

**IN THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT  
IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. S-2000-071  
(Supersedes Administrative Order S-1986-095)**

**IN RE: PROVISION OF INTERPRETERS  
BY THE COURT INTERPRETER CENTER**

**WHEREAS**, §90.606, Florida Statutes, requires the court to swear in an interpreter for those witnesses who do not hear or understand the English language; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for the efficient and proper administration of justice in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; it is therefore:

**ORDERED:**

1. The Court Interpreter Center, in its capacity to provide services to the courts of this circuit, is required to provide interpreters for all criminal and juvenile proceedings in this circuit.
2. The Court Interpreter Center is authorized to assist with the provision of interpreters for pre-trial and post-trial proceedings in cooperation with the State Attorney's Office and Public Defender's Office. This does not preclude the Public Defender's Office or the State Attorney's Office from negotiating with and scheduling interpreters themselves. The State Attorney and Public Defender are responsible for payment of freelance interpreters when used for pre-trial and post-trial proceedings.
3. Court interpreters for the Thirteenth Circuit shall abide by the code of ethics called the Interpreter Canons, established by the Administrative Office of the Courts, until a statewide Code of Professional Responsibility and Conduct is adopted.
4. Freelance court interpreters shall be compensated at a standard rate approved by the chief judge of the circuit. However, in the event that no court interpreters are available, the Court

Interpreter Center is authorized to negotiate a reasonable fee with an agency or interpreter not registered with the circuit. Fees for freelance interpreters for the State Attorney's Office or Public Defender's office shall be paid by the requesting party.

5. All requests for payment of interpreters shall be approved by the Court Interpreter Center, and shall be made using an invoice approved by the Administrative Office of the Courts. The original shall be forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners accounting department for payment, and the Court Interpreter Center shall maintain copies of invoices.

6. This administrative order supersedes Administrative Order S-1986-095 and is effective immediately.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in chambers in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida, this 26th day of June, 2000.

          /s/ Robert H. Bonanno            
Robert H. Bonanno, Acting Chief Judge

Original to: Richard Ake, Clerk of Court  
cc: Harry Lee Coe, III, State Attorney  
Julianne Holt, Public Defender  
Marty Merrell, Administrative Office of the Courts