

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

Administrative Order 85-22

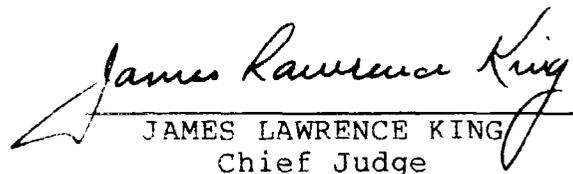
IN RE: AUTHORITY INVESTED IN
COURT REPORTER COORDINATOR TO
ASSIGN OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS

Upon consideration of the attached policy statement regarding work assignments of official court reporters by the court reporter coordinator, of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida, considered and adopted unanimously by the judges of the court during a regular meeting conducted July 17, 1985, it is

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that said policy statement be and it is hereby adopted as the official policy of this court, and incorporated into the Court Reporter Management Plan as fully as though it were set forth in its entirety therein.

DONE and ORDERED at the United States Courthouse, Federal Courthouse Square, Miami, Florida, this 22nd day of July, 1985.

FOR THE COURT


JAMES LAWRENCE KING
Chief Judge

cc: All Southern District Judges
Clerk of Court
Court Executive

POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING WORK ASSIGNMENTS OF
OFFICIAL COURT REPORTERS BY THE COURT REPORTER COORDINATOR

The Court Reporter Coordinator for the Southern District of Florida has heretofore been delegated the responsibility for monitoring compliance, by the official court reporters for the Southern District of Florida, with Judicial Conference Regulations, Judicial Council Regulations and the Court Reporter Management Plan for the Southern District of Florida.

Inherent in this delegation of responsibility is the authority to assign the official court reporters to proceedings before Senior U. S. District Judges, U. S. Magistrates, U. S. Land Commissioners and all of the active U. S. District Judges of this court. This was a specific delegation of authority to the Court Reporter Coordinator by a unanimous vote of the active and senior U. S. District Judges after full discussion at a regularly called judges meeting.

A number of substantial benefits have accrued to the official court reporters of the Southern District of Florida since implementation of this assignment procedure. There has been a substantial reduction in the need for employment by official court reporters of substitute reporters at the present rate of \$120.00 per day for each substitute so employed; reporters have been able to take vacations without the necessity of employing substitute reporters during their absence; reporters have been able to take time off for personal reasons without the necessity of paying for a substitute; there has been a more equal division of the workload in the court among the official reporters; appellate records have been timely filed; backlogs of pages awaiting transcription for Court of Appeals has dropped dramatically; and there has been a reduction in the weekend and late night work formerly required of official reporters.

Apparently, however, some problems have arisen wherein official court reporters have declined assignment for the reason that the judge to whom that reporter is regularly assigned had instructed the reporter to decline to accept such an assignment. On some occasions the notification of refusal to accept the assignment came from a secretary or a law clerk.

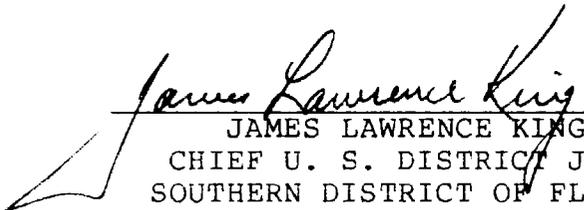
Hereafter, an official court reporter shall not refuse to accept a court reporter working assignment from the Court Reporter Coordinator, for the reason that the judge to whom that court reporter is normally assigned does not want the reporter to accept the assignment. It shall be the duty of the official court reporter to fulfill the assigned work and the duty of the Court Reporter Coordinator to provide a reporter, if needed, to

fill in for the official court reporter assigned under the Court Management Plan and Policies of this Court.

In the event an official court reporter has a complaint concerning a specific assignment by the Court Reporter Coordinator, he or she shall, within three (3) days after the assignment, file the complaint in writing with the Court Reporter Coordinator. If the matter is not resolved to the official court reporter's satisfaction, an appeal may be taken to a committee composed of the Court Reporter Coordinator, an official court reporter elected by the majority vote of all official court reporters in the district and the Chief Judge or his designee.

Refusal to accept an assignment under the procedures outlined herein shall constitute grounds for termination of employment.

DONE and ORDERED at the United States Courthouse, Federal Courthouse Square, Miami, Florida, this 17th day of July, 1985.



JAMES LAWRENCE KING
CHIEF U. S. DISTRICT JUDGE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA