the juvenile division in Brevard County is established pursuant to section 984.151, Florida Statutes, effective immediately on rendition of this Administrative Order.
- 2. Brevard County Public Schools based upon the number of absences of a minor child shall make the determination for referrals to the Truancy Court Program.
- 3. Upon filing of the truancy petition, the Clerk of Court shall assign the truancy case to the juvenile delinquency division. The Clerk shall assign a case number and a summons shall issue directed to the parent and child.
- 4. The circuit judge in the juvenile delinquency division shall be responsible for the truancy cases.
- 5. Practice and procedures for such petitions are as set forth in section 984.151, Florida Statutes, and any applicable rules of court.

This order shall remain in effect until otherwise modified, amended, or rescinded by further order of the Court.

DONE AND ORDERED this 11th day of January, 2022.

JESSICA RECKSIEDLER CHIEF JUDGE

Distribution:

All Circuit and County Judges (Brevard County)
Court Administration (Brevard and Seminole Counties)
Clerk of Court (Brevard County)
State Attorney
Public Defender
Sheriff (Brevard County)
Bar Association (Brevard County)
Law Library (Brevard County)
Brevard Public School