

FILED

JUL 16 2014

LEE CO. FLORIDA
CLERK OF COURTS

BY _____ D.C.

IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA

IN RE: ORDER ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING - VACATED -
FAMILY COURT SERVICES PLAN FOR LEE COUNTY

WHEREAS, an “Order Establishing and Implementing Family Court Services Plan for Lee County,” was entered October 26, 2001, by the Administrative Family Law Judge expressly for the purpose of establishing and implementing an intake, screening and referral process for family law cases in Lee County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the 2001 Order expressly identified itself as a “pilot project;” and

WHEREAS, local Administrative Order 12.2, entered January 2, 2001, by the Chief Judge in accordance with direction from the Florida Supreme Court, expressly set forth the groundwork for the establishment and implementation within the Twentieth Judicial Circuit of Family Law Court plans and Unified Family Courts based upon recommendations for Model Family Courts of the Florida Supreme Court’s Family Court Steering Committee; and

WHEREAS, local Administrative Order 12.2, provides for implementation of the Model Court Plan, which includes the use of Self-Help Programs and Case Management, which are among the primary functions performed by the Lee County Family Court Services division; and

WHEREAS, since 2001 and prior, the Administrative Office of the Courts has continuously maintained, funded, and operated the Family Court Services division within Lee County staffed by employees of the Administrative Office of the Courts, which is a permanent division, and has long ceased to be considered a “pilot project;” and

WHEREAS, the reference in the 2001 Order to the “Family Court Resource Center” as a

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division of the Administrative Office of the Courts charged with administering the “pilot project,” is an out-dated reference which could lead to confusion; and

WHEREAS, the Family Court Services division of the Administrative Office of the Courts is charged with administering the permanent self-help program as it relates to family law cases, not the “Family Court Resource Center;” and

WHEREAS, the Family Court Services division provides resources and services at no additional cost to the parties; and

WHEREAS, information as to various community resources and services have continuously been made available and will continue to be made available by the Family Court Services division, but care must be taken so as to ensure the avoidance of any appearance of impropriety on the part of the Administrative Office of the Courts, such as the endorsement or promotion of any private or personal interests, or any conflict of interest, and, therefore, discretion necessarily must be retained by the Administrative Office of the Courts as to the method and format of making such information available so as to ensure that the integrity of the Court is maintained; and

WHEREAS, the reference in the 2001 Order to the “High Conflict Custody Case Team” is an out-dated reference in that it is no longer utilized, and, therefore, could lead to confusion; and

WHEREAS, the supplemental coversheet attached as Exhibit “A” to the 2001 Order is out-dated and no longer utilized; and

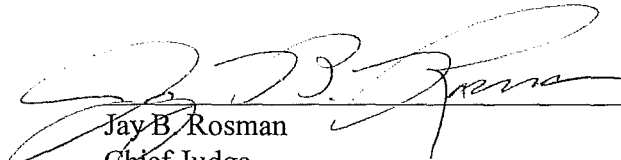
WHEREAS, the 2001 Order is not required as continuing authority for the purpose of operating the Family Court Services division, providing information related to community

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resources and services to pro se litigants, and providing services such as intake and case management;

It is **ORDERED** that the "Order Establishing and Implementing Family Court Services Plan for Lee County" is hereby **VACATED**. This order should not be construed as having any impact or limiting the authority of the Administrative Office of the Courts to continue to operate the Family Court Services division, nor should it be construed as having any impact or limiting the authority of the Family Court Services division to provide services.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, this 16th day of July, 2014.


Jay B. Rosman
Chief Judge

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History.- Order Establishing and Implementing Family Court Services Plan for Lee County (October 26, 2001).

I certify this document to be a true and correct copy of the record on file in my office, Linda Doggett, Clerk Circuit/County Court, Lee County, FL
Dated: 7-16-14
By Am
Deputy Clerk



STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF LEE
FILED FOR RECORD
This 16 Day of JULY 2014 Recorded in CIRCUIT
Book 5B Page 73-75 and Record Verified.
LINDA DOGGETT By Am
Clerk Circuit Court Deputy Clerk