

**IN THE COURTS OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
STATE OF FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE ECAD 2006-01

**IN RE: SITUS DESIGNATION FOR DISCOVERY DEPOSITIONS OF
CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SIXTEEN (16) YEARS**

WHEREAS, §3.220, *Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure*, requires video and audio tape recording of children under the age of sixteen (16) years giving discovery depositions; and

WHEREAS, §3.220(h)(3), *Florida Rules of Criminal Procedure*, authorizes the court to designate a location for discovery depositions; and

WHEREAS, the taking of a deposition may be foreign, and sometimes intimidating to children, particularly in certain types of criminal cases; and

WHEREAS, many of the child victims of abuse that are to be deposed have previously visited and are familiar with the Gulf Coast Kid's House Child Advocacy Center (GCKH), which is a non-threatening, neutral environment; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf Coast Kid's House Child Advocacy Center (GCKH) has specially designed interview rooms with concealed video and audio recording equipment with separate observation areas, thereby minimizing the impact of the process on the child; and

WHEREAS, the Gulf Coast Kid's House Child Advocacy Center (GCKH) has agreed to make their facility available for depositions of children in all criminal cases; it is

ORDERED that effective immediately all depositions of children under the age of sixteen (16) years will be conducted at the Gulf Coast Kid's House Child Advocacy Center (GCKH) located at 3401 North 12th Avenue, Pensacola, Florida 32503, unless all parties agree to another location. Upon good cause shown, counsel may petition the court to schedule the deposition at a neutral location other than the Gulf Coast Kid's House Child Advocacy Center.

DONE AND ORDERED in Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida, this 31st day of January, 2006.

Signed by: Jan Shackelford, Administrative Judge