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BK: R2793 PG: 01986
JAN 09 2003 02:47 PM
BOB INZER, CLERK OF COURTS

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2002-19

IN RE: SECURITY IN 2D JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURTHOUSES

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to regulate the possession of firearms, weapons, and destructive devices within court facilities in the 2d Judicial Circuit, to protect court personnel and members of the public, and to ensure the orderly and safe administration of justice; and

WHEREAS, section 790.06(12), Florida Statutes, prohibits persons from carrying concealed weapons or firearms into any courthouse or courtroom regardless of licensure to carry concealed weapons under that chapter, and

WHEREAS, destructive devices may cause similar disruption or harm to the orderly and safe administration of justice, it is therefore

ORDERED that :

1. All persons are prohibited from bringing any firearms, weapons, or destructive devices into courthouse facilities throughout the 2d Judicial Circuit, except as provided herein. Courthouse facilities are defined as any county courthouse, court annex, or other building where court is held. Firearms are defined in section 790.001(6), Florida Statutes. Weapons are defined in section 790.001(13), Florida Statutes. Destructive devices are defined in section 790.001(4), Florida Statutes.

2. Bailiff's Units in each county are hereby ordered to establish procedures to ensure that this order is enforced.

3. Federal, state, and local sworn law enforcement officers, may bring their issued weapons into courthouses, unless the law enforcement officer is present as a party in a case. If he or she is present in the courthouse as a party in a case, they are hereby ordered to leave their weapon outside the courthouse or temporarily relinquish it for safekeeping to the appropriate Bailiff's Unit, to be secured in a lockbox in the Bailiff's Office, prior to participating in any court events related to that case. This exception does not apply to law enforcement officers who are witnesses in a case.

4. Active judges, upon being duly licensed by the Florida Secretary of State, may bring concealed firearms or weapons into courthouse facilities at their discretion.

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LEON COUNTY
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5. Presiding judges have absolute discretion to prohibit any person, including law enforcement officers, from bringing firearms, weapons, or destructive devices into any courtroom or court event. If a judge requires a law enforcement officer to relinquish their issued weapon for safekeeping to the court bailiff, the weapon shall be secured in a lockbox in the Bailiff's Office.

6. This administrative order rescinds and supercedes Administrative Order No. 95-07.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida, this 14th day of November 2002.

William L. Gary
Chief Judge

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