

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

**CASE NO. 03-1  
(Court Administration)**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
NO. 03-04**

**IN RE: PROCEDURES FOR  
INVESTITURE CEREMONY FOR  
NEW JUDGES.**

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**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Administrative Order No. 95-29, the Administrative Judges of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit recommended revisions to the Investiture Ceremony for new judges to enhance the dignity, solemnity and uniformity of the Investiture Ceremony within the Circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, due to their affiliation with voluntary bar associations, other than the Dade County Bar Association, judges have recommended additional revisions to the Investiture Ceremony to allow for the inclusion of a representative from such bar association as a speaker during the Investiture Ceremony; and

**WHEREAS**, the recommended revision to the Investiture Ceremony will reflect and embrace the diversity of this Circuit's judiciary;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Chief Judge of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida, the following procedures are hereby established for the conduct of Investiture Ceremonies within the Eleventh Judicial Circuit.

1. The Investiture Ceremony shall comport with principles of dignity and solemnity befitting the importance and seriousness of the occasion. While levity can be used effectively in the Investiture Ceremony without a compromise of the nature of the occasion, inappropriate language, scenarios and props are to be avoided. A "roast" type ceremony is entirely out of order.
2. The State Attorney, Public Defender, Clerk and General Masters shall be seated in their designated seating areas prior to the entrance of the judges. Judges will enter in the following order: Chief Judge, Honoree, Supreme Court Justices, District Court of Appeal Judges, and Federal and State Court Judges.
3. The total time for the Investiture Ceremony shall not exceed thirty-five (35) minutes.

4. The Invocation shall be conducted by a member of the clergy selected by the Honoree. If the Honoree declines to select a member of the clergy, then the Honoree may select a member of the judiciary to deliver the Invocation. In either event, the Invocation shall take no more than two (2) minutes.
5. Presentations by the Florida Bar and the Dade County Bar Association shall be limited to two (2) minutes each. Arrangements for these presentations shall be made by the Office of the Chief Judge.
6. The Honoree shall have one (1) personal speaker. However, if so desired, the Honoree may also have a presentation made by a representative of a voluntary bar with whom the Honoree is affiliated. In any event, the presentation(s) shall not exceed a total of ten (10) minutes.
7. The Honoree may select the person to administer the Oath of Office. The Robing and Oath of Office will follow the Honoree's personal speaker(s) and shall be limited to four (4) minutes.
8. Remarks by the Honoree shall not exceed ten (10) minutes in duration.
9. To ensure uniformity, there shall be no exceptions to the above procedures.
10. A copy of this Administrative Order shall be provided to each new judge within ten (10) days of his or her selection; and the new judge shall be responsible for providing a copy of this Order to speakers selected by the new judge to participate in the Investiture Ceremony.

Administrative Order No. 95-29, entered in Case No. 95-1 is hereby rescinded and held for naught.

The above procedures shall become effective upon entry of this Order.

**DONE AND ORDERED** in Chambers at Miami-Dade, Florida, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2003.

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