

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

**CASE NO. 02-2
(Court Administration)**

**IN RE: DELINEATION OF MATTERS TO
BE REFERRED TO GENERAL
MASTERS/HEARING OFFICERS FOR
THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF
FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 02-30**

WHEREAS, in an effort to enhance the progress of cases within the Family Division of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, it has been deemed necessary to delineate the type of matters to be referred to the General Masters/Hearing Officers assigned to the Family Division; and

WHEREAS, Rules 12.490 and 12.491 of the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure specify the matters which may be heard by General Masters/Hearing Officers upon the referral of a Judge in the Family Division;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, under Rule 2.050 of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, it is hereby ordered that the General Masters/Hearing Officers shall have jurisdictional authority to hear certain matters as hereinafter set forth:

1. Upon the referral of a Judge in the Family Division of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, General Masters/Hearing Officers shall hear only those matters specifically set forth in Rules 12.490 and 12.491 of the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure.
2. General Masters/Hearing Officers shall not be referred nor shall they hear the following matters:
 - A. Final Hearings of Open/Pre-Judgment Petitions for Dissolution of Marriage. However, the Family Division Judges may refer a Final Hearing on a Petition for Dissolution wherein a written request has been filed by both parties.
 - B. Final Hearings on Petitions for Dissolution of Marriage wherein a Bifurcated Final Judgment was entered and the Court reserved jurisdiction on pending issues in the original Petition.
 - C. Non-evidentiary Motions, such as, Motion to Amend, Motion to Dismiss, and Motion for Summary Judgment, etc.

- D. Petitions for Termination of Parental Rights Pending Adoption and Petitions for Adoptions.
- E. Petitions for Injunction for Protection Against Domestic Violence.
- F. Motions for Appointment of Guardians, Experts and Health Care Professionals that are not related to a matter referred to the General Master/Hearing Officer.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Miami-Dade, Florida, this 26th day of July, 2002.

**JOSEPH P. FARINA, CHIEF JUDGE
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA**