

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PASCO AND PINELLAS COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2015-016 PA/PI-CIR

RE: MEDIATION – AMENDMENT TWO

In order to update the Court's procedures for mediation with the termination of services by Mediation Managers, Inc., as had been provided in Administrative Order 2013-026, it is

ORDERED:

Effective April 1, 2015, Administrative Order 2011-006 is amended as follows:

Section A. Administration of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Arbitration and Mediation Program is amended to read:

The Trial Courts Administrator is directed to provide a Program of court-provided mediation in accordance with this Administrative Order for juvenile dependency cases, small claims pretrial matters, county civil cases, and family law cases. The Program will perform such duties as assigned by the Chief Judge. The administrative judges and associate administrative judges may also assign duties to the Program that are consistent with this Order, as it relates to cases referred to mediation within their respective divisions.

The presiding judge may order parties to mediation in circuit civil cases. The Program may provide services for such cases as authorized by this Administrative Order. The Trial Courts Administrator will not provide a program of court-provided mediation for circuit civil cases. When ordered, the parties will conduct such mediation in accordance with the order of referral, and will directly pay the mediator for his or her service. In mediation of other circuit civil cases, if the parties select the mediator, the mediator will be compensated at the rate agreed to by the mediator and the parties. If the Program selects the mediator by rotation, the mediator will be compensated at the rate of not more than \$200.00 per hour.

“Court-provided mediation” as described in this Administrative Order refers to mediation conducted by a certified mediator who is under contract with and paid by the Court. Fees may be assessed for court-provided mediation in accordance with section 44.108, Florida Statutes, and this Administrative Order.

Effective April 1, 2015, Administrative Order 2012-004 is hereby rescinded. All other provisions of Administrative Order 2011-006 remain in full force and effect.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida, this _____ day of March, 2015.

ORIGINAL SIGNED ON MARCH 12, 2015
BY J. THOMAS MCGRADY, CHIEF JUDGE

cc: All Judges
The Honorable Bernie McCabe, State Attorney
The Honorable Bob Dillinger, Public Defender
The Honorable Ken Burke, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pinellas County
The Honorable Paula S. O'Neil, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Pasco County
Ita Neymotin, Regional Counsel
Gay Inskip, Trial Courts Administrator
Nichole Alvarez-Sowles, Chief Operations Officer, Pasco County Clerk's Office
Myriam Irizarry, Chief Deputy Director, Pinellas County Clerk's Office
Lillian Simon, Director of Administrative Services for Pasco County
Bar Associations, Pasco and Pinellas Counties
Law Libraries, Pasco and Pinellas Counties