

IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA

IN RE: DESIGNATED JUDGE TO PRESIDE
OVER CASES INVOLVING THE
HAGUE CONVENTION ON CIVIL
ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL
CHILD ABDUCTION

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 12.8
- Amended -

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2019, the Supreme Court of Florida issued Administrative Order No. AOSC19-19, *In re: Cases Involving the Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction*; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Florida explains in Administrative Order No. AOSC19-19 that “[i]t is the intent of the Florida State Courts System to better protect children from the effects of their wrongful removal through the establishment of a network of Florida judges who develop expertise in this important area of law;” and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Florida has directed that the Chief Judge of each judicial circuit designate a judge with primary responsibility for handling Hague Convention cases involving the civil aspects of international child abduction filed within the circuit;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with Administrative Order No. AOSC19-19 and the authority vested in the Chief Judge pursuant to Fla. R. Gen. Prac. & Jud. Admin. 2.215, it is ordered as follows:

1. The **Honorable Amy R. Hawthorne, Circuit Judge**, is hereby designated as having primary responsibility for handling all Hague Convention cases involving the civil aspects of international child abduction filed within the Twentieth Judicial Circuit.

2. Upon identification of Hague Convention cases involving the civil aspects of international child abduction, such cases shall be referred to the appropriate Administrative

I hereby certify this document to
be a true and correct copy of the
record on file in my office
Kevin C. Karnes, Clerk of the
Circuit Court, Lee County, FL
Dated: 11/1/24

Filed Lee County Clerk of Courts 11/01/2024

By Patricia Long
Deputy Clerk

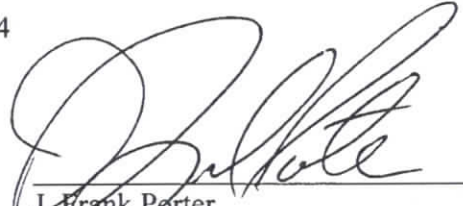


Judge for reassignment, as may be applicable for the purpose of implementing the intent of this Administrative Order.

3. To the extent that any provision of this Administrative Order may be construed as being in conflict with any law, statute, or rule, the law, statute, or rule shall prevail.

4. This Administrative Order shall be effective immediately.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, this 15TH
day of NOV, 2024



J. Frank Porter
Chief Judge

History. – Administrative Order 12.8 (May 6, 2019).

