

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 5-31.9**

IN RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT  
ENFORCEMENT HEARING OFFICER

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress enacted P.L. 93 647 in 1975 to establish Title IV-D (IV-D) of the Social Security Act, thereby creating the Child Support Enforcement Program; and

**WHEREAS**, certain laws of Florida establish obligations for timely child support enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, Rule 12.491, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, provides for the appointment of child support enforcement hearing officer(s) (hearing officers); and

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court of Florida entered an Administrative Order, dated February 25, 1998, invoking the provisions of Rule 12.491 for both IV-D and non-IV-D proceedings for the establishment, enforcement, or modification of child support in this circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, the interests of the public, the litigants, and the judiciary require a flexible and speedy system for resolution of proceedings involving the establishment, modification and enforcement of child support; and

**WHEREAS**, a majority of the judges of the circuit court have voted to appoint hearing officers for the Family Division as provided for in Rule 12.491, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, to serve as ordered by the chief judge;

It is therefore, **ORDERED** that:

1. There is hereby created the position of child support enforcement hearing officer. The chief judge shall appoint one or more hearing officers pursuant to the procedures established by Rule 12.491. The hearing officer shall serve under the direction of the chief judge as the court's representative in all proceedings for the establishment, enforcement, or modification of child support wherein the party seeking support is receiving services pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act and also to non-Title IV-D proceedings as directed by the chief judge.
2. Gregory Atkinson, Robin Matis-Jackson, Christine Daly, Maria Zucker, Jeffery Stidham, Philip Vandenbosch, and Jennifer Steimle are hereby

appointed as hearing officers pursuant to the provisions described herein.

3. Except as otherwise provided herein, this Administrative Order is effective on February 1, 2024, at 12:00 a.m., and VACATES and SUPERCEDES Administrative Order No. 5-31.8, entered on July 29, 2021.

DONE AND ORDERED on this 31st day of January, 2024.

s/JAMES A. YANCEY, Chief Judge

Original:  
Polk County Clerk of Court

Copies:  
All Judges  
Polk County Clerk of the Court  
Hardee County Clerk of the Court  
Highlands County Clerk of the Court  
All Magistrates  
All Hearing Officers  
Electronic Bar Mailing