

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR MARTIN, ST. LUCIE, INDIAN RIVER AND
OKEECHOBEE COUNTIES

ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER NO.: 96-2

IN RE: PRO BONO SERVICE

WHEREAS, the Florida Supreme Court has held that "every lawyer . . . who is a member of . . . The Florida Bar has an obligation to represent the poor when called upon by the courts; and that each lawyer has agreed to that commitment when admitted to practice law in this state." In re: Amendments to Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, 573 So.2d 800, 806 (Fla. 1990); and

WHEREAS, the Florida Supreme Court approved a modification of recommendation Number 24 of The Florida Bar/ The Florida Bar Foundation on the delivery of legal services to the indigent in Florida, which requires each circuit to develop a plan to provide pro bono legal services to that circuit's indigent population. (See In re: Amendments to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, 598 So.2d 41 (Fla. 1992); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Judge of each judicial circuit is mandated to appoint and convene a circuit pro bono committee to implement a circuit's pro bono plan; and

WHEREAS, Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc., for many years, served as the sole organized entity that has provided civil legal services to the indigent in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit (hereinafter also referred to as "this Circuit") and desires to assist this Circuit in implementing this Circuit's pro bono plan;

NOW THEREFORE, it is ORDERED as follows:

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT ATTORNEYS

1. Each member of The Florida Bar who practices law in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit is requested to perform pro bono services by providing free legal services to the indigent through this Circuit's Pro Bono Program. For purposes of this Circuit, indigent or poor is defined as a person or family with an income of One Hundred Twenty Five percentum (125%) of or less of the federal poverty income level standards.

2. Pro bono legal services to the poor may be fulfilled by annually providing twenty (20) hours of legal services or making a Three Hundred Fifty dollar (\$350.00) contribution to this Circuit's Pro Bono Program.



3. The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee is directed to coordinate this Circuit's Pro Bono Program through use of Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc. (hereinafter "Florida Rural"), which shall serve as the administrative agency to implement this Circuit's Pro Bono Plan.

NINETEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PRO BONO COMMITTEE

4. This Circuit's Pro Bono Committee shall plan, develop, prepare in written form, coordinate and establish this Circuit's voluntary Pro Bono Plan.

5. This Circuit's Pro Bono Committee shall consist of at a minimum the following:

- A. The Chief Judge or his judge designee.
- B. The Deputy Director of Florida Rural or his/her designee.
- C. Two (2) representatives selected by Florida Rural.
- D. One (1) representative from each of these Bars:
 - 1. The St. Lucie County Bar Association.
 - 2. The Port St. Lucie Bar Association.
 - 3. The Martin County Bar Association.
 - 4. The Indian River County Bar Association.
 - 5. The Okeechobee County Bar Association.
- E. One (1) client eligible member.
- F. One (1) public member selected by the other members of this Circuit's Pro Bono Committee.

6. This Circuit's Pro Bono Committee shall meet at least twice a year to review and, if necessary, revise the Pro Bono Plan. Further, it shall review the manner in which the administrative agency is implementing the Plan consistent with the policies and procedures established by this Circuit's Pro Bono Committee.

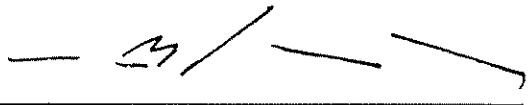
7. The Chief Judge shall provide the Florida Supreme Court with a copy of this Circuit's annual plan together with a copy of the Administrative Agency's annual report.

ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY

8. Florida Rural, as administrative agency, agrees to provide the following services: intake and referral of clients; malpractice insurance and reimbursement of litigation costs; quality control procedures; training and staff support for participating lawyers; and any other assistance as requested by this Circuit's Pro Bono Committee to implement the Pro Bono Plan.

9. Florida Rural shall assist this Circuit's Pro Bono Committee in preparing the initial Pro Bono Plan to meet the needs of this Circuit's indigent population for legal services by April 30, 1996. The plan shall identify available resources and shall establish priorities. Florida Rural shall submit to the Pro Bono Committee, by January 31, of each year, an annual report of the previous year with recommendations to update the Pro Bono Plan.

DONE and SIGNED in Chambers Indian River County, Florida, this 27 day
of March 1996



Chief Judge