

**AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER GOVERNING A MISDEMEANOR
DRUG COURT PROGRAM IN OSCEOLA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the success of the Drug Court Program currently in effect in the Criminal Justice Division of the Ninth Judicial Circuit for eligible pre-trial and post-plea felony drug cases in Osceola County, expansion of the Drug Court Program to include eligible pre-trial and post-plea misdemeanor cases will provide a substantial benefit to the criminal justice system and the community as a whole;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Belvin Perry, Jr., pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215 hereby order the following:

1. Effective **immediately** the Drug Court Program currently in effect in Osceola County for eligible pre-trial and post-plea felony drug cases per Administrative Order No. 2000-4-2, shall be expanded to provide for the inclusion of eligible pre-trial and post-plea misdemeanor cases.

2. The Osceola County Jail Pre-Trial Release Program shall conduct the initial screening of defendants upon arrest and shall refer those defendants who seem to qualify for Drug Court to the Drug Court Program Office. The State Attorney's Office or defendant's attorney may also refer any defendants that fit the set criteria for said Program.

3. The Drug Court Program office shall screen the referred defendants focusing on the eligibility criteria established by the Drug Court Program.

4. Said referrals shall be forwarded to the State Attorney's Office for review and approval.

5. The Drug Court Program Coordinator shall refer the approved defendants to the Drug Court Officer I who shall process the defendants.

6. The Drug Court Program Office shall coordinate with the Clerk of Court to place the cases on the Drug Court appearance docket. The Clerk of Court shall assign or reassign all cases referred to the Misdemeanor Drug Court to the correct division in the Court System.

7. The Osceola County Office of Probation shall provide supervision for these defendants. The defendants shall pay the rate of supervision that is in effect when they sign their contracts. Currently that rate is \$45.00 per month.

8. The defendants shall pay for treatment services. The Drug Court Program Office will monitor the progress of defendants in treatment.

9. The Drug Court Officer I shall notify the Drug Court Program Coordinator, State Attorney, and defense counsel of any violations of the conditions of the order placing the defendant in the Drug Court Program. The notification shall also provide a recommendation as to whether the Court should remove the defendant from the Drug Court Program.

10. All defendants participating in the Drug Court Program shall pay a fee of \$60.00 per month to the Drug Court Program for drug testing. In addition, the defendants shall pay an initial administrative service fee of \$25.00 to the Clerk of Court.

11. All fees are subject to change without further administrative order.

DONE AND ORDERED at Orlando, Florida, this 5th day of August, 2009.

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

Copies provided to:
Clerk of Courts, Orange County
Clerk of Courts, Osceola County
General E-Mail Distribution List
<http://www.ninthcircuit.org>