

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF ILLINOIS
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 11-9-6

FILED

IN THE MATTER OF ATTORNEY
PAUL CHRISTENSON.

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Stuart Hall
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

The undersigned Chief Judge of the First Judicial Circuit Court of the State of Illinois, finds
as follows:

1. It has come to the attention of the Circuit Court of the First Judicial Circuit of the State of Illinois, that a lawyer in the circuit, Paul Christenson, has been stricken by illness, and is unable properly to discharge his responsibilities to his clients, due to a disability of uncertain duration.
2. In Jackson County Case No. 2001-P-75, a temporary guardian was appointed on August 31, 2011, based in part on a finding by the court that Paul Christenson "...is not capable of making and communicating responsible decisions...".
3. Paul Christenson is a sole practitioner whose office is in Jackson County, First Judicial Circuit, State of Illinois, and a significant number of his clients have no other attorney of record in their cases. It is of vital importance to those clients and to the administration of justice that the affairs of attorney of Paul Christenson continue to be conducted. Immediate action is needed.
4. Although a temporary guardian has been appointed, and although a number of attorneys in the First Judicial Circuit have expressed a willingness to assist the clients of Paul Christenson, it is necessary that a determination be made whether the clients of Paul Christianson and the administration of justice would be best served by the temporary guardian and those attorneys attempting to work together to conduct the affairs of Paul Christianson, a complicated endeavor which may continue for a significant period of time, or whether the clients of Paul Christianson and the administration of justice would be better served by the appointment of a receiver.

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5. Illinois Supreme Court Rule 776 (a) provides that, upon the requisite showing, "...the presiding judge in the circuit in which the lawyer maintained his practice, or the supreme court, may appoint an attorney from the judicial circuit to serve as a receiver..."

6. The undersigned Chief Judge, observing the plain language of the Rule, finds that the determination described above should be made by the Presiding Judge of Jackson County, First Judicial Circuit, State of Illinois.

THEREFORE IT ORDERED THAT William G. Schwartz, Presiding Judge of Jackson County, First Judicial Circuit, State of Illinois, be designated and assigned to take such actions as are determined to be appropriate concerning receivership of the law practice of Paul Christenson in conformity with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 776.

Entered this 6th day of September, 2011.



Chief Judge Mark Clarke