IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER M-2014-65

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ESTABLISHING FEE STRUCTURE FOR MISDEMEANOR DRUG COURT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Chapter 397.334, Florida Statutes, establishes within the State of Florida "treatment-based drug courts;" and

WHEREAS, Marion County will receive funds from the defendants to assist in the cost of providing such services and will seek other additional funding sources; and

WHEREAS, Marion County will require the assistance of the Court to provide the necessary services pursuant to contractual obligations; and

WHEREAS, a separate county criminal division is required to assist in the referral and oversight of certain eligible individuals for drug treatment and support toward the goal of preventing crime; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 397, Florida Statutes, in its entirety, establishes the provision of substance abuse services within the State of Florida; and,

WHEREAS, the procedures outlined herein are necessary for the efficient administration of justice; Therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. An alternative court is hereby created in Marion County as a separate county criminal division, which shall be known as "Misdemeanor Drug Court."
- 2. The Misdemeanor Drug Court shall consist of eligible cases from other Criminal Divisions for possible referral into drug abuse treatment and support. The mission statement, eligibility criteria, treatment format, and procedures for referral to Misdemeanor Drug Court shall be set out in a document separate from this Order.
- 3. A County Judge shall be assigned to preside over Misdemeanor Drug Court proceedings.

- 4. All defendants participating in the Marion County Misdemeanor Drug Court Program shall be required to pay a \$25.00 application fee and \$10.00 per month, as directed by Administrative Manager, unless waived or adjusted by said Manager. An additional sanction fee of \$25.00 may be charged for each positive or abnormal drug screens unless waived or adjusted by the County Judge presiding over the Marion County Misdemeanor Drug Court Program or the Administrative Manager. No other individual is authorized to waive any portion of the fees assessed herein.
- 5. There is a no refund policy for any funds paid by program participants of this Program regardless of the individuals' successor termination from the Program.
- 6. If a defendant's participation in the Program is terminated for cause, the defendant shall be terminated from the Marion County Misdemeanor Drug Court Program and sentenced accordingly by the Marion County Misdemeanor Drug Court Judge. Further, any balance of any remaining Drug Court fees would become a lien of record.
- 7. The Clerk of the Court is authorized to accept any participation fees collected for the Marion County Misdemeanor Drug Court associated with 000001-34899135 revenue account.
- 8. The Program is created and shall be maintained subject to the availability of adequate funding.
- 9. All hearings conducted pursuant to this Administrative Order shall be recorded electronically.
- 10. The court shall dismiss the charges upon finding that the defendant has successfully completed the Misdemeanor Drug Court program.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Tavares, Lake County, Florida, this ______ day of December 2014.

DON F. BRIGGS CHIEF JUDGE FIFTH CIRCUIT