

**THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**CASE NO. 13-1
(Court Administration)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 13-01**

**IN RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF SECURITY
BY-PASS PROGRAM FOR ATTORNEYS
AT RICHARD E. GERSTEIN JUSTICE
BUILDING**

WHEREAS, jurors, litigants, witnesses, and other interested persons in the general public (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "General Public") attending court proceedings at the Richard E. Gerstein Justice Building ("REG"), who entered REG through three (3) magnetometers in the main entrance, located on NW 12th Street, and one (1) magnetometer in the north entrance on NW 13th Street, created long lines that often resulted in their inability to timely attend court proceedings or they were adversely impacted by inclement weather; and

WHEREAS, on or about March 1, 2012, in an effort to ameliorate the consequences of the long lines and in furtherance of the administration of justice, particularly regarding the timely and appropriate disposition of cases, the Security By-Pass Pilot Program was implemented whereby active members of The Florida Bar were allowed to by-pass the public screening check points at the REG Building, including the designated attorney lane located in the rear entrance of REG on NW 13th Street ("Designated Attorney Entrance"), subject to certain criteria and procedures; and

WHEREAS, on or about September 4, 2012, as a component of the Security By-Pass Pilot Program, the General Public was allowed to enter REG through the rear entrance through the Designated Attorney Entrance; and

WHEREAS, since its inception to the present date, as a result of the Security By-Pass Pilot Program, the problems associated with the long lines at REG have been significantly minimized; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Rule 2.215(b)(3), Judicial Administration Rules, the chief judge shall develop an administrative plan that, inter alia, is capable of effecting the prompt disposition of cases; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned has determined that it is in the best interest of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit that the Security By-Pass Pilot Program continue as the Security By-Pass Program for Attorneys at the REG;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, under Rule 2.215, Judicial Administration Rules, it is hereby **ORDERED**:

1. **Effective Date**: The Security By-Pass Program is hereby authorized and established as of the effective date of this Administrative Order as set forth hereinbelow.
2. **Criteria and Procedures**: The Administrative Office of the Courts ("AOC") will establish and implement the criteria and procedures for the Security By-Pass Program, to include the following:
 - a. Active members of The Florida Bar ("Member(s)") will by-pass the public screening check points at the Richard E. Gerstein Justice Building, provided the Member's Application ("Application") is approved by the AOC and the Member's criminal background check conducted by the AOC is satisfactory.
 - b. Upon the approval of the Application and the criminal background clearance, Members shall be issued a Security Access Identification Badge ("Badge") by the AOC to be produced upon entering REG. Failure to produce the Badge will require the Member to be subject to security screening.
 - c. Members will be randomly screened at the security check points to determine if they are in possession of weapons. Should there be a discovery of a weapon, the Member's privilege to by-pass security may be suspended or revoked.
 - d. Jurors, litigants, witnesses, and other interested persons in the general public, in addition to entering through the main entrance at REG, will continue to be allowed to enter through the rear entrance of the REG located on NW 13th Street, formerly designated exclusively for entry by attorneys.
3. Active members of The Florida Bar who have received the Badge before the effective date of this Administrative Order will be allowed to use such Badge until it expires.

This Administrative Order shall take effect immediately upon execution hereof and shall remain in effect until further order of the Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Miami-Dade County, Florida, this 3rd day of April, 2013.

**BERTILA SOTO, CHIEF JUDGE
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA**