

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS



NINETEENTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT

June 6, 2018

Mr. Jason E. Brown, County Administrator
Indian River County Board of County Commissioners
1801 27th Street
Vero Beach, Florida 32960

**RE: Civil Citation and Juvenile Diversion Programs
Local Option Funds FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19**

Dear Mr. Brown:

Pursuant to our conversation on Monday, I am writing to confirm that Court Administration for the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit will have completed phasing out its civil citation and juvenile diversion programs in all counties within the Circuit effective July 31, 2018. Accordingly, Court Administration will not utilize the remaining local option funds available for the final two months of Indian River County's 2017-18 fiscal year.

As to local option funds for fiscal year 2018-19 (which Court Administration has not requested be included in its budget), I read section 939.185, Florida Statutes, to mean that any entity wishing to receive the funds must be so designated by the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners. Although Court Administration cannot endorse any such entity, you should know that the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit Juvenile Justice Advisory Board's subcommittee on civil citation has recommended that the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) serve as the conduit for distribution of the funds to local non-profit organizations which operate civil citation and juvenile diversion programs within the Circuit.

The Nineteenth Judicial Circuit remains interested in seeing that civil citation and juvenile diversion programs continue under the direction and management of new and existing providers in the Circuit. I would appreciate any guidance your office might provide to all entities seeking local option funds to support these programs now or in the future.

And, of course, my thanks to you and Mike Smykowski for all your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



Myra Zilahy
Chief Deputy Court Administrator

cc: The Hon. Elizabeth Metzger, Chief Judge
Michael Smykowski, Director, Management & Budget, Indian River County
Jennifer Hill, Director, Management & Budget, St. Lucie County
Wydee'a Wilson, Chief Probation Officer, DJJ
Lynn Sloan, Assistant State Attorney, Indian River County
Gayle Braun, Assistant State Attorney, St. Lucie County
Chief John Bolduc, Chair, Civil Citation Subcommittee, Circuit 19 Juvenile Justice
Advisory Board