

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

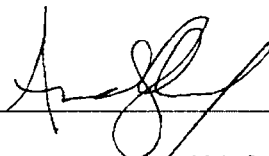
**THIS ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER WAS
RENUMBERED BY ADMINISTRATIVE
ORDER NUMBER 2001-14-2.
THE NEW NUMBER IS
97-13-5**

In re: Approval of Mandated Training Course for Guardian Advocates

Pursuant to Section 394.4598, Fla. Stats. (1996 supp.), the court may appoint a guardian advocate to represent a mental health patient in a receiving or treatment facility when petitioned to do so by the administrator of the facility. As provided in paragraph (3) of this same statute, the guardian advocate must complete an approved training course prior to exercising his or her authority. The statute further sets forth that this approved training course is to be taught by a court-approved organization.

Upon consideration, this court approves the "Guardian Advocate Training and Resource Manual," published by the Department of Children and Families. Authorized training may be conducted by the facilities designated by the Department of Children and Families under the provisions of Chapter 394 as private or public receiving facilities.

Done at Sarasota, Florida, on this 2nd day of June, 1997.



Andrew D. Owens Jr., Chief Judge

Original to: Clerk of Court, Sarasota County

Copies to: Clerk of Court, Manatee County
Clerk of Court, DeSoto County
Court Administrator