

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HARDEE, HIGHLANDS AND POLK COUNTIES, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 5-12.2

RE: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Florida Supreme Court's Gender Bias Study Commission has recommended the creation of a Domestic Violence Task Force in each Judicial Circuit of Florida for the following purposes:

- A. To facilitate interagency education,
- B. To recommend and implement appropriate methods to increase interagency communication,
- C. To develop a local diversionary program, and
- D. To create a local public relations plan to educate the public dynamics of the cycle of domestic violence, resource for victims, and protection available under Florida law, and

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Domestic Violence Task Force in each circuit, and

WHEREAS, the judges of the Tenth Circuit have decided this need would be best met if task forces were created on county levels as opposed to a circuit-level, NOW, HEREBY authority is hereby GRANTED for the creation of a Domestic Violence Task Force in Hardee County, in Highlands County and in Polk County. If any county is unable to form such a body at this time, this Order shall remain in effect until such time as the ability to form the task force exists.

THE MEMBERSHIP of the Task Force will include, but will not be limited to, representatives of the following groups:

- Law enforcement

- The Judiciary (including the Administrative Judge of the Family Division in Polk County and the judge assigned to the Family Division in Hardee and Highlands Counties)
- The State Attorney's Office
- Members of The Florida Bar
- The Clerk of Court of the Respective County
- Victim's Advocate Programs
- Mental Health Programs and
- Probation Programs

The Chairperson of the Task Force shall be appointed by the Chief Judge of this Court.

Every person concerned with the social plight of Domestic Violence is urged to support and assist in the accomplishment of the work of the Task Force.

This Order shall become effective upon entry and supersedes Administrative Order 5-12.1 entered June 2, 1997. DONE on this 7th day of December 2006.

RONALD A. HERRING
Chief Judge