

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
IN AND FOR MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2014-12.3**

**In re: DIRECTING APPEARANCE OF  
CHILD PROTECTION TEAM  
EMPLOYEES, CONSULTANTS,  
AND DOCTORS LISTED AS  
“CATEGORY A” WITNESSES  
FOR DEPOSITION IN CHILD  
SEXUAL ABUSE CASES –  
MANATEE COUNTY**

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**WHEREAS** Florida Statute Section 39.202(6) (Confidentiality of reports and records in cases of child abuse or neglect) provides, “All records and reports of the child protection team of the Department of Health are confidential and exempt from the provisions of ss. 119.07(1) and 456.057, and shall not be disclosed, except, upon request, to the state attorney, law enforcement, the department, and necessary professionals, in furtherance of the treatment or additional evaluative needs of the child, by order of the court, or to health plan payors, limited to that information used for insurance reimbursement purposes;”

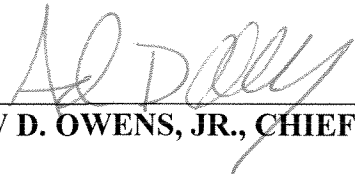
**WHEREAS** in light of Florida Statute Section 39.202(6), the Manatee Children Services Child Protection Team employees, consultants, and doctors, regularly require a court order prior to their participation in depositions in child sexual abuse cases;

**WHEREAS** Florida Rule of Criminal Procedure 3.220(h)(1)(A) provides, “The defendant may, without leave of court, take the deposition of any witness listed by the prosecutor as a Category A witness;” and

**WHEREAS** Child Protection Team employees, consultants, and doctors are frequently listed by the prosecutor as “Category A” witnesses in child sexual abuse cases;

In the interest of judicial economy and under the authority of Rule 3.220(h)(1)(A), it is, therefore, **ORDERED AND ADJUDGED IN ALL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CASES** that any Manatee Children Services Child Protection Team employees, consultants, and doctors who are listed by the prosecutor as a "Category A" witness shall appear at Properly Noticed Depositions after Proper Service of Subpoena and submit to such deposition without requiring a separate order to do so, and shall testify at such deposition regarding all legally discoverable matters and shall release such information obtained during the course of their investigation of the allegations of abuse at the deposition.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers, in Sarasota, Sarasota County, Florida on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 2014.

  
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**ANDREW D. OWENS, JR., CHIEF JUDGE**

Original to: Clerk of Court, Manatee County  
Copies to: Manatee County Judges  
Court Administration  
State Attorney's Office, Manatee County  
Public Defender's Office, Manatee County  
Manatee Bar Association