

AMENDED ORDER GOVERNING LODGING FOR SEQUESTERED JURORS

WHEREAS, in certain cases the Court may find it necessary to sequester jurors and to provide them with lodging and pursuant to section 40.26 of the Florida Statutes, “the sheriff when required by order of the court, shall provide juries with meals and lodging, the expense to be taxed against and paid by the state”; and

WHEREAS, when sequestering jurors it is necessary that the Sheriff provide court deputies to provide jury security and to monitor the jurors at the location where they are lodging to ensure that jurors do not view television programs or make or receive telephone calls which could hamper their ability to render an impartial verdict; and

WHEREAS, in order for the court deputies to successfully monitor the jurors it is necessary that the court deputies remove the telephone and television from each juror’s room; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary that an additional room be made available where jurors can view certain television programs and make certain telephone calls in the presence of the court deputies and to provide restroom facilities for the court deputies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Belvin Perry, Jr., pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.050 hereby order the following:

1. When jurors in a given case are ordered to be sequestered overnight and thus require lodging, an additional room shall be provided as a lounge for the jurors to use for making approved telephone calls and for watching approved television programs under the monitoring of the court deputies.

2. Pursuant to section 40.26 of the Florida Statutes, the State of Florida via the Office of the State Courts Administrator shall pay for the jurors' rooms and the room for the jurors' lounge.

3. This Administrative Order is effective immediately.

DONE AND ORDERED at Orlando, Florida, this 6th day of June, 2003.

/s/ Belvin Perry, Jr.
Belvin Perry, Jr.
Chief Judge

Copies to:

All Circuit & County Judges, Ninth Judicial Circuit
State Attorney's Office, Ninth Judicial Circuit
Public Defender's Office, Ninth Judicial Circuit
General Counsel, Orange County Sheriff's Office
Police Legal Advisor, Orlando Police Department
Orange County Attorney's Office
Osceola County Attorney
Orange County Corrections
Orange County Bar Association
Bar Briefs, Orange County Bar Association
Paul C. Perkins Bar Association
Hispanic Bar of Central Florida
Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers
Clerk of Courts, Orange County
Orange County Law Library
Clerk of Courts, Osceola County
The Osceola County Bar Association
The Osceola County Law Library
The Osceola County Sheriff's Office

Director, The Osceola County Dept. of Corrections
Office of the Statewide Prosecutor
Central Florida Criminal Defense Attorneys Association
Executive Director of The Florida Bar
Official Records, Orange County Comptroller

Administrative Order No. 2001-04-1