

TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS LEE COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER COMPLEX FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33901 TEL. (813) 335-2299 SUNCOM 585-2299

November 24, 1987

ROBERT T. SHAFER, JR." CHIEF JUDGE WILLIAM D. WILKINSON, SR. COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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and the management of the

Honorable Parker Lee McDonald Chief Justice/Florida Supreme Court Supreme Court Building Tallahassee, Florida 32301-8167

Dear Chief Justice:

Mike Bridenback, of the Dispute Resolution Center, has solicited comments regarding the proposed Mediation/Arbitration Rule.

I commend David Strawn and the committee on their successful efforts; however, I am concerned that the qualifications for family mediators and circuit court mediators may be too stringent. We do have a successful program in the 20th circuit and would hate to see that program decimated because of the inability to qualify mediators under the proposed rules.

Thank you for inviting these comments.

Kind regards.

Very truly yours

Robert T. Shafer, Jr.

cc: Honorable David Patterson, Circuit Judge Honorable William Norris, Circuit Judge William D. Wilkinson, Sr., Court Administrator Mike Bridenback, Director/Dispute Resolution Center