IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CITRUS, HERNANDO, LAKE, MARION AND SUMTER COUNTIES, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. A-2010-39

LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Judges, Magistrates, Hearing Officers, and other court employees, could be sued as a result of their employment with the Fifth Judicial Circuit.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is **ORDERED** as follows:

1. In such instances where a judicial officer is sued in his or her official capacity or as a result of his or her employment with the Fifth Judicial Circuit, the judicial officer or employee shall forward suit papers to the Fifth Judicial Circuit's General Counsel. General Counsel will forward the suit papers, along with a request for legal representation from the Office of the Attorney General, to:

Office of the State Courts Administrator Legal Affairs and Education Division Florida Supreme Court Building 500 South Duval Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1900 Telephone (850) 413-3122; Fax (850) 410-4301

2. If monetary damages are sought, General Counsel will also send a written request for legal representation from the Office of the Attorney General, to:

Division of Risk Management Bureau of State Liability Claims 200 East Gaines Street, Room 439 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0300 Telephone (850) 413-3122; Fax (850) 488-6992

3. At the request of a judge, magistrate or hearing officer, General Counsel will monitor the case.

DONE and SIGNED in Chambers at Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida this

_day of October 2010.

DANIEL B. MERRITT, SR.,

Chief Judge