

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 1-21.5

**RE: AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**

WHEREAS, the Americans with Disabilities Act 1990 (hereinafter “ADA”) requires that reasonable accommodations be provided to requesting qualified persons with disabilities in order that they might participate fully in court programs, services, activities, and benefits;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Tenth Judicial Circuit to facilitate provision of reasonable accommodations when requested by qualified persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.540, Requests for Accommodations by Persons with Disabilities, outlines the rights and obligations afforded to members of the public by the Florida courts under the ADA;

IT IS ORDERED that, effective immediately, all communications compelling appearance before the court or noticing court proceedings including, but not limited to, subpoenas for trial, jury summons, notice of hearings, notice for depositions and all other court related proceedings shall provide that persons with a disability who need a special accommodation shall contact the Office of the Court Administrator to insure that reasonable accommodations are available. Such communications noticing court proceedings shall include the following substantive language:

“If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Office of the Court Administrator, 255 N. Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830, (863) 534-4686, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.”

Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.540(c)(1), *as amended by In Re: Amendments to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.540*, SC09-1487 (May 20, 2010) at 7.

Administrative Order No. 1-21.4 is hereby VACATED.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers at Bartow, Florida, this 21st day of May, 2010.

J. DAVID LANGFORD, Chief Judge