

**ORDER GOVERNING PROCEDURES FOR THE EVACUATION OF CHILDREN IN  
JUVENILE DEPENDENCY CASES DUE TO THREAT OF HURRICANES**

**WHEREAS**, there are many children in this Judicial Circuit who are under the Court's jurisdiction/have been adjudicated dependent pursuant to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS**, these children may be in the temporary legal custody of, and residing with, relatives, non-relatives, or in the Florida Department of Children and Families (hereinafter referred to as "DCF") foster homes; and

**WHEREAS**, these children may be in the permanent legal custody of DCF as parental rights have been terminated; and

**WHEREAS**, this Court recognizes the ongoing threat of emergency weather conditions that periodically face the State of Florida and particularly Orange and Osceola Counties, especially during hurricane season; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the efficient administration of justice and for the safety of the children who are currently under this Court's jurisdiction pursuant to Chapter 39;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Belvin Perry, Jr., pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.050 order the following effective immediately:

1. That children who are in the legal custody of DCF or other out of home care as a result of a juvenile dependency matter in the Ninth Judicial Circuit, may upon threat of a hurricane, evacuate the area to a safe place either within or outside the State of Florida.

2. The foster parent or other legal custodian shall notify DCF or the appropriate community based care provider of the child/children's whereabouts at all times, and shall return the child/children to this Court's jurisdiction as soon as it is safe to do so.

**DONE AND ORDERED** at Orlando, Florida, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2004.

/s/ Belvin Perry, Jr.  
Belvin Perry, Jr.  
Chief Judge

Copies to:

All Circuit & County Judges, Ninth Judicial Circuit  
State Attorney's Office, Ninth Judicial Circuit  
Public Defender's Office, Ninth Judicial Circuit  
General Counsel, Orange County Sheriff's Office  
Police Legal Advisor, Orlando Police Department  
Orange County Attorney's Office  
Osceola County Attorney  
Orange County Corrections  
Orange County Bar Association  
Bar Briefs, Orange County Bar Association  
Paul C. Perkins Bar Association  
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Clerk of Courts, Orange County  
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The Osceola County Bar Association  
The Osceola County Law Library  
The Osceola County Sheriff's Office  
Director, The Osceola County Dept. of Corrections  
Office of the Statewide Prosecutor  
Central Florida Criminal Defense Attorneys Association  
Executive Director of The Florida Bar  
Official Records, Orange County Comptroller  
Florida Department of Children and Families

Administrative Order No. 2004-27