

State of Michigan

Circuit Judges
Paul J. Ciulo
Thomas L. Ludington
District Judges
John H. Hart
James E. Wilson
Probate Judge
Dorene S. Allen



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Midland County Courthouse
301 W. Main Street
Midland, Michigan 48640-5183

42nd Circuit Court - Administrative Order [2003] - [01]

Cases Involving Children Absent From Court-Ordered Placement Without Legal Permission

Previous Local Administrative Orders Rescinded by this Order:

IT IS ORDERED:

This administrative order is issued in accordance with *Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order 2002-4*. The purpose of this order is to establish a plan for reviewing cases involving children who are absent from court-ordered placements without permission from the court upon approval by the State Court Administrative Office.

1. The judge responsible for ensuring compliance with this plan is Judge Dorene S. Allen, Midland County Probate and Family Division Judge. The court and MFIA will conduct an initial inventory regarding AWOLP children within their respective jurisdiction(s).
2. The court will request that MFIA identify a local FIA liaison who will be responsible for coordinating and implementing policy in conjunction with expedited hearings on AWOLP cases.
3. Upon notification by the MFIA, or upon the courts own initiative of a child's absence without legal permission (AWOLP) status, an immediate hearing will be held or other action taken by the court. The court will utilize all statutory and court rule authority to locate and expeditiously return a child to a proper custodial placement. In its discretion, the court may use informal measures to locate, communicate with and ensure proper placement of an AWOLP child.

Administrative Order 2003-01
January 9, 2003

4. Reviews of a child listed as AWOLP will be held within 2 days of notification/identification. The review will address the following:
 - A. Coordination efforts of the Family Independence Agency and the court to locate the absent children,
 - B. Process for reviewing such cases,
 - C. Frequency of additional reviews, and
 - D. Any special problems that the court has identified.

5. All children 15 years and younger who are AWOLP shall have priority in hearings and reviews, with particular emphasis being placed on cases of younger children who may have been abducted.

Effective Date: January 9, 2003

Date: January 9, 2003

Chief Judge Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Chris L. Smith", written over a horizontal line.