

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 6-23.1

IN RE: TEEN COURT FEES

WHEREAS, Polk County has had an effective Teen Court Diversion Program (hereinafter “Teen Court”) operated under the direction and leadership of a circuit court judge since 1990; and

WHEREAS, minors referred to Teen Court operating in Polk County are evaluated to determine if family counseling, urinalysis, substance abuse or mental health treatment is required and referrals to the appropriate provider are made; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Board of County Commissioners has recognized the Polk County Teen Court program as a nonprofit diversion program and has mandated the assessment of court costs in specified cases pursuant to §938.19, Florida Statutes, for deposit “into an account specifically for the operation and administration of the teen court”; and

WHEREAS, current funding is inadequate to cover the costs of Teen Court; and therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that effective December 1, 2022, all offenders entering the Teen Court Diversion Program shall be required to pay a nonrefundable program fee of \$75.00 per case unless waived or adjusted by the circuit court judge overseeing Teen Court. However, an offender’s access to Teen Court will not be denied solely on the basis of the offender’s inability to pay. The program fee must be paid whether the offender successfully completes the program or is terminated from the program. Payment of the program fee shall be made payable to the Polk County Clerk of the Circuit Court (hereinafter “Clerk”) and shall be deposited by the Clerk into Teen Court account number 00141930516600.349009.

DONE AND ORDERED in Polk County, Florida this 15th day of November, 2022.

s/ELLEN S. MASTERS, Chief Judge

Original to:
Polk County Clerk of the Circuit Court

Copies to:
Trial Court Administrator
Office of the State Attorney
Office of the Public Defender
Teen Court Program