## SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 14-03

## Administrative closure of neglect cases by Juvenile/Neglect Branch upon the child's reaching the age of twenty-one

**WHEREAS,** it is in the interests of the residents of the District of Columbia to have neglect matters processed in a timely and efficient manner; and

**WHEREAS,** D.C. Code §16-2322(f) states, "[u]nless sooner terminated, all orders of the Division under this subchapter in force with respect to a child terminate when he reaches twenty-one years of age"; and

**WHEREAS,** it is necessary for the Court to abide by the jurisdictional limitations contained in the statute and to ensure that cases are disposed of in a timely manner;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is by this Court,

**ORDERED**, that the Juvenile/Neglect Clerk's office is authorized to take appropriate steps to administratively dispose of neglect cases in the Court's case management system upon a child's twenty-first birthday. This will include, but is not limited to, dismissal of cases and vacating of any pending matters already scheduled. It is further

**ORDERED**, that this Administrative Order shall take effect on February 7, 2014.

SO ORDERED.

**BY THE COURT** 

February 7, 2014

<u>/s/</u> Lee F. Satterfield Chief Judge

**Copies to:** 

Judges Senior Judges Magistrate Judges Executive Officer Clerk of the Court Division Directors Family Court Attorney Advisor Judge-in-Chambers Librarian Clerk of the Court, Court of Appeals