

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER: A-2020-52

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER APPOINTING
CIVIL TRAFFIC HEARING OFFICERS FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT AND
RESCINDING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A-2018-40-A**

WHEREAS sections 318.30 - 318.38, Florida Statutes, and rule 6.630 of the Florida Traffic Court Rules provide for the establishment of a Civil Traffic Infraction Hearing Officer Program (hereinafter "the Program"); and

WHEREAS the Program will assist in relieving the excessive workload placed upon the County Courts of the Fifth Judicial Circuit and is necessary to the administration of justice in the Fifth Judicial Circuit;

WHEREAS, in order to continue the efficient operation of the Civil Traffic Infraction Hearing Officer Program in the Fifth Judicial Circuit and to provide for the orderly appointment and compensation of Civil Traffic Infraction Hearing Officers; and in accordance with Article V, § 2, Florida Constitution; Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215; Traffic Court Rule 6.630; and §§ 43.26 and 318.30-318.38, Florida Statutes,

It is **HEREBY ORDERED** and **ADJUDGED**:

1. The following attorneys have completed the required training and have been approved to act as Hearing Officers. They are hereby appointed as Hearing Officers and are authorized to hear proceedings in the Fifth Judicial Circuit:


Norman Chris Polak
Robert Christensen

2. Any Hearing Officer regularly scheduled to preside over a calendar will be an independent contractor and must enter a contract with the Fifth Judicial Circuit before serving as a Hearing Officer. The compensation for contracted Hearing Officers will be as provided in his or her contract with the Fifth Judicial Circuit. A court employee qualified under Florida Rule of Traffic Court 6.630 may preside

over a calendar as part of his or her regular duties when determined necessary by the County Administrative Judge or the Chief Judge.

3. Hearing Officers shall perform their duties in accordance with Florida Statutes, Rules of Court, the Code of Judicial Conduct, applicable administrative orders, relevant case law, and the terms and conditions of the contract between Hearing Officer and the Fifth Judicial Circuit.
4. The appointment of Norman Chris Polak will expire on January 1, 2021.
5. Administrative Order A-2018-40-A is hereby vacated.

19th **DONE and ORDERED** in chambers at Brooksville, Hernando County Florida, this day of November, 2020.



Daniel B. Merritt, Jr.
Chief Judge
Fifth Judicial Circuit