

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

Administrative Order: M-1999-03-D

**THIRD AMENDED ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER REQUIRING
MANDATORY EDUCATION FOR DIVORCING AND SEPARATING PARENTS**

**THIS THIRD AMENDED ORDER SUPERSEDES AND REPLACES THE
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER M99-03-C DATED JULY 10, 2018**

A substantial number of dissolution, paternity and other family cases involve questions of parental responsibility, time sharing and parenting plans. The legislature, recognizing the adverse effect of parental separation, conflict, and dissolution of marriage on children, requires parents to complete a four (4) hour parent education and family stabilization course. Fla. Stat. §61.21. The parent stabilization class teaches parents how they can minimize the effects of their separation on the children and create a new co-parenting relationship.

PARENT EDUCATION AND STABILIZATION COURSE

1. The parties in all dissolutions of marriage with minor child(ren), paternity cases involving parental responsibility, and other cases involving parental responsibility, time-sharing and parenting plans shall attend a four (4) hour parent education and family stabilization program within forty-five (45) days after filing a petition for dissolution of marriage with minor children, paternity cases involving parental responsibility, and other cases involving parental responsibility, time-sharing and parenting plans or, within forty-five (45) days of being served with such a petition. This requirement does not apply to a petition to enjoin violence.

2. Each parent shall file a certificate of completion with the Clerk of Circuit Court, domestic Relations Division, as soon as the party completes the course. The court will not enter a final judgment until both parents have completed the course. The presiding judge may excuse a parent from attending the course for good cause.

STANDING ORDER REQUIRING ATTENDANCE

1. The Administrative Judge of the Family Law Division shall prepare a Standing Order Requiring Parents Attend an Educational Course and file such order with the Clerk of Circuit Court, Domestic Relations Division, for safe-keeping. A list of approved programs can be found on the Fifth Circuit website at:

<http://www.circuit5.org/self-help-center/>

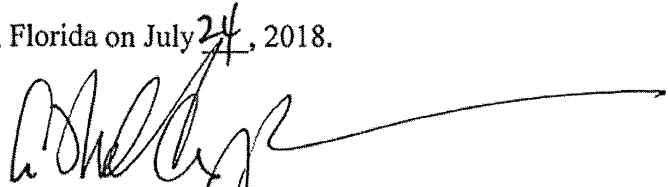
2. When a parent files a dissolution of marriage with child(ren), a paternity case involving parental responsibility, or any other case involving primary physical residence and parenting time with child(ren), the Clerk of Circuit Court shall furnish petitioner or petitioner's attorney with a copy of the Standing Order Requiring Parents Attend an Educational Course and place a copy of the Standing Order with the summons for service on the other party. The Clerk

shall document compliance with this provision by executing the certificate on a copy of the order and filing the copy in the case.

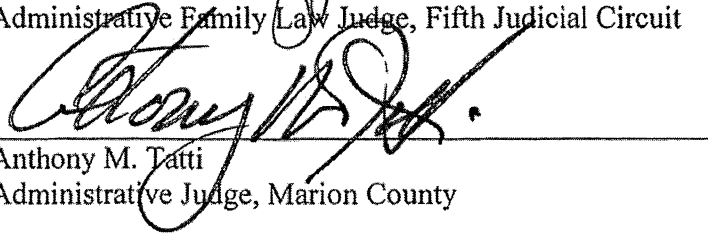
3. The petitioner and/or petitioner's attorney shall provide the other party with a copy of the Standing Order Requiring Parents Attend an Educational Course if a copy of the order is not included with the summons.

4. Failure of the petitioner to comply with this order may result in dismissal of the action or other sanctions.

ORDERED at Ocala, Marion County, Florida on July 24, 2018.



Ann Melinda Craggs
Administrative Family Law Judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit



Anthony M. Tatti
Administrative Judge, Marion County

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. _____

**STANDING ORDER REQUIRING PARENTS ATTEND
AN EDUCATIONAL COURSE**

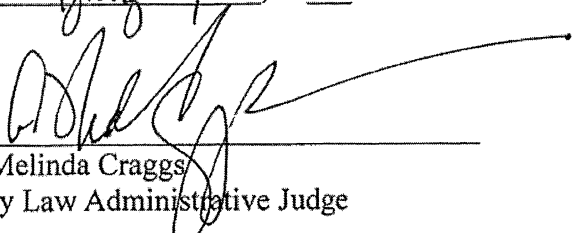
Parties in all dissolution of marriage cases involving a child(ren), paternity cases involving parental responsibility, and all other cases involving time-sharing and/or parenting plans shall attend a four (4) hour Parent Education and Family Stabilization course as required by Fla. Stat. §61.21.

All parties who are required to attend the educational program shall complete the education requirement and file a certificate of completion with the Clerk within forty-five (45) days from the date the case was filed or the date the petition was served, whichever is later.

This requirement does not apply to a petition to enjoin violence.

The Court will not enter a final judgment until the parties have completed the course. Failure to comply with this order may result in dismissal of the case or other sanctions.

ORDERED at Ocala, Marion County, Florida, on July 24, 2018.



Ann Melinda Craggs
Family Law Administrative Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by hand delivery on _____, 20____, to:

Petitioner: _____ Hand Delivery
Respondent: _____ Hand Delivery
_____ Copy attached to summons
_____ Petitioner to deliver to Respondent

BY: _____