

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 00-10

**In Re: Court Reporting in All Cases in Which the Death Penalty is Sought or
 in All Capital Post Conviction Proceedings**

Whereas, the Supreme Court of Florida directs the circuit court, through rule 2.070, Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, to ensure efficient and effective court reporting in those proceedings covered at public expense; and


Whereas, the Supreme Court of Florida directs the chief judge in each circuit to develop a circuit-wide plan to expedite the preparation of transcripts in all cases in which the death penalty is sought and in capital post conviction proceedings;

Therefore, the following process and procedures are ordered so that the Fourteenth Judicial Circuit shall ensure the timely and appropriate preparation of transcripts in all cases in which the death penalty is sought and in all capital post conviction proceedings:


- 1.) Upon the identification by the State that the death penalty shall be sought and in all capital post conviction proceedings, the presiding judge shall ensure that, at a minimum, the proceedings will be covered by a qualified court reporter utilizing computer-aided transcription software.
- 2) If the presiding judge is hearing the proceeding in a county in which such qualified court reporters are neither on the county or state payroll as either a full or part-time employee, or by way of contract, then the presiding judge shall contact Court Administration to facilitate the identification, selection, and contracting for services of such court reporters.
- 3) Court Administration shall first determine if existing county employed court reporters are eligible and available to contract for said services by the county or state, and shall ensure the proper contractual agreements between the employing county and the requesting county or state are in place. Also, such contracting shall not cause harm to the employing county and that court's regular court reporting services.
- 4) If county employed court reporters are not available either due to a lack of qualifications or such contracting would cause an inefficiency or hardship in the employing county's court, Court Administration shall seek the services of private firms who can meet the qualification and time requirements as set forth by Rule 2.070, Rules of Judicial Administration, and this order.

- 5) Nothing in this order restricts the circuit and the individual counties from using scopists, text editors, alternative court reporters who meet the qualification requirements, or other established means to expedite the production of such transcripts.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers, at Panama City, Bay County, this 20th day of December, 2000.



JUDY M. PITTMAN, CHIEF JUDGE

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
MAILED DANIEL, CLERK
OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
BY 
D. CAMPBELL

