

**IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF
THE STATE OF FLORIDA
ESCAMBIA COUNTY**

DIVISIONAL ORDER 2023-01-G-CJ

DIVISION G

**IN RE: ATTENDANCE OF COMMITMENT MANAGERS AT
DISPOSITIONAL HEARINGS**

WHEREAS, disposition hearings are governed by Section 985.43 and Section 985.433, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Juvenile Justice (Department) is a party to each delinquency case; and

WHEREAS, under Section 985.43(2), Florida Statutes, the Court shall consider the Pre-Disposition Report (PDR) provided by the Department before making a final disposition of the case; and

WHEREAS, under the governing statutes the Court may receive and consider at a disposition hearing material evidence including, without limitation, written or oral reports or statements it deems relevant for purposes of the disposition; and

WHEREAS, the Department's "Commitment Manager" conducts a multidisciplinary commitment conference (also known as a "staffing") for each juvenile who is being considered for a residential commitment for the purpose of making a recommendation to the Court as to the appropriate level of commitment; and

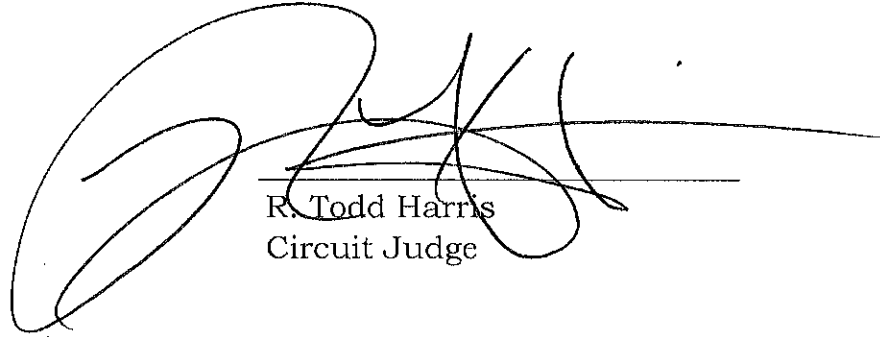
WHEREAS, the Court deems statements of the Commitment Manager, as to the basis of the recommendations made by the Department in the PDR, to be relevant for purposes of disposition, it is

ORDERED that:

1. The Commitment Manager or the Commitment Manager's designee **with knowledge** as to the basis for the Department's commitment recommendation in the PDR **shall be present** at any dispositional hearing *following the multidisciplinary commitment conference* at which the Court is considering commitment.

2. The Commitment Manager or the Commitment Manager's designee may appear at the dispositional hearing via Zoom unless otherwise ordered.

DONE and ORDERED in Chambers at Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida, this 21st day of August, 2023.



R. Todd Harris
Circuit Judge

Conformed Copies via email to:

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