

JAN 03 2011

*A. A. Oll*  
CLERK SUPERIOR COURT

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FORSYTH COUNTY  
STATE OF GEORGIA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 11-01  
(Revoking and Replacing Internal Operating Procedure 10-01)

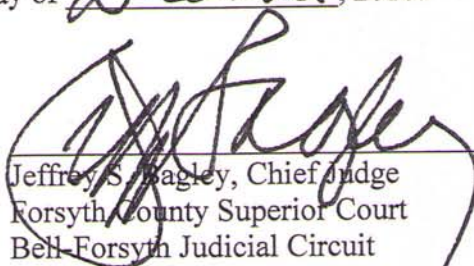
IN RE: PARENTING SEMINAR

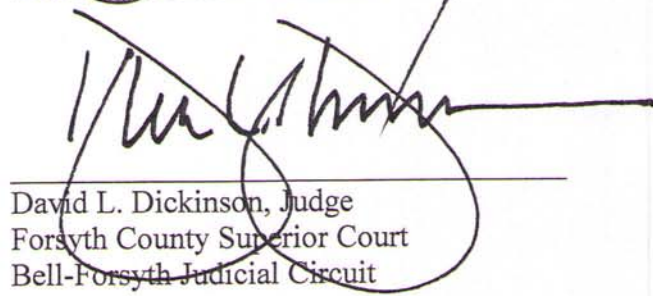
Pursuant to the inherent powers of this Court and in order to provide for the speedy, efficient, and inexpensive resolution of disputes, it is hereby ordered:

1. All parties involved in any divorce, separate maintenance, paternity, change of custody, child support, visitation, legitimation, and other domestic relations action that involves minor children under the age of 18 are required to successfully complete a court-approved, certificate-bearing, parenting seminar.
2. Minimum requirements for court approval include:
  - a. Four contact hours;
  - b. Focus on developmental needs of children;
  - c. Emphasis on fostering a child's emotional health during periods of stress;
  - d. Topics covered must include: developmental stages of childhood; reactions of children to divorce, generally and at specific ages; how divorce affects families; grief processes and coping skills; roles of divorced parents; co-parenting skills; financial obligations of parents; and mediation as a tool to resolve domestic disputes; and
  - e. Verification of successful completion of the program.
3. A certificate of completion from a parenting seminar that is not on the court's approved list (as attached to this Administrative Order) may be substituted if written verification is provided to the Court that the seminar includes the minimum requirements listed above.
4. The seminar must be successfully completed within 31 days of service of the original complaint upon the defendant and the certificate must be presented to the judge at the time of the parties' court appearance.
5. Certificates of attendance are valid for three years.
6. The presiding judge may, for good cause shown, waive the parenting seminar requirement.

7. This order does not apply to URESA cases, uncontested/stipulated modifications of parenting time or child support actions, or actions filed before July 1, 1994.
8. In those cases where there have been allegations of domestic violence, the parties must complete the court-approved online program.
9. Parties are responsible for paying their own registration fees for the program and they are to be paid directly to the program coordinators prior to commencement of the parenting seminar. If payment of the registration fee is a hardship, the Court may waive or reduce the fee for the program that is administered by the Ninth Judicial District Office of Dispute Resolution or the online program that is administered by ChildSharing.com if the party presents a Verified Affidavit of Poverty and the Court finds that the party meets its indigency guidelines.
10. Parties who do not comply with this Order are subject to the contempt powers of this Court.
11. The Clerk of Court shall provide all litigants actual notice of these requirements via a posting in the Clerk of Court office with the website addresses of the Forsyth County Clerk of Court and the 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial Administrative District where this Order shall be made publicly available.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010.

  
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Jeffrey S. Bagley, Chief Judge  
Forsyth County Superior Court  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit

  
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David L. Dickinson, Judge  
Forsyth County Superior Court  
Bell-Forsyth Judicial Circuit

## LIST OF APPROVED PARENTING SEMINARS

- 1. Ninth Judicial District Office of Dispute Resolution (4-hour live program)**  
**Information on times/dates/location:** [www.adr9.com](http://www.adr9.com)  
**Cost (2010):** \$50.00 - payable by money order only at the door  
Available in English and Spanish.  
You must have picture ID.  
If you are late and the seminar has started you will not be allowed to enter.
- 2. Child Sharing – A Family Connection (4-hour self-guided online program)**  
**Information:** [www.childsharing.com](http://www.childsharing.com)  
**Cost (2010):** \$39.99 + \$5.00 administrative fee  
Available in English and Spanish.
- 3. The Institute for Co-Parenting Resolution (5-hour CD self-study program)**  
**Information:** [www.georgiachildcustody.com](http://www.georgiachildcustody.com)  
**Cost (2010):** \$75.00 + \$9.00 shipping & handling + \$5.25 Georgia sales tax  
(residents only)