

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 6.304-3/19*

IN RE: APPOINTMENT OF MAGISTRATE –
MENTAL HEALTH **AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE**


This circuit has a substantial mental health **and substance abuse** caseload. Florida Statutes require the court to conduct timely hearings to determine if a person needs to be involuntarily examined at and/or committed to a mental health treatment program. The interests of the public and litigants involved in mental health proceedings require flexible and speedy resolutions because of the exigency of the subject matter. The current resources of the court and the time available to conduct such hearings in mental health proceedings are limited.

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

1. Magistrates shall be appointed to hear all matters arising from Marchman, Baker and Tuberculosis Control Acts **as well as voluntary crisis stabilization hearings involving minors** within the Fifteenth Circuit.
2. Magistrates shall be responsible for recommending examination, treatment and designation of the treatment facilities to the Court; shall conduct contempt hearings relative to violations of court order; document such findings of fact and conclusions of law and render a report making recommendations to the appropriate judicial office together with a recommended order based upon the report.
3. The duties and responsibilities of a Magistrate shall not be limited to the above stated functions but rather shall serve under the direction and at the appointment of the Circuit Court as the Court's judicial representative on all mental health matters.
4. The duties and responsibilities of a Magistrate shall not be limited to the above stated functions but rather shall serve under the direction and at the appointment of the Circuit Court.
5. By separate order, the chief judge shall, **in accordance with applicable law**, appoint

magistrates, members of the Florida Bar, to serve as judicial officers of the Circuit Court of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

DONE and **SIGNED** in Chambers at West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, this 8th day of March, 2019.



Krista Marx
Chief Judge

*supersedes admin. order no. 6.304-9/08