

**IN THE COURTS OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 1989-14**

**IN RE: SECURITY**

**TRANSPORTATION OF PRISONERS TO JUDICIAL BUILDING  
FOR CIRCUIT COURT ARRAIGNMENT**

The prisoner holding cells in the Judicial Building are becoming overcrowded, and the daily transportation of large number of prisoners from the County Jail to the Judicial Building constitutes an increasing security risk and financial burden. Frequent transportation to the Judicial Building is also a burden upon prisoners, which can be dispensed with in some instances.

Rule 3.160 of the *Rules of Criminal Procedure* authorize the filing by defense counsel of a written plea of not guilty and the waiver of arraignment. The Escambia County Public Defender has announced his intent to file such written pleas and to waive arraignment in those cases where the defendant is a prisoner, so that transportation of the defendant to the Judicial Building will not be required for arraignment.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that:

1. The Escambia County Public Defender is authorized to waive arraignment and to enter a written plea of not guilty for any felony criminal defendant represented by the Public Defender, and who is a prisoner. In such cases, the defendant need not appear personally for arraignment in Circuit Court. The Public Defender, however, will appear at arraignment and will notify the defendants of the trial date and docket day.
2. Prior to each Escambia County Circuit Court arraignment date, the Clerk of the Court will advise the Transportation Division at the County Jail of those criminal defendants who are represented by the Public Defender who are scheduled for arraignment. Such criminal defendants will not be transported to the Judicial Building for arraignment.
3. Criminal defendants scheduled for Escambia County Circuit Court arraignments who are not prisoners and who have not otherwise been excused from personal appearance will continue to appear personally for arraignment, unless their counsel has filed a written plea of not guilty and waiver of arraignment.
4. In all cases where defense counsel files a written plea and waiver of arraignment for a criminal defendant in Escambia County Circuit Court, such counsel shall be responsible for determining the trial date and docket day scheduled in such case without other notification.

DONE AND ORDERED at Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1989.

Signed by: William H. Anderson, Chief Judge

Copies hereof furnished to:

All Circuit Judges, Escambia County

Ernie Lee Magaha, Clerk of Court

Odie Eddins, Administrator, Escambia County Department of Corrections

Lt. Jerry Miller, Transportation Division, Escambia County Jail

Jack Behr, Public Defender

Curtis Golden, State Attorney

Lt. Jack Odom, Circuit Court Security

*The Summation*