

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup>  
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF  
FLORIDA IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY

IN RE:  
JUVENILE DRUG COURT  
PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY  
AND ASSESSMENT

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ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 7.004

WHEREAS, F.S. 397.334 authorizes the implementation of treatment-based drug court programs in each judicial circuit; and

WHEREAS, the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit of Florida has operated a treatment-based Juvenile Drug Court Program since 1996; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Judge, having been fully advised by drug court program staff, has determined that the placement of juveniles who are adjudicated delinquent are significantly impairing the functioning and success of the court's treatment-based diversion and deferred prosecution juvenile drug court program; and

WHEREAS, the circuit judges assigned to juvenile delinquency cases may continue to provide ongoing judicial interaction at juvenile drug court hearings for participants who have been adjudicated delinquent and are being supervised by Department of Juvenile Justice personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Judge, having been fully advised by drug court program staff, has determined that children in need of services as defined by Chapter 984, Florida Statutes, are not suitable for the circuit's year-long, intensive treatment-based Juvenile Drug Court Program,

WHEREAS, it is critical for the success of all the program participants that only children found to be suitable for the treatment-based Juvenile Drug Court Program are placed in program;

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. Juveniles who have been adjudicated delinquent or who have been found to be in need of services are ineligible for placement into the treatment-based Juvenile Drug Court Program of the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit. Adjudicated delinquents and children in need of services who are currently participating in the circuit's Juvenile Drug Court Program shall be allowed to complete the program.
2. Placement into the Juvenile Drug Court Program of the 16<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit shall continue to be governed by objective, definable criteria based on a psychosocial assessment, an Adolescent SASSI Assessment, urinalysis drug test

results, and statements from parents, guardians, and other relatives, as well as information received from other government and private agencies. Until such time as the assessment is complete, no child shall be placed in the program.

This Order is effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002.

DONE and ORDERED in Chambers at Key West, Monroe County, Florida this  
31 day of August, 2002.

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Richard G. Payne  
Chief Circuit Judge