

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 09-03**

Special Education Attorney Practice Standards

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia Family Court Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-114, 115 Stat. 2100 (2002), provides that the Superior Court shall establish standards of practice for attorneys appointed as counsel in matters under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of the Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, Administrative Order No. 02-15 (April 26, 2002) requires the Family Court Panels Committee to establish panels of qualified attorneys to represent indigent children and parents in Family Court proceedings and includes the creation of a panel of special education advocates; and

WHEREAS, the court established the initial panel of attorneys eligible to receive appointments as special education advocates by Administrative Order No. 03-11 (March 26, 2003); and

WHEREAS, the court appoints only attorneys to the panel, the court now refers to the appointees as Special Education Attorneys; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney Practice Standards for Special Education Panel Attorneys have been developed and approved by the Family Court Implementation Committee; and

WHEREAS, the Attorney Practice Standards for Special Education Panel Attorneys are intended to define the role and responsibilities of counsel and improve the quality of representation for parents or surrogates with children in neglect, delinquency, or persons in need of supervision cases under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is by the Court,

ORDERED, that the Attorney Practice Standards for Special Education Panel Attorneys published herewith and the training requirements thereunder shall take effect

on the date of this order and shall govern practice of Special Education Attorneys in Family Court cases involving neglect, delinquency, or persons in need of supervision.

SO ORDERED.

BY THE COURT

Date: January 21, 2009

/s/

Lee F. Satterfield
Chief Judge

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