

**IN THE TWELFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT FOR  
DESOTO, MANATEE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES, FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2008-3.4**

**In re: ORDER APPOINTING REBECCA HUNT  
AS GENERAL MAGISTRATE AND  
SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER**

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The Florida Rules of Court authorize the Chief Judge to appoint magistrates and support enforcement hearing officers to expedite the administration of justice and to relieve excessive caseloads. Pursuant to this authority and in recognition of the public need for the prompt and efficient resolution of claims pending in the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, it is

**ORDERED:**

1. **REBECCA HUNT** is hereby appointed to serve as **GENERAL MAGISTRATE** for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, in and for DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota Counties, Florida.

2. **General Magistrate Duties:** General Magistrates for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit shall perform any and all legal duties as directed by the Court and have all authority granted by Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.490, Florida Probate Rule 5.697, Florida Rules of Juvenile Procedure 8.257 and 8.625(h), Florida Family Law Rule 12.491, sections 393.11, 394.467, 397.311, 397.681 and 744.369, Florida Statutes, and any other rule or statutory provision authorizing the appointment of a general magistrate.

3. **Requirements of General Magistrate:** General Magistrates for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit must comply with the following requirements:

- a. Take the oath of office required of officers by the Florida Constitution, and the oath shall be properly recorded in the Official Records of the Clerk of the Circuit Court with this Administrative Order. The requisite oath is attached.
- b. Serve without the requirement of a bond.
- c. Serve at the pleasure of the Chief Judge.
- d. Promptly make and enter a recommended order in each case. The order shall contain findings of fact.
- e. Avoid practices or occupations that would be a conflict of interest or give the appearance of impropriety.
- f. Comply with provisions of the Code of Judicial Conduct, applicable to General Magistrates.

4. **Support Enforcement Hearings Officers:** Florida Family Law Rule 12.491, sets forth procedures governing child support enforcement hearings. In Administrative Order 89-08-12, this Court adopted these procedures after determining they would benefit the public, the litigants and the judiciary.

5. **REBECCA HUNT** is hereby appointed to serve as a **SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER** for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, in and for DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota Counties, Florida, to hear all matters that a support enforcement hearing officer is authorized to hear pursuant to Florida Family Law Rule 12.491.

6. **Hearing Officer Duties and Term of Assignment:** All Support Enforcement Hearing Officers shall serve under the direction and at the pleasure of the Chief Judge of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit as the Court's representatives with all of the powers and duties prescribed by Florida Family Law Rule 12.491.

7. **Recording of Hearings:** All hearings before the General Magistrates and the Support Enforcement Hearing Officers shall be reported by electronic means as provided by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.535.

8. **Robes:** Any General Magistrate or Support Enforcement Hearing Officer is authorized to wear a judicial robe while presiding over any judicial proceeding, unless otherwise prohibited by statute or rule of court.

9. **Interpretation:** This is an Administrative Order authorized by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.120(c) and is not a local court rule as defined in Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.120(b).

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers in Sarasota County, Florida, on March 20, 2008.



**Lee E. Haworth, Chief Judge**  
**Twelfth Judicial Circuit**

Original to: Clerk of Circuit Court, Sarasota County

Copies to: Court Administrator's Office (Manatee & Sarasota)  
Clerk of Court, Manatee County  
Clerk of Court, DeSoto County  
IT Department-Twelfth Judicial Circuit

## OATH

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF SARASOTA

I, **REBECCA HUNT**, do solemnly swear that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of **HEARING OFFICER** and **GENERAL MAGISTRATE** on which I am now about to enter.

So help me God.

Rebecca Hunt  
Rebecca Hunt

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME AT:

SARASOTA County, Florida

This 24 day of MARCH, 2008.

Printed Name: KAREN A. YOST

Signature: Karen A. Yost

Title: Judicial Assistant/NOTARY

Identification Used: KNOWN TO ME.



Karen A. Yost  
Commission # DD417002  
Expires May 8, 2009  
Bonded Troy Pahn - Insurance, Inc. 800-388-7019