

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2.202-9/08*

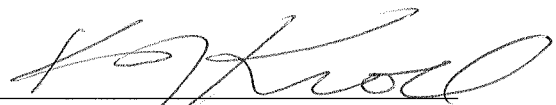
IN RE: SECURITY OF JUDICIAL CORRIDORS

For security reasons, the judicial corridors in the Palm Beach County Courthouse were designed and constructed to be restricted access areas, limited primarily to judges and their staff, court personnel, clerks, and bailiffs. Jurors and prisoners have on occasion been permitted to enter and exit courtrooms by means of the judicial corridors. Judges and court personnel have expressed safety and other concerns regarding such a practice. The Executive Committee has unanimously approved adoption of procedures designed to limit and regulate juror and prisoner access to the judicial corridors.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority conferred by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is **ORDERED** as follows:

1. **JURORS:** Ingress and egress by jurors to the judicial corridors shall be prohibited unless the presiding judge determines that exceptional circumstances exist which require their presence. In those unusual or exception instances such as high-profile cases where the judge determines that the jurors require access from the courtroom by way of the judicial corridor, the court security officer shall loudly announce "Jurors coming through" or some other appropriate call to indicate to the working personnel the jurors' momentary presence as they are escorted as a group out of the judicial corridor to the jury assembly room or other appropriate location for release.
2. **PRISONERS:** Only in exigent circumstances, such as when the elevator is inoperable, shall prisoners be permitted to ingress or egress the courtroom by way of the judicial corridor. On any such occasion, the court security officer or deputy shall loudly announce to the working personnel within the corridor "Prisoner(s) coming through" to indicate the presence of a temporary security concern.

DONE and **SIGNED** in Chambers, in West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, this 29 day of September, 2008.


Kathleen J. Kroll
Chief Judge

supersedes admin. order 11.029-4/97