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

IN RE: GUARDIAN AD LITEM FOR

MINOR WITNESSES AND VICTIMS IN CRIMINAL

PROCEEDINGS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO: 3.7

WHEREAS, Florida Statute § 914.17 gives the court the power to appoint a Guardian Ad Litem or other advocate for the purpose of representing minors who are victims of or witnesses to child abuse or neglect, or if the minor is a victim of a sexual offense or a witness to a sexual offense committed against another minor, and

WHEREAS, the appointment of such a Guardian Ad Litem or other advocate is necessary to ensure the physical and mental well-being of such children; it is hereby

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the State Attorney's Office shall, as soon as possible, after determining that a minor is involved in a criminal proceeding as a victim or as a witness, move the appropriate Court to appoint a Guardian Ad Litem or other advocate to represent the minor; and it is further

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that all Courts of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit, upon being moved by the State Attorney's Office, shall appoint a Guardian Ad Litem or other advocate represent each and every minor involved in any criminal proceeding either as a victim or as a witness.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida, this day of

Thomas

Reese

Chief Circuit Judge

CERTIFY THIS DOCUMENT TO BE PARRECT COPY OF THE

A FILE IN MY OFFICE,

History. - Administrative Order 89-23

JAN **29** 1991

A TRIFF

BRIGE.

Charlie Green, Clerk Circuit

FLORIDA, PO

STATE