STATE OF MICHIGAN
6 TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OAKLAND COUNTY

TWO-WAY INTERACTIVE VIDEO PROCEEDINGS

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 2008-01

USE OF TWO-WAY INTERACTIVE VIDEO TECHNOLOGY IN FAMILY DIVISION

IT IS ORDERED:

This administrative order is issued in accordance with Michigan Supreme Court Administrative Order 2007-1 and MCR 8.112(B). The purpose of this order is to authorize in certain court proceedings the use of two-way interactive video between participants located at remote facilities and the court.

- 1. Two-way interactive video (IV) and facsimile (FAX) equipment may be used from designated IV rooms at the Oakland County Children's Village, at the Oakland County Jail, at Court Services satellite offices in Troy and Walled Lake, *AND* at facilities of the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) or Department of Human Services (DHS).
- 2. Interactive Video may be used to link participants at these IV venues to the courtrooms of judges and referees serving in the family division.
- 3. Courtrooms utilizing IV technology in proceedings shall have a large screen monitor that will permit the public to see and hear the participants who are not physically present in the courtroom.
- 4. Remote IV sites shall have a two-way IV receiver with a large screen, transmitter, microphone, and FAX equipment to be used during the proceeding. The participant in the IV room shall also have equipment that permits private attorney-client communications if the attorney for the participant is located elsewhere.
- 5. All documents necessary to conduct these proceedings may be sent by facsimile to and from the court and the IV facility. These documents, if 'records' as defined in MCR 3.903(a)(24) shall become part of the court file in accordance with the provisions of MCR 3.929.
- 6. With the following limitations, the Family Division may use IV technology for preliminary hearings, initial hearings, pretrials, trials, dispositional hearings, dispositional reviews, progress reviews, permanency hearings, emergency removal hearings, termination hearings involving supplemental petitions, post-termination reviews, motion hearings, and requests for Orders to Take Into Custody pursuant to provisions of the Juvenile Code:
 - a. IV technology may not be used for trials or initial dispositional hearings, unless the parties consent to its use.
 - b. The court may not use IV technology in proceedings to terminate parental rights if a party has filed a written objection to the use of IV technology at least seven days prior to the hearing.
- 7. All proceedings at which IV technology is used must be recorded verbatim by the court.
- 8. The use of IV technology must be in accordance with any requirements and guidelines established by the State Court Administrative Office.

9. During the pilot phases of the Interactive Video project, the court will gather data on the hearings in which IV technology is used, technical difficulties experienced, objections to the use of IV technology and the court's resolution of the objections. Upon request, the court will make the data available to the State Court Administrative Office.

Dated: 1 - 8 - 08

Ion. Wendy Potts

Chief Judge