CHAMBER ACTION

<u>Senate</u> <u>House</u>

Representative(s) Dean offered the following:

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Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert: Section 1. Section 27.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 27.40 Appointed Court appointed counsel system; component programs circuit registries; minimum requirements; appointment by court.--
- (1) Counsel shall be appointed by the public defender of the circuit to represent any individual in a criminal or civil proceeding entitled to appointed court appointed counsel under the Federal or State Constitution or as authorized by general law. No court may order that a particular attorney be named as an appointed attorney in a case. No court may enter any court order affecting, nor otherwise direct or control, the provision 428497

of appointed attorney services; however, a court shall not be prohibited from exercising traditional means of discipline of attorneys appearing before the court. Any reference in this part to the appointment of the public defender shall also refer to the subsequent selection and appointment by the public defender of another attorney to represent an individual in the event of a conflict of interest or for representation of indigent litigants in civil proceedings where necessary to meet constitutional or statutory requirements The court shall appoint a public defender to represent indigent persons as authorized in s. 27.51. Private counsel shall be appointed to represent indigents in those cases in which provision is made for court-appointed counsel but the public defender is unable to provide representation due to a conflict of interest or is not authorized to provide representation.

- the administrator of all appointed attorney services authorized under s. 27.51 within the circuit. The public defender shall administratively create component programs as a separate unit of each public defender's office, and the public defender shall sufficiently insulate the units from each other so as to ensure that confidential client information is not exchanged. Component programs under the administration of each public defender shall include the following:
- (a) A criminal and delinquency program, which shall represent any person described in s. 27.51(1)(a), (b), or (c).

- (b) A dependency and termination of parental rights program, which shall represent any person described in s. 27.51(1)(e).
- (c) A civil program, which shall represent any person described in s. 27.51(1)(d) and (f)-(m).
- (d) A conflict program, which shall represent any person described in s. 27.51(1)(a)-(m) when a conflict of interest exists in accordance with s. 27.5303. Private counsel appointed by the court to provide representation shall be selected from a registry of individual attorneys established by the circuit Article V indigent services committee or procured through a competitive bidding process.
- determine the most cost-effective method or methods for the delivery of appointed attorney services for that public defender's circuit. Authorized methods shall include, but not be limited to, the use of state employees, cross-circuit conflict representation, assigned attorney registries, and contractual agreements with individual attorneys, law firms, or groups of attorneys or law firms. Any contractual agreement may be terminated by a successor public defender without penalty. No contract or agreement may obligate the state to pay sums in excess of the moneys appropriated to the public defender for indigent services, and any contract shall be subject to annual appropriations. In utilizing a registry:
- (a) Each circuit Article V indigent services committee shall compile and maintain a list of attorneys in private practice, by county and by category of cases. From October 1, 428497

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2005, through September 30, 2007, the list of attorneys compiled by the Eleventh Judicial Circuit shall provide the race, gender, and national origin of assigned attorneys. To be included on a registry, attorneys shall certify that they meet any minimum requirements established in general law for court appointment, are available to represent indigent defendants in cases requiring court appointment of private counsel, and are willing to abide by the terms of the contract for services. To be included on a registry, an attorney also must enter into a contract for services with the Justice Administrative Commission. Failure to comply with the terms of the contract for services may result in termination of the contract and removal from the registry. Each attorney on the registry shall be responsible for notifying the circuit Article V indigent services committee and the Justice Administrative Commission of any change in his or her status. Failure to comply with this requirement shall be cause for termination of the contract for services and removal from the registry until the requirement is fulfilled.

(b) The court shall appoint attorneys in rotating order in the order in which names appear on the applicable registry, unless the court makes a finding of good cause on the record for appointing an attorney out of order. An attorney not appointed in the order in which his or her name appears on the list shall remain next in order.

(c) If it finds the number of attorneys on the registry in a county or circuit for a particular category of cases is inadequate, the circuit Article V indigent services committee 428497

shall notify the chief judge of the particular circuit in writing. The chief judge shall submit the names of at least three private attorneys with relevant experience. The clerk of court shall send an application to each of these attorneys to register for appointment.

- (d) Quarterly, each circuit Article V indigent services committee shall provide a current copy of each registry to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the chief judge, the state attorney and public defender in each judicial circuit, the clerk of court in each county, the Justice Administrative Commission, and the Indigent Services Advisory Board. From October 1, 2005, through September 30, 2007, the report submitted by the Eleventh Judicial Circuit shall include the race, gender, and national origin of all attorneys listed in and appointed under the registry.
- (4) To be eligible for court appointment, an attorney must be a member in good standing of The Florida Bar, must meet in addition to any other qualifications specified by general law, and must meet any criteria established by the public defender.
- (5) The Justice Administrative Commission shall approve uniform contract forms for use in procuring the services of private court appointed counsel and uniform procedures and forms for use by a court-appointed attorney in support of billing for attorney's fees, costs, and related expenses to demonstrate the attorney's completion of specified duties.
- (6) After court appointment, the attorney must immediately file a notice of appearance with the court indicating acceptance of the appointment to represent the defendant.

(5) (7) (a) A private An attorney appointed by a public
<u>defender</u> to represent a defendant or other client is entitled to
payment for services pursuant to s. 27.5304, only upon full
performance by the attorney of specified duties, adherence to
any billing procedures specified in the contract by the public
defender, submission of all documentation required by the
contract, approval of payment by the public defender, court,
except for payment based on a flat fee per case as provided in
s. 27.5304; and attorney submission of a payment request to the
Justice Administrative Commission within 60 days following
completion of the work unless otherwise specified in the
<pre>contract. Upon being permitted to withdraw from a case, a court-</pre>
appointed attorney shall submit a copy of the order to the
Justice Administrative Commission at the time it is issued by
the court. If a private an attorney is permitted to withdraw or
is otherwise removed from representation prior to full
performance of the duties specified in this section for reasons
other than breach of duty, the <u>public defender</u> trial court shall
approve payment of attorney's fees and costs for work performed
as provided in the contract in an amount not to exceed the
amounts specified in s. 27.5304. Withdrawal from a case prior to
full performance of the duties specified shall create a
rebuttable presumption that the attorney is not entitled to the
entire flat fee for those cases paid on a flat-fee-per-case
basis.

(6) (b) A private The attorney shall maintain appropriate documentation, including a current and detailed hourly accounting of time spent representing the defendant or other 428497

client. These records and documents are subject to review by the public defender and the Justice Administrative Commission,
subject to the attorney-client privilege and work product privilege. Subject to the attorney-client privilege, these records and documents shall be made available to the Governor,
the Legislature, and the general public upon request.

(7)(8) Subject to the attorney-client privilege and the work-product privilege, a private an attorney who withdraws or is removed from representation shall deliver all files, notes, documents, and research to a the successor attorney within 15 days after receiving notice from the successor attorney designated by the public defender. The successor attorney shall bear the cost of transmitting all files, notes, documents, and research.

(8)(9) A circuit Article V indigent services committee or Any interested person may advise the <u>public defender court</u> of any circumstance affecting the quality of representation, including, but not limited to, false or fraudulent billing, misconduct, failure to meet continuing legal education requirements, solicitation to receive compensation from the defendant or other client <u>a private the</u> attorney is appointed to represent, or failure to file appropriate motions in a timely manner.

(9) (10) This section does not apply to attorneys appointed to represent persons in postconviction capital collateral cases pursuant to part IV of this chapter.

Section 2. Section 27.42, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 3. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 27.51,

Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (7) is added to

that section, to read:

- 27.51 Duties of public defender.--
- (1) The public defender shall represent, <u>or secure</u>

 <u>representation for,</u> without additional compensation, any person determined to be indigent under s. 27.52 and:
 - (a) Under arrest for, or charged with, a felony;
 - (b) Under arrest for, or charged with:
- A misdemeanor authorized for prosecution by the state attorney;
 - 2. A violation of chapter 316 punishable by imprisonment;
 - 3. Criminal contempt; or
- 4. A violation of a special law or county or municipal ordinance ancillary to a state charge, or if not ancillary to a state charge, only if the public defender contracts with the county or municipality to provide representation pursuant to ss. 27.54 and 125.69.

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The public defender shall not provide representation pursuant to this paragraph if the court, prior to trial, files in the cause an order of no imprisonment as provided in s. 27.512;

- (c) Alleged to be a delinquent child pursuant to a petition filed before a circuit court;
- (d) Sought by petition filed in such court to be involuntarily placed as a mentally ill person under part I of chapter 394, involuntarily committed as a sexually violent predator under part V of chapter 394, or involuntarily admitted 428497

to residential services as a person with developmental
disabilities under chapter 393. A public defender shall not
represent any plaintiff in a civil action brought under the
Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure, or the federal statutes, or represent a petitioner in
a rule challenge under chapter 120, unless specifically
authorized by statute;

- (e) The parent of a child involved in shelter hearings and termination of parental rights proceedings as specifically authorized under parts V and XI of chapter 39;
- (f) Alleged to be infected with a sexually transmitted disease and for whom isolation, hospitalization, or confinement is sought pursuant to chapter 384;
- (g) A minor who petitions the court for waiver of parental notification under s. 390.01114;
- (h) Alleged to be infected with active tuberculosis and for whom isolation, hospitalization, or confinement is sought pursuant to chapter 392;
- (i) Alleged to be substance-abuse impaired and for whom involuntary assessment, stabilization, or treatment is sought pursuant to chapter 397;
- (j) Alleged to be a vulnerable adult in need of protective services pursuant to s. 415.1051;
- (k) Alleged to be incapacitated and for whom an involuntary guardianship is sought pursuant to chapter 744;
- 235 (1) A person for whom involuntary commitment is sought
 236 subsequent to an acquittal by reason of insanity pursuant to s.

237 916.15;

- (m) A parent of a child alleged to be in need of services or as a child alleged to be in contempt under chapter 984;
- $\underline{\text{(n)}}$ (e) Convicted and sentenced to death, for purposes of handling an appeal to the Supreme Court; or
- $\underline{\text{(o)}}$ (f) Is appealing a matter in a case arising under paragraphs (a)-(n) $\underline{\text{(a)}}$ (d).
- (2) The court may not appoint the public defender may not be appointed to represent, even on a temporary basis, any person who is not indigent. The court, however, may appoint private counsel in capital cases as provided in ss. 27.40 and 27.5303.
- Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 27.512, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 27.512 Order of no imprisonment.--
- (1) In each case set forth in s. 27.51(1)(b), in which the court determines that it will not sentence the defendant to imprisonment if convicted, the court shall issue an order of no imprisonment and the court may not appoint the public defender may not be appointed to represent the defendant. If the court issues an order of no imprisonment following the appointment of the public defender, the court shall immediately terminate the public defender's services. However, if at any time the court withdraws the order of no imprisonment with respect to an indigent defendant, the court shall appoint the public defender to represent the defendant.
- Section 5. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection (2), subsection (3), paragraph (b) of subsection (4), subsections (5) and (6), and paragraph (a) of

subsection (7) of section 27.52, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 27.52 Determination of indigent status. --
- (1) APPLICATION TO THE CLERK.--A person seeking appointment of a public defender under s. 27.51 based upon an inability to pay must apply to the clerk of the court for a determination of indigent status using an application form developed by the Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation with final approval by the Supreme Court.
- (b) An applicant shall pay a \$40 application fee to the clerk for each application for <u>appointed</u> court appointed counsel filed. The applicant shall pay the fee within 7 days after submitting the application. If the applicant does not pay the fee prior to the disposition of the case, the clerk shall notify the court, and the court shall:
- 1. Assess the application fee as part of the sentence or as a condition of probation; or
 - 2. Assess the application fee pursuant to s. 938.29.
- (d) All application fees collected by the clerk under this section shall be transferred monthly by the clerk to the Department of Revenue for deposit in the Indigent Services

 Criminal Defense Trust Fund administered by the Justice

 Administrative Commission, to be used to as appropriated by the Legislature. The clerk may retain 2 percent of application fees collected monthly for administrative costs prior to remitting the remainder to the Department of Revenue.
- (2) DETERMINATION BY THE CLERK.--The clerk of the court shall determine whether an applicant seeking appointment of a 428497

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public defender is indigent based upon the information provided 293 in the application and the criteria prescribed in this 295 subsection.

- (c) 1. If the clerk determines that the applicant is indigent, the clerk shall submit the determination to the office of the public defender and immediately file the determination in the case file.
- 2. If the public defender is unable to provide representation due to a conflict pursuant to s. 27.5303, the public defender shall move the court for withdrawal from representation and appointment of private counsel.
- APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL ON INTERIM BASIS. -- If the clerk of the court has not made a determination of indigent status at the time a person requests appointment of a public defender, the court shall make a preliminary determination of indigent status, pending further review by the clerk, and may, by court order, appoint the a public defender or private counsel on an interim basis.
 - REVIEW OF CLERK'S DETERMINATION. --
- Based upon its review, the court shall make one of the following determinations and, if the applicant is indigent, shall appoint the a public defender or, if appropriate, private counsel:
 - The applicant is not indigent.
 - The applicant is indigent. 2.
- 318 INDIGENT FOR COSTS. -- No funds appropriated to the (5) public defender or the Justice Administrative Commission shall 319 320 be expended for costs incurred by privately retained counsel or 428497

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321	a pro se litigant or defendant except as specifically authorized
322	by this chapter and the public defender. A person who is
323	eligible to be represented by a public defender under s. 27.51
324	but who is represented by private counsel not appointed by the
325	court for a reasonable fee as approved by the court, on a pro
326	bono basis, or who is proceeding pro se, may move the court for
327	a determination that he or she is indigent for costs and
328	eligible for the provision of due process services, as
329	prescribed by ss. 29.006 and 29.007, funded by the state.
330	(a) The person must submit to the court:
331	1. The completed application prescribed in subsection (1).
332	2. In the case of a person represented by counsel, an
333	affidavit attesting to the estimated amount of attorney's fees
334	and the source of payment for these fees.
335	(b) In reviewing the motion, the court shall consider:
336	1. Whether the applicant applied for a determination of
337	indigent status under subsection (1) and the outcome of such
338	application.
339	2. The extent to which the person's income equals or
340	exceeds the income criteria prescribed in subsection (2).
341	3. The additional factors prescribed in subsection (4).
342	4. Whether the applicant is proceeding pro se.
343	5. When the applicant retained private counsel.
344	6. The amount of any attorney's fees and who is paying the
345	fees.
346	(c) Based upon its review, the court shall make one of the
347	following determinations:
348	1. The applicant is not indigent for costs.

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- 2. The applicant is indigent for costs.
- (d) The provision of due process services based upon a determination that a person is indigent for costs under this subsection must be effectuated pursuant to a court order, a copy of which the clerk shall provide to counsel representing the person, or to the person directly if he or she is proceeding prose, for use in requesting payment of due process expenses through the Justice Administrative Commission. Counsel representing a person declared indigent for costs shall execute the Justice Administrative Commission's contract for counsel representing persons determined to be indigent for costs.
- DUTIES OF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN. -- A nonindigent parent or legal quardian of an applicant who is a minor or an adult tax-dependent person shall furnish the minor or adult taxdependent person with the necessary legal services and costs incident to a delinquency proceeding or, upon transfer of such person for criminal prosecution as an adult pursuant to chapter 985, a criminal prosecution in which the person has a right to legal counsel under the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the State of Florida. The failure of a parent or legal guardian to furnish legal services and costs under this section does not bar the appointment of legal counsel pursuant to this section, s. 27.40, or s. 27.5303. When the public defender, a private court appointed conflict counsel, or a private attorney is appointed to represent a minor or an adult tax-dependent person in any proceeding in circuit court or in a criminal proceeding in any other court, the parents or the legal guardian shall be liable for payment of the fees, charges, and 428497

costs of the representation even if the person is a minor being tried as an adult. Liability for the fees, charges, and costs of the representation shall be imposed in the form of a lien against the property of the nonindigent parents or legal guardian of the minor or adult tax-dependent person. The lien is enforceable as provided in s. 27.561 or s. 938.29.

- (7) FINANCIAL DISCREPANCIES; FRAUD; FALSE INFORMATION. --
- (a) If the court learns of discrepancies between the application or motion and the actual financial status of the person found to be indigent or indigent for costs, the court shall determine whether the public defender or private attorney shall continue representation or whether the authorization for any other due process services previously authorized shall be revoked. The person may be heard regarding the information learned by the court. If the court, based on the information, determines that the person is not indigent or indigent for costs, the court shall order the public defender or private attorney to discontinue representation and revoke the provision of any other authorized due process services.

Section 6. Section 27.525, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.525 Indigent Services Criminal Defense Trust Fund.--The Indigent Services Criminal Defense Trust Fund is hereby created, to be administered by the Justice Administrative Commission. Funds shall be credited to the trust fund as provided in s. 27.52, to be used exclusively for indigent services in each circuit in accordance with this part the purposes set forth therein. The Justice Administrative Commission shall account for 428497

these funds on a circuit basis, and appropriations from the fund shall be proportional to each circuit's collections.

Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 27.53, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 27.53 Appointment of assistants and other staff; method of payment.--
- (1) (a) The public defender of each judicial circuit is authorized to employ and establish, in such numbers as authorized by the General Appropriations Act, assistant public defenders and other staff and personnel pursuant to s. 29.006, who shall be paid from funds appropriated for that purpose.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 790.01, s. 790.02, or s. 790.25(2)(a), an investigator employed by a public defender, while actually carrying out official duties, is authorized to carry concealed weapons if the investigator complies with s. 790.25(3)(o). However, such investigators are not eligible for membership in the Special Risk Class of the Florida Retirement System. Each investigator employed by a public defender shall have full authority to serve any witness subpoena or court order issued, by any court or judge within any judicial circuit served by the public defender, in a criminal case in which the public defender has been appointed.
- (c) The public defenders of all judicial circuits shall jointly develop a coordinated classification and pay plan which shall be submitted on or before January 1 of each year to the Justice Administrative Commission, the office of the President of the Senate, and the office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Such plan shall be developed in accordance with 428497

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policies and procedures of the Executive Office of the Governor established in s. 216.181.

(d) Each assistant public defender appointed by a public defender under this section shall serve at the pleasure of the public defender. Each investigator employed by a public defender shall have full authority to serve any witness subpoena or court order issued, by any court or judge within the judicial circuit served by such public defender, in a criminal case in which such public defender has been appointed to represent the accused.

Section 8. Section 27.5303, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.5303 Public defenders; conflict of interest.--

(1)(a) If, at any time during the representation of two or more clients defendants, a public defender determines that the interests of those clients accused are so adverse or hostile that they cannot all be counseled by members of the public defender or his or her staff practicing within a single unit of his or her office without conflict of interest, or that none can be counseled by the public defender or his or her staff because of a conflict of interest, then the public defender shall file a notice of conflict and intent to reassign to the conflict unit of his or her office file a motion to withdraw and move the court to appoint other counsel. If requested by the Justice Administrative Commission, the public defender shall submit a copy of the motion to the Justice Administrative Commission at the time it is filed with the court. The Justice Administrative Commission shall have standing to appear before the court to contest any motion to withdraw due to a conflict of interest. 428497

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The Justice Administrative Commission may contract with other public or private entities or individuals to appear before the court for the purpose of contesting any motion to withdraw due to a conflict of interest. The court may shall review the notice and may inquire or conduct a hearing into the adequacy of the public defender's representations regarding a conflict of interest without requiring the disclosure of any confidential communications. The court shall enter an order denying reassignment by the public defender deny the motion to withdraw if the court finds the grounds for withdrawal are insufficient or the asserted conflict is not prejudicial to a the indigent client of the public defender. Five days following the hearing if a hearing is held, or, if no hearing is held, 5 days following the filing of the notice, if no order of denial has been entered by the court, the public defender shall reassign one or more of the clients to the conflict unit of his or her office. If the court grants the motion to withdraw, the court shall appoint one or more attorneys to represent the accused.

appropriate public defender appoint such other counsel when the facts developed upon the face of the record and court files in the case disclose a conflict of interest. The court shall advise the appropriate public defender and clerk of court, in writing, specifically stating with a copy to the Justice Administrative Commission, if so requested by the Justice Administrative Commission, when making the motion and appointing one or more attorneys to represent the accused. The court shall specify the basis for the conflict. Upon receipt of such notice, the public 428497

- defender shall determine if a conflict of interest exists and, if necessary, reassign one or more of the clients to the conflict unit of his or her office.
- (c) In no case shall the court approve a withdrawal by the public defender based solely upon inadequacy of funding or excess workload of the public defender.
- (c) (d) In determining whether or not there is a conflict of interest, the public defender shall apply the standards contained in the Uniform Standards for Use in Conflict of Interest Cases found in appendix C to the Final Report of the Article V Indigent Services Advisory Board dated January 6, 2004.
- (2) The court shall appoint conflict counsel pursuant to s. 27.40. The appointed attorney may not be affiliated with the public defender or any assistant public defender in his or her official capacity or any other private attorney appointed to represent a codefendant. The public defender may not participate in case-related decisions, performance evaluations, or expense determinations in conflict cases.
- (3) Private court appointed counsel shall be compensated as provided in s. 27.5304.
- (4) (a) If a defendant is convicted and the death sentence is imposed, the appointed attorney shall continue representation through appeal to the Supreme Court. The attorney shall be compensated as provided in s. 27.5304. If the attorney first appointed is unable to handle the appeal, the court shall appoint another attorney and that attorney shall be compensated as provided in s. 27.5304.

- (2) (b) The public defender or an attorney appointed pursuant to this section may be appointed by the court rendering the judgment imposing the death penalty to represent an indigent defendant who has applied for executive clemency as relief from the execution of the judgment imposing the death penalty.
- (c) When the appointed attorney in a capital case has completed the duties imposed by this section, the attorney shall file a written report in the trial court stating the duties performed by the attorney and apply for discharge.
- Section 9. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (11) is added to section 27.5304, Florida Statutes, and, effective August 1, 2007, subsections (1) through (10) of that section are amended, to read:
- 27.5304 <u>Limits on appointed</u> Private court appointed counsel; compensation.--
- defender under this part shall be compensated by the Justice Administrative Commission from the budget allocated to the public defender appointing the counsel in an amount not to exceed the contract between the public defender and the attorney or the fee limits established in this section, whichever is lower. The attorney may also shall be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses in accordance with s. 29.007, subject to limits in the contract between the public defender and the attorney. In no event may payment be made to a private attorney if such payment would exceed the public defender's approved operating budget. If the attorney is representing a defendant charged with more than one offense in the same case, the 428497

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attorney shall be compensated at the rate provided for the most serious offense for which he or she represented the defendant. This section does not allow stacking of the fee limits established by this section. Private court appointed counsel providing representation under an alternative model shall enter into a uniform contract with the Justice Administrative Commission and shall use the Justice Administrative Commission's uniform procedures and forms in support of billing for attorney's fees, costs, and related expenses. Failure to comply with the terms of the contract for services may result in termination of the contract.

The public defender Justice Administrative Commission shall review an intended billing by private court-appointed counsel for attorney's fees or costs and shall not approve any fee or cost not authorized by the contract or that is excessive. If any appointed attorney has been found by a court to have provided ineffective assistance of counsel in any appointed case, and that judgment is final and not subject to further appeal, the appointed attorney shall not be entitled to payment of costs and fees for the case, shall repay all costs and fees already paid for the representation, shall reimburse the public defender for the cost of replacement counsel at all subsequent hearings or trials, and may be subject to a malpractice action by the client pursuant to law. based on a flat fee per case for completeness and compliance with contractual, statutory, and circuit Article V indigent services committee requirements. The commission may approve the intended bill for a flat fee per case for payment without approval by the court if the intended 428497

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billing is correct. For all other intended billings, prior to filing a motion for an order approving payment of attorney's fees, costs, or related expenses, the private court appointed counsel shall deliver a copy of the intended billing, together with supporting affidavits and all other necessary documentation, to the Justice Administrative Commission. The Justice Administrative Commission shall review the billings, affidavit, and documentation for completeness and compliance with contractual and statutory requirements. If the Justice Administrative Commission objects to any portion of the proposed billing, the objection and reasons therefor shall be communicated to the private court-appointed counsel. The private court-appointed counsel may thereafter file his or her motion for order approving payment of attorney's fees, costs, or related expenses together with supporting affidavits and all other necessary documentation. The motion must specify whether the Justice Administrative Commission objects to any portion of the billing or the sufficiency of documentation and shall attach the Justice Administrative Commission's letter stating its objection. The attorney shall have the burden to prove the entitlement to attorney's fees, costs, or related expenses. A copy of the motion and attachments shall be served on the Justice Administrative Commission at least 5 business days prior to the date of a hearing. The Justice Administrative Commission shall have standing to appear before the court to contest any motion for order approving payment of attorney's fees, costs, or related expenses and may participate in a hearing on the motion by use of telephonic or other communication equipment unless 428497

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ordered otherwise. The Justice Administrative Commission may contract with other public or private entities or individuals to appear before the court for the purpose of contesting any motion for order approving payment of attorney's fees, costs, or related expenses. The fact that the Justice Administrative Commission has not objected to any portion of the billing or to the sufficiency of the documentation is not binding on the court. The court retains primary authority and responsibility for determining the reasonableness of all billings for attorney's fees, costs, and related expenses, subject to statutory limitations. Private court appointed counsel is entitled to compensation upon final disposition of a case, except as provided in subsections (7), (8), and (10). Before final disposition of a case, a private court appointed counsel may file a motion for fees, costs, and related expenses for services completed up to the date of the motion in any case or matter in which legal services have been provided by the attorney for more than 1 year. The amount approved by the court may not exceed 80 percent of the fees earned, or costs and related expenses incurred, to date, or an amount proportionate to the maximum fees permitted under this section based on legal services provided to date, whichever is less. The court may grant the motion if counsel shows that failure to grant the motion would work a particular hardship upon counsel.

- (3) The compensation for representation in a criminal proceeding shall not exceed the following:
- (a)1. For misdemeanors and juveniles represented at the trial level: \$1,000.

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- 2. For noncapital, nonlife felonies represented at the trial level: \$2,500.
- 3. For life felonies represented at the trial level: \$3,000.
- 4. For capital cases represented at the trial level: \$3,500.
 - 5. For representation on appeal: \$2,000.
 - (b) If a death sentence is imposed and affirmed on appeal to the Supreme Court, the appointed attorney shall be allowed compensation, not to exceed \$1,000, for attorney's fees and costs incurred in representing the defendant as to an application for executive clemency, with compensation to be paid out of general revenue from funds budgeted to the Department of Corrections.
 - (4) By January 1 of each year, the Article V Indigent Services Advisory Board shall recommend to the Legislature any adjustments to the compensation provisions of this section.
 - (4)(5)(a) If counsel is entitled to receive compensation for representation pursuant to court appointment in a termination of parental rights proceeding under chapter 39, such compensation shall not exceed \$1,000 at the trial level and \$2,500 at the appellate level.
 - (5) (b) Counsel entitled to receive compensation for representation pursuant to court appointment in a proceeding under chapter 384 or chapter 392 shall receive reasonable compensation as fixed by the <u>public defender</u> court making the appointment.

- (6) A private attorney appointed in lieu of the public defender to represent an indigent defendant may not reassign or subcontract the case to another attorney or allow another attorney to appear at a critical stage of a case except as authorized by the public defender who is not on the registry developed under s. 27.40.
- (7) The public defender may authorize Private courtappointed counsel representing a parent in a dependency case that is open may submit a request for payment in to the Justice Administrative Commission at the following intervals in complex or lengthy cases.÷
- (a) Upon entry of an order of disposition as to the parent being represented.
 - (b) Upon conclusion of a 12 month permanency review.
 - (c) Following a judicial review hearing.

In no case, however, may counsel submit requests under this subsection more than once per quarter, unless the court finds extraordinary circumstances justifying more frequent submission

- (8) The General Appropriations Act may amend the general limits per case provided for in this section. Private court appointed counsel representing an individual in an appeal to a district court of appeal or the Supreme Court may submit a request for payment to the Justice Administrative Commission at the following intervals:
- (a) Upon the filing of an appellate brief, including, but not limited to, a reply brief.

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of payment requests.

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- (b) When the opinion of the appellate court is finalized.
- A public defender may, in extraordinary circumstances, approve a fee in excess of the general limits per case provided for in this section. Extraordinary circumstances will not, however, authorize the public defender to expend moneys in excess of the total appropriation for indigent services provided in the General Appropriations Act. The public defenders of the state shall jointly establish criteria for determining what are extraordinary circumstances under this subsection. No court shall have jurisdiction to determine what are extraordinary circumstances under this subsection, nor shall any court order that a public defender find that such extraordinary circumstances exist. The question of whether a case or cases present extraordinary circumstances under this subsection is one of discretion within the limited budgetary authority of a public defender. Private court-appointed counsel may not bill for preparation of invoices whether or not the case is paid on the basis of an hourly rate or by flat fee.
 - (10) A public defender who achieves cost savings in the provision of appointed counsel services may request that up to 50 percent of the amount of savings that would otherwise revert be used instead for priorities identified by the public defender. Such requests are subject to review and approval of the Legislative Budget Commission. The Justice Administrative Commission shall develop a schedule to provide partial payment of criminal attorney fees for cases that are not resolved within 6 months. The schedule must provide that the aggregate payments shall not exceed limits established by law. Any partial payment 428497

made pursuant to this subsection shall not exceed the actual value of services provided to date. Any partial payment shall be proportionate to the value of services provided based on payment rates included in the contract, not to exceed any limit provided by law.

(11) No indigent services committee shall authorize the payment of any compensation to a court-appointed counsel that is in excess of the fee schedules in subsections (3)-(5) or in excess of the local fee schedule adopted by such committee, whichever is lower. The Justice Administrative Commission shall not pay any invoice for compensation to a court-appointed counsel that is in excess of the fee schedules in subsections (3)-(5) or in excess of the local fee schedule adopted by the indigent services committee, whichever is lower. If any court orders payment of compensation to a private court-appointed counsel that is in excess of the fee schedules in subsections (3)-(5) or in excess of the local fee schedule adopted by the indigent services committee, whichever is lower, the amount of the compensation that is in excess of the lower fee cap shall be paid from funds appropriated to the state courts system.

Section 10. Section 27.561, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.561 Effect of nonpayment. --

(1) Whenever a recipient defendant recipient or parent of a recipient is ordered to pay attorney's fees or costs, default in the payment thereof shall be cause for finding the recipient defendant recipient or parent of a recipient in contempt of court, and the court may issue a show cause citation or a 428497

warrant of arrest for the defendant recipient's or parent's appearance.

- (2) Unless the <u>recipient</u> defendant recipient or parent of a recipient shows that default was not attributable to an intentional refusal to obey the order of the court or to a failure on his or her part to make a good faith effort to make the payment, the court may find that the default constitutes contempt and order him or her committed until the attorney's fees or costs, or a specified part thereof, are paid or may take any other action appropriate under the circumstances, including revocation of probation.
- (3) If it appears to the satisfaction of the court that the default in the payment of the attorney's fees or costs is not contempt, the court may enter an order allowing the recipient defendant-recipient or parent of a recipient additional time for, or reducing the amount of, payment or revoking the assessed attorney's fees or costs, or the unpaid portion thereof, in whole or in part.

Section 11. Section 27.562, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 27.562 Disposition of funds.--The first \$40 of all funds collected pursuant to s. 938.29 shall be deposited into the Indigent Services Criminal Defense Trust Fund pursuant to s. 27.525. The remaining funds collected pursuant to s. 938.29 shall be distributed as follows:
- (1) Twenty-five percent shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Justice

- 767 Administrative Commission's Indigent <u>Services</u> Criminal Defense 768 Trust Fund.
 - (2) Seventy-five percent shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

The Justice Administrative Commission shall account for funds deposited into the Indigent <u>Services Criminal Defense</u> Trust Fund by circuit. Appropriations from the fund shall be proportional to each circuit's collections. All judgments entered pursuant to this part shall be in the name of the state.

Section 12. Section 27.58, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.58 Administration of public defender services.--The public defender of each judicial circuit of the state shall be the chief administrator of all public defender services authorized under s. 27.51 within the circuit. The public defender of each judicial circuit shall also be the chief administrator of all indigent representation services within the circuit.

Section 13. Section 27.59, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

27.59 Access to prisoners.--The public <u>defender</u>, <u>defenders</u> and assistant public defenders, and attorneys appointed to provide indigent services by a public defender pursuant to this <u>part</u> shall be empowered to inquire of all persons who are incarcerated in lieu of bond <u>or detained</u> and to tender them advice and counsel at any time., but The provisions of this

section shall not apply with respect to persons who have engaged private counsel.

Section 14. Section 27.7001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 27.7001 Legislative intent and findings .--
- (1)(a) It is the intent of the Legislature to create part IV of this chapter, consisting of ss. 27.7001-27.711, inclusive, to provide for the collateral representation of any person convicted and sentenced to death in this state, so that collateral legal proceedings to challenge any Florida capital conviction and sentence may be commenced in a timely manner and so as to assure the people of this state that the judgments of its courts may be regarded with the finality to which they are entitled in the interests of justice.
- (b) It is the further intent of the Legislature that collateral representation shall not include representation during retrials, resentencings, proceedings commenced under chapter 940, or civil litigation.
 - (2) The Legislature finds that:
- (a) Under Florida and federal law, a defendant has no constitutional right to counsel in postconviction proceedings.

 Notwithstanding this lack of a constitutional right, the Legislature has created by statute a qualified right for capital defendants to postconviction counsel at specified rates for certain services.
- (b) Attorneys who participate in the attorney registry to offer their services are not required to accept an appointment

and are free to decline an appointment if they find the statutory fee schedule insufficient.

- (c) The Florida Supreme Court in Olive v. Maas, 811 So.2d 644 (Fla. 2002) has allowed registry attorneys to seek, and authorized trial courts to grant, compensation in excess of the statutory fee schedule notwithstanding the terms of each attorney's contract, notwithstanding statutory requirements, and notwithstanding that the Legislature contemplated the nature of postconviction representation in all capital cases in the development of the statutory fee schedule.
- Section 15. Subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 27.7002, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 27.7002 Limitation on collateral representation; lawyer disqualification; use of state funds for excess fees not authorized.--
- (5) The use of state funds for compensation of counsel appointed pursuant to s. 27.710 above the amounts set forth in s. 27.711 is not authorized <u>unless ordered by the court pursuant</u> to s. 27.7003.
- (6) The executive director of the Commission on Capital Cases is authorized to permanently remove from the registry of attorneys provided in ss. 27.710 and 27.711 any attorney who seeks compensation for services above the amounts provided in s. 27.711.
- (6) (7) Any attorney who notifies any court, judge, state attorney, the Attorney General, or the executive director of the Commission on Capital Cases, prior to signing the contract required under s. 27.710, determines that he or she cannot 428497

provide adequate or proper representation under the terms and conditions set forth in s. 27.711 <u>must immediately notify the appropriate trial court and decline the appointment for which the contract was offered shall be permanently disqualified from any attorney registry created under this chapter unless good cause arises after a change in circumstances.</u>

Section 16. Section 27.7003, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 27.7003 Authorization for fees and costs for attorneys exceeding those provided in s. 27.711.--
- (1) This section governs the determination of whether the use of state funds for compensation of counsel requesting fees or reimbursement of expenses in excess of the amounts set forth in s. 27.711 is authorized.
- (2) The use of state funds for compensation of counsel in amounts greater than the amounts provided in s. 27.711(4)(b)(h), (5), and (6) is authorized as provided in subsection (4)
 only when the attorney requesting additional compensation proves in an evidentiary hearing by clear and convincing evidence that the services for which additional compensation is sought were due to additional work that was unforeseeable by a reasonable attorney exercising due diligence at the time the contract was signed. Additional work is unforeseeable only when all of the following conditions are met:
- (a) The additional work was necessary due to an unanticipated change in circumstances that occurred after the signing of the contract.

- (b) The change in circumstances was extraordinary and unusual when compared to other capital cases in the postconviction stage of proceedings.
- (c) The additional work was for the purpose of raising a meritorious claim in a timely manner that could not have been raised but for the unanticipated change in circumstances described in paragraph (a) and not for the purpose of raising any claim that was procedurally barred, that was not supported by the law or facts of the case, or that was otherwise frivolous or successive.
- (d) The additional work claimed is not due to counsel's failure to adequately review the case record in advance of signing the contract or due to counsel's failure to remain apprised of current developments in the law.
- (3) (a) Any motion for additional compensation that fails to state specific facts describing how the additional work was necessary due to an unanticipated change in circumstances occurring after the signing of the contract shall be summarily dismissed without prejudice.
- (b) In determining whether the required showing in subsection (2) has been made, the court may, to the extent possible, compare the case in which the registry counsel seeks additional compensation to other similar capital cases in the postconviction stage of proceedings. If the court grants the motion for additional compensation, it shall issue a written order setting forth its findings and reasons along with an explanation of how the amount of additional compensation was

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calculated. An order granting additional compensation may be appealed by the state.

905 (4) The use of state funds for compensation above the amounts provided in s. 27.711(4)(b)-(h), (5), and (6) is 906 authorized upon the filing of the court order granting 907 additional compensation with the clerk of the court. The amount 908 909 of additional compensation authorized in this section shall be 910 calculated using the statutory maximum amounts as the starting 911 point with additional compensation determined using the rate per 912 hour provided in s. 27.711 for the applicable service. The amount of additional compensation ordered shall be no more than 913 the court determines is necessary to avoid confiscation of the 914 registry counsel's time, energy and talent for his or her 915 unforeseeable additional work but in no event shall the amount 916 917 of additional compensation exceed 30 percent of the statutory maximum amount authorized under s. 27.711 for the specific 918 919 service for which additional compensation was granted. In the 920 same way as the statutory maximum amounts provided in s. 27.711 restrict the number of hours for which compensation is authorized for each service at the specified rate, it is not 922 923 necessary that additional compensation be ordered for every hour 924 of unforeseeable additional work claimed. In determining an 925 amount of additional compensation needed to avoid confiscation of a registry counsel's time, energy , and talent, the court may 926 927 consider whether the additional work resulted in registry 928 counsel pursuing a meritorious claim that could not have 929 otherwise been raised and how the quantity and quality of the additional work proportionally compares with the quantity and 930 428497

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- 931 quality of work that is within the scope of expected performance under the registry contract and the terms of s. 27.711.
 - The Chief Financial Officer shall represent the state in proceedings for additional compensation provided in this section.
 - This section shall not be construed to authorize (6) compensation for services or expenses not specified in s. 27.711(4), (5), or (6).
 - Section 17. Subsections (2), (3), (4), and (12) of section 27.711, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 27.711 Terms and conditions of appointment of attorneys as counsel in postconviction capital collateral proceedings .--
 - After appointment by the trial court under s. 27.710, the attorney must, within 30 days, sign the contract required under s. 27.710 and immediately file a notice of appearance with the trial court indicating acceptance of the appointment to represent the capital defendant throughout all postconviction capital collateral proceedings, including federal habeas corpus proceedings, in accordance with this section or until released by order of the trial court.
 - An attorney appointed to represent a capital defendant is entitled to payment of the fees set forth in this section or s. 27.7003 only upon full performance by the attorney of the duties specified in this section and approval of payment by the trial court, and the submission of a payment request by the attorney, subject to the availability of sufficient funding specifically appropriated for this purpose. An attorney may not be compensated under this section for work performed by the 428497

959 attorney before July 1, 2003, while employed by the northern regional office of the capital collateral counsel. The Chief 960 961 Financial Officer shall notify the executive director and the 962 court if it appears that sufficient funding has not been 963 specifically appropriated for this purpose to pay any fees which may be incurred. The attorney shall maintain appropriate 964 965 documentation, including a current and detailed hourly accounting of time spent representing the capital defendant. The 966 fee and payment schedule in this section is the exclusive means 967 968 of compensating a court-appointed attorney who represents a 969 capital defendant. An attorney seeking additional compensation for fees or reimbursement for expenses in excess of the amounts 970 provided in paragraphs (4)(b)-(h), subsection (5), or subsection 971 (6) must satisfy the requirements of s. 27.7003. When 972 973 appropriate, a court-appointed attorney must seek further compensation from the Federal Government, as provided in 18 974 975 U.S.C. s. 3006A or other federal law, in habeas corpus 976 litigation in the federal courts.

- (4) Upon approval by the trial court, an attorney appointed to represent a capital defendant under s. 27.710 is entitled to payment of the following fees by the Chief Financial Officer:
- (a) Regardless of the stage of postconviction capital collateral proceedings, the attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$2,500, after signing the contract required under s. 27.710, accepting the appointment, and filing a notice of appearance.

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- (b) The attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$20,000, after timely filing in the trial court the capital defendant's complete original motion for postconviction relief under the Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure. The motion must raise all issues to be addressed by the trial court. However, an attorney is entitled to fees under this paragraph if the court schedules a hearing on a matter that makes the filing of the original motion for postconviction relief unnecessary or if the court otherwise disposes of the case.
- (c) The attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$20,000, after the trial court issues a final order granting or denying the capital defendant's motion for postconviction relief.
- (d) The attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$20,000, after timely filing in the Supreme Court the capital defendant's brief or briefs that address the trial court's final order granting or denying the capital defendant's motion for postconviction relief and the state petition for writ of habeas corpus.
- (e) The attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$10,000, after the trial court issues an order, pursuant to a remand from the Supreme Court, which directs the trial court to hold further proceedings on the capital defendant's motion for postconviction relief.
- (f) The attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$4,000, after the appeal of the trial court's denial of the capital defendant's motion for postconviction relief and

the capital defendant's state petition for writ of habeas corpus become final in the Supreme Court.

- (g) At the conclusion of the capital defendant's postconviction capital collateral proceedings in state court, the attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$2,500, after filing a petition for writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court of the United States.
- (h) If, at any time, a death warrant is issued, the attorney is entitled to \$100 per hour, up to a maximum of \$5,000. This payment shall be full compensation for attorney's fees and costs for representing the capital defendant throughout the proceedings before the state courts of Florida.

The hours billed by a contracting attorney under this subsection may include time devoted to representation of the defendant by another attorney who is qualified under s. 27.710 and who has been designated by the contracting attorney to assist him or her.

(12) The court shall monitor the performance of assigned counsel to ensure that the capital defendant is receiving quality representation. The court shall also receive and evaluate allegations that are made regarding the performance of assigned counsel. The Chief Financial Officer, the Department of Legal Affairs, the executive director, or any interested person may advise the court of any circumstance that could affect the quality of representation, including, but not limited to, false or fraudulent billing, misconduct, failure to meet continuing legal education requirements, solicitation to receive

compensation from the capital defendant, or failure to file appropriate motions in a timely manner, or assertion of claims that are not supported by the law or the facts of the case.

Section 18. Section 29.007, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 29.007 Court-appointed counsel.--For purposes of implementing s. 14, Art. V of the State Constitution, the elements of court-appointed counsel to be provided from state revenues appropriated by general law are as follows:
- (1) Private attorneys appointed by the <u>public defender</u> court to handle cases where the defendant is indigent and cannot be represented by the public defender under <u>s. ss. 27.42 and</u> 27.53.
- (2) Private attorneys appointed by the <u>public defender</u> court to represent indigents or other classes of litigants in civil proceedings requiring <u>appointed</u> court-appointed counsel in accordance with state and federal constitutional guarantees and federal and state statutes.
- (3) Reasonable court reporting and transcription services necessary to meet constitutional or statutory requirements, including the cost of transcribing and copying depositions of witnesses and the cost of foreign language and sign-language interpreters and translators.
- (4) Witnesses, including expert witnesses, summoned to appear for an investigation, preliminary hearing, or trial in a case when the witnesses are summoned on behalf of an indigent, and any other expert witnesses approved by the court.

- (5) Mental health professionals appointed pursuant to s. 394.473 and required in a court hearing involving an indigent, mental health professionals appointed pursuant to s. 916.115(2) and required in a court hearing involving an indigent, and any other mental health professionals required by law for the full adjudication of any civil case involving an indigent person.
 - (6) Reasonable pretrial consultation fees and costs.
- (7) Travel expenses reimbursable under s. 112.061 reasonably necessary in the performance of constitutional and statutory responsibilities.

Subsections (3), (4), (5), (6), and (7) apply when courtappointed counsel is appointed; when the court determines that
the litigant is indigent for costs; or when the litigant is
acting pro se and the court determines that the litigant is
indigent for costs at the trial or appellate level. This section
applies in any situation in which the court appoints counsel to
protect a litigant's due process rights. The Justice
Administrative Commission shall approve uniform contract forms
for use in processing payments for due process services under
this section. In each case in which a private attorney
represents a person determined by the court to be indigent for
costs, the attorney shall execute the commission's contract for
private attorneys representing persons determined to be indigent
for costs.

Section 19. Section 29.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 29.015 Contingency fund; limitation of authority to transfer funds in contracted due process services appropriation categories.--
- Appropriations Act in the state courts system Justice

 Administrative Commission to be used solely serve as a contingency fund for the purpose of alleviating deficits in contracted due process services appropriation categories, including private appointed court appointed counsel appropriation categories, when the trial court determines, that may occur from time to time due to extraordinary events or circumstances of a case have led that lead to unexpected expenditures and that the public defender does not have the ability to accommodate the unexpected expenditure from within his or her operating budget.
- (b) A peer review committee of at least three judges or their designees, each from a different circuit, appointed by the chief judge of the circuit in which the case was tried, must review and approve each expenditure from the contingency fund established under paragraph (a). The judge who presided over the trial and the chief judge of the affected circuit may not be on the peer review committee. The public defender of the circuit in which the case was tried must provide to the peer review committee all documentation provided to the trial court that made the determination pursuant to paragraph (a) and any other information requested by the peer review committee.
- (2) In the event that a state attorney or public defender incurs a deficit in a contracted due process services 428497

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appropriation category, the following steps shall be taken in order:

- (a) The state attorney or public defender shall first attempt to identify surplus funds from other appropriation categories within his or her office and submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216 to transfer funds from within the office.
- (b) In the event that the state attorney or public defender is unable to identify surplus funds from within his or her office, he or she shall certify this to the Justice Administrative Commission along with a complete explanation of the circumstances which led to the deficit and steps the office has taken to reduce or alleviate the deficit. The Justice Administrative Commission shall inquire as to whether any other office has surplus funds in its contracted due process services appropriation categories which can be transferred to the office that is experiencing the deficit. If other offices indicate that surplus funds are available within the same appropriation category, the Justice Administrative Commission shall transfer the amount needed to fund the deficit and notify the Governor and the chair and vice chair of the Legislative Budget Commission 14 days prior to a transfer pursuant to the notice, review, and objection provisions of s. 216.177. If funds appropriated for this purpose are available in a different budget entity, the Justice Administrative Commission shall request a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216.
 - (c) If no office indicates that surplus funds are available to alleviate the deficit, the Justice Administrative 428497

Commission may request a budget amendment to transfer funds from the contingency fund. Such transfers shall be in accordance with all applicable provisions of chapter 216 and shall be subject to review and approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. The Justice Administrative Commission shall submit the documentation provided by the office explaining the circumstances that led to the deficit and the steps taken by the office and the Justice Administrative Commission to identify surplus funds to the Legislative Budget Commission.

- (3) In the event that there is a deficit in a statewide contracted due process services appropriation category provided for private court-appointed counsel necessary due to withdrawal of the public defender due to an ethical conflict, the following steps shall be taken in order:
- (a) The Justice Administrative Commission shall first attempt to identify surplus funds from other contracted due process services appropriation categories within the Justice Administrative Commission and submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216 to transfer funds from within the commission.
- (b) In the event that the Justice Administrative
 Commission is unable to identify surplus funds from within the
 commission, the commission shall inquire of each of the public
 defenders as to whether any office has surplus funds in its
 contracted due process services appropriations categories which
 can be transferred. If any public defender office or offices
 indicate that surplus funds are available, the Justice
 Administrative Commission shall request a budget amendment to

transfer funds from the office or offices to alleviate the deficit upon agreement of the contributing office or offices.

- (c) If no public defender office has surplus funds available to alleviate the deficit, the Justice Administrative Commission may request a budget amendment to transfer funds from the contingency fund. Such transfers shall be in accordance with all applicable provisions of chapter 216 and shall be subject to review and approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. The Justice Administrative Commission shall submit the documentation provided by the office explaining the circumstances that led to the deficit and the steps taken by the Justice Administrative Commission to identify surplus funds to the Legislative Budget Commission.
- (4) In the event that there is a deficit in a statewide appropriation category provided for private court-appointed counsel other than for conflict counsel as described in subsection (3), the following steps shall be taken in order:
- (a) The Justice Administrative Commission shall first attempt to identify surplus funds from other contracted due process services appropriation categories within the Justice Administrative Commission and submit a budget amendment pursuant to chapter 216 to transfer funds from within the commission.
- (b) In the event that the Justice Administrative
 Commission is unable to identify surplus funds from within the
 commission, the commission may submit a budget amendment to
 transfer funds from the contingency fund. Such transfers shall
 be in accordance with all applicable provisions of chapter 216
 and shall be subject to review and approval by the Legislative
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Budget Commission. The Justice Administrative Commission shall submit documentation explaining the circumstances that led to the deficit and the steps taken to identify surplus funds to the Legislative Budget Commission.

(3)(5) Notwithstanding any provisions in chapter 216 to the contrary, no office shall transfer funds from a contracted due process services appropriation category or from a contingency fund category authorized in this section except as specifically authorized in this section. In addition, funds shall not be transferred from a state attorney office to alleviate a deficit in a public defender office and funds shall not be transferred from a public defender office to alleviate a deficit in a state attorney office.

Section 20. Section 29.018, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

29.018 Cost sharing of due-process services; legislative intent.--It is the intent of the Legislature to provide state-funded due-process services to the state courts system, state attorneys, public defenders, and appointed court appointed counsel in the most cost-effective and efficient manner. The state courts system, state attorneys, and public defenders, and the Justice Administrative Commission on behalf of court appointed counsel may enter into contractual agreements to share, on a pro rata basis, the costs associated with court reporting services, court interpreter and translation services, court experts, and all other due-process services funded by the state pursuant to this chapter. These costs shall be budgeted

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within the funds appropriated to each of the affected users of services.

Section 21. Section 29.0185, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

29.0185 Provision of state-funded due process services to individuals; limitations on certain payments. -- Due process services may not be provided with state revenues to an individual unless the individual on whose behalf the due process services are being provided is eligible for appointed courtappointed counsel under s. 27.40, based upon a determination of indigency under s. 27.52. The Justice Administrative Commission shall only make payment for appointed counsel and other due process services authorized by a state attorney or public defender. The state courts system shall be responsible for the portion of any payment ordered that is not authorized by a public defender or state attorney, is in excess of payment rates established by the contract, is in excess of limits provided for by law, or is not specifically authorized by law, regardless of whether such counsel is appointed or the individual on whose behalf the due process services are being provided is eligible for court-appointed counsel under s. 27.40 and has been determined indigent for costs pursuant to s. 27.52.

Section 22. Subsection (1) of section 39.815, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.815 Appeal.--

(1) Any child, any parent or guardian ad litem of any child, any other party to the proceeding who is affected by an order of the court, or the department may appeal to the 428497

appropriate district court of appeal within the time and in the manner prescribed by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure. The district court of appeal shall give an appeal from an order terminating parental rights priority in docketing and shall render a decision on the appeal as expeditiously as possible. Appointed counsel shall be compensated as provided in s. 27.5304(4)(5).

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 125.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.69 Penalties; enforcement by code inspectors.--

attorney appointed by the court to represent a defendant charged with a criminal violation of a special law or county ordinance not ancillary to a state charge if the defendant is indigent and otherwise entitled to court-appointed counsel under the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of the State of Florida. In these cases, the <u>public defender court</u> shall appoint counsel to represent the defendant in accordance with s. 27.40, and <u>shall order</u> the county <u>shall to pay</u> the reasonable attorney's fees, costs, and related expenses of the defense. The county may contract with the public defender of the judicial circuit in which the county is located to serve as appointed <u>court-appointed</u> counsel pursuant to s. 27.54.

Section 24. Paragraph (w) of subsection (4) of section 215.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

215.20 Certain income and certain trust funds to contribute to the General Revenue Fund.--

- (4) The income of a revenue nature deposited in the following described trust funds, by whatever name designated, is that from which the appropriations authorized by subsection (3) shall be made:
- (w) Within the Justice Administrative Commission, the Indigent Services Criminal Defense Trust Fund.

The enumeration of the foregoing moneys or trust funds shall not prohibit the applicability thereto of s. 215.24 should the Governor determine that for the reasons mentioned in s. 215.24 the money or trust funds should be exempt herefrom, as it is the purpose of this law to exempt income from its force and effect when, by the operation of this law, federal matching funds or contributions or private grants to any trust fund would be lost to the state.

Section 25. Subsection (2) of section 744.331, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

744.331 Procedures to determine incapacity.--

- (2) ATTORNEY FOR THE ALLEGED INCAPACITATED PERSON. --
- (a) When a court appoints an attorney for an alleged incapacitated person, the court must appoint an attorney who is included in the attorney registry compiled pursuant to ss. 27.40 and 27.42 by the circuit's Article V indigent services committee. Appointments must be made on a rotating basis, taking into consideration conflicts arising under this chapter.
- (a) (b) The court shall appoint an attorney for each person alleged to be incapacitated in all cases involving a petition for adjudication of incapacity. The alleged incapacitated person 428497

may substitute her or his own attorney for the attorney appointed by the court. Only if the alleged incapacitated person is found to be indigent pursuant to s. 27.52 may the public defender be appointed to represent the person or arrange for representation of the person; otherwise, any attorney appointed on behalf of the person must be paid from the assets of the alleged incapacitated person.

- (b)(c) Any attorney representing an alleged incapacitated person may not serve as guardian of the alleged incapacitated person or as counsel for the guardian of the alleged incapacitated person or the petitioner.
- (c) (d) Effective January 1, 2007, An attorney seeking to be appointed by a court for incapacity and guardianship proceedings must have completed a minimum of 8 hours of education in guardianship. A court may waive the initial training requirement for an attorney who has served as a courtappointed attorney in incapacity proceedings or as an attorney of record for guardians for not less than 3 years.
- Section 26. Section 914.11, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

 Section 27. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 938.29,

 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 938.29 Legal assistance; lien for payment of attorney's fees or costs.--
- (1)(a) A defendant determined to be guilty of a criminal act by a court or jury or through a plea of guilty or nolo contendere and who has received the assistance of the public defender's office, whether such assistance was provided by an attorney of the public defender or through a private attorney 428497

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appointed by the public defender, a special assistant public defender, or a conflict attorney shall be liable for payment of attorney's fees and costs. The court shall determine the amount of the obligation. Such costs shall include, but not be limited to, the cost of depositions; cost of transcripts of depositions, including the cost of defendant's copy, which transcripts are certified by the defendant's attorney as having served a useful purpose in the disposition of the case; investigative costs; witness fees; the cost of psychiatric examinations; or other reasonable costs specially incurred by the state and the clerk of court for the defense of the defendant in criminal prosecutions. Costs shall not include expenses inherent in providing a constitutionally quaranteed jury trial or expenditures in connection with the maintenance and operation of government agencies that must be made by the public irrespective of specific violations of law. Any costs assessed pursuant to this paragraph shall be reduced by any amount assessed against a defendant pursuant to s. 938.05.

- (b) Upon entering a judgment of conviction, the defendant shall be liable to pay the costs in full after the judgment of conviction becomes final.
- (c) The defendant shall pay the application fee under s. 27.52(1)(b) and attorney's fees and costs in full or in installments, at the time or times specified. The court may order payment of the assessed application fee and attorney's fees and costs as a condition of probation, of suspension of sentence, or of withholding the imposition of sentence. The first \$40 from attorney's fees and costs collected under this 428497

section shall be transferred monthly by the clerk to the
Department of Revenue for deposit into the Indigent Services
Trust Fund. All remaining attorney's fees and costs collected
under this section shall be deposited into the General Revenue
Fund.

- (2)(a) There is created in the name of the state a lien, enforceable as hereinafter provided, upon all the property, both real and personal, of any person who:
- 1. Has received any assistance from any public defender of the state, from any special assistant public defender, or from any appointed conflict attorney; or
- 2. Is a parent of an accused minor or an accused adult tax-dependent person who is being, or has been, represented by any public defender of the state, by any special assistant public defender, or by an appointed a conflict attorney.

Such lien constitutes a claim against the defendant-recipient or parent and his or her estate, enforceable according to law.

(b) A judgment showing the name and residence of the defendant-recipient or parent shall be recorded in the public record, without cost, by the clerk of the circuit court in the county where the defendant-recipient or parent resides and in each county in which such defendant-recipient or parent then owns or later acquires any property. Such judgments shall be enforced on behalf of the state by the clerk of the circuit court of the county in which assistance was rendered.

Section 28. (1) As to any contract for legal services pursuant to the provisions of part III of chapter 27, Florida 428497

Statutes, which contract was in existence on or before August 1, 2007, the following shall apply:

- (a) Attorneys appointed under such contracts shall complete the representation of clients assigned to them as of August 1, 2007, through completion of the case; however, no such appointment shall extend beyond June 30, 2008. As of July 1, 2008, representation of any person pursuant to part III of chapter 27, Florida Statutes, shall only be through a contract with the appropriate public defender.
- (b) The Justice Administrative Commission shall pay fees
 earned by attorneys under contracts for appointments that
 commenced prior to August 1, 2007, subject to a specific
 appropriation in the fiscal year 2007-2008 General
 Appropriations Act for payment of such representation.
- (c) All provisions of part III of chapter 27, Florida

 Statutes, as they exist prior to August 1, 2007, shall control such contracts, notwithstanding the amendment or repeal of any applicable provision by this act.
- (d) The public defender shall not be liable for fees and costs for any attorney appointed prior to August 1, 2007, except as provided in subsection (2).
- (2) If funds appropriated to the Justice Administrative Commission for payment of cases pursuant to subsection (1) are exhausted, any remaining required payments shall be made from funds appropriated to the public defender of the circuit in which the case was appointed, except that the portion of any payment in excess of payment rates established by the contract or in excess of limits provided for by law or for goods or 428497

services not specifically authorized by law shall be paid from funds appropriated to the state courts system. The state courts system and the public defender may reduce nonessential travel, other nonessential expenses, and nonessential personnel costs in order to eliminate a deficit that would otherwise result from payments required by this subsection.

(3) This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.

Section 29. On or before June 1, 2007, each public defender shall prepare a plan for his or her circuit for delivering the expanded indigent legal representation services required by this act for review and approval by the Legislative Budget Commission. The plan shall describe how services will be delivered; proposed contract terms and rates; the number of proposed state full-time equivalent positions by class, including the proposed salary for each position; and the proposed phase-in schedule. The plan shall also include a request to establish any proposed state full-time equivalent positions that may be established upon approval of the Legislative Budget Commission pursuant to the provisions of s. 216.262(1)(a), Florida Statutes. This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.

Section 30. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act, this act shall take effect August 1, 2007.

1453 ====== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========

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An act relating to legal representation for indigent persons; amending s. 27.40, F.S.; removing responsibility for appointment of attorneys for indigent persons from courts; providing for appointment of attorneys for indigent persons by public defenders; limiting expenditures; providing contract requirements; repealing s. 27.42, F.S., relating to circuit Article V indigent services committees; amending s. 27.51, F.S.; providing additional duties for public defenders related to proving attorney services in certain cases; amending s. 27.512, F.S.; specifying cases subject to orders of no imprisonment for which the public defender may not represent the defendant; amending s. 27.52, F.S.; conforming references; limiting expenditures; revising provisions relating to payment for costs of representation; amending s. 27.525, F.S.; changing the name of a trust fund; limiting uses of funds credited to the trust fund; amending s. 27.53, F.S.; providing that public defender investigators are authorized to act in any judicial circuit; amending s. 27.5303, F.S.; revising provisions relating to appointment of counsel by a public defender in conflict cases; deleting a requirement to file a specified report; amending s. 27.5304, F.S.; limiting expenditures on appointed counsel; creating financial penalties chargeable against an appointed attorney found to have provided ineffective assistance of counsel; deleting forms of billing and payment by private attorneys representing indigent persons; deleting report of the

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Article V Indigent Services Advisory Board; providing for amendment of the general limits per case in the General Appropriations Act; allowing for extraordinary payment; providing that a public defender achieving cost savings may be entitled to propose alternative use for such savings up to a specified amount; providing limits on the ability of an indigent services committee to authorize compensation in excess of specified fee schedules; requiring payment of excess compensation to be paid from the state courts system; amending ss. 27.561 and 27.562, F.S.; making conforming changes; amending s. 27.58, F.S.; providing that the public defender is the chief administrator of all indigent representation services in the public defender's circuit; amending s. 27.59, F.S.; providing that attorneys appointed by a public defender have the same access to prisoners as the public defender; amending s. 27.7001, F.S.; providing legislative findings relating to postconviction counsel for capital defendants; amending s. 27.7002, F.S.; deleting authority for the executive director of the Commission on Capital Cases to remove attorneys from the registry of attorneys under chapter 27, F.S.; requiring registry attorneys to decline acceptance of an appointment in certain circumstances and to notify the trial court; creating s. 27.7003, F.S.; providing for authorization to use state funds for additional compensation to registry counsel for additional work that was unforeseeable at the time the contract was signed under certain circumstances; providing requirements

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and conditions with respect to such authorization; providing a right for the state to appeal an order granting additional compensation; providing the method of calculating the amount of additional compensation and specifying the maximum amount of additional compensation authorized; providing that the Chief Financial Officer shall represent the state in proceedings in which additional compensation is sought; providing that no compensation is authorized for services not specified in s. 27.711, F.S.; amending s. 27.711, F.S.; revising provisions relating to terms and conditions of the appointment of registry counsel; requiring signature of contract and notice of appearance to be filed within a specified time period; requiring compliance with specified provisions when registry counsel seeks additional compensation; specifying the assertion of claims not supported by the law or facts of the case among the list of example circumstances that may affect the quality of representation that may be reported to the court; amending s. 29.007, F.S.; providing for private attorneys appointed by the public defender; deleting references to the Justice Administrative Commission; amending s. 29.015, F.S.; moving responsibility for a deficit in the contingency fund for alleviating certain deficits from the Justice Administrative Commission to the state courts system; requiring establishment of a peer review committee for review and approval of expenditures from such fund; amending s. 29.018, F.S.; making conforming changes;

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HOUSE AMENDMENT Bill No. CS/SB 1088

Amendment No.

amending s. 29.0185, F.S.; limiting expenditures for due process costs; amending ss. 39.815, 125.69, and 215.20, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending s. 744.331, F.S.; providing for appointment by the public defender of an attorney for an alleged incapacitated person; repealing s. 914.11, F.S., to repeal a requirement for payment of costs for an indigent criminal defendant; amending s. 938.29, F.S.; providing for a lien against an individual who has been provided attorney services as an indigent; directing payment of moneys collected from the lien; creating a transitional plan for payment of expenses accruing before the effective date of this act; requiring each public defender to present a transition plan to the Legislative Budget Commission for approval; providing effective dates.