

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Court Appointed Attorneys
Local Bar Associations
Guardian Ad Litem Program

FROM: Robert J. Morris, Jr., Chief Judge

DATE: September 20, 2007

RE: Update re: closure of Law Library at the Criminal Justice Center

As you know, the Law Library at the Criminal Justice Center has closed due to budget cuts.

As a reminder, court appointed attorneys who utilized the computers at the CJC law library to access CJIS may now access those records by utilizing the terminals located to the right of the Clerk's main service counter on the 2nd floor. The Clerk of the Circuit Court indicates that the terminals are rarely used, so it is not anticipated that access will be a problem. Your log-on ID determines the level of access you have to various court records, and that will not change. If you do experience problems with wait time at these terminals, please let me know so that I can explore other arrangements.

Additionally, a conference room on the first floor (Room 1521) is available for use by court-appointed and other defense attorneys. Wireless capability will be added to that area within the next month. The room is accessible from the hallway en route to Courtroom 23.

Finally, on the fourth floor, in Room 4550, a computer with internet access and a printer are being set up for use by court appointed attorneys and private defense counsel during trials. If, during a break in a trial, an attorney needs a computer terminal to access his or her Westlaw or Lexis account, the attorney can ask the judge for access to that room. The judge may direct court security to accompany the attorney to the room, which is in a secure area. There are also basic hard copy legal publications available in the room.

I appreciate your understanding and patience as we go through this period of transition.

cc: All Judges in Pinellas County