

RHODE ISLAND FAMILY COURT  
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 99-2

RE: Closed circuit televising and videotaping of testimony of children in criminal cases relating to the abuse of children.

Closed circuit televising and videotaping of testimony of children in criminal cases in Family Court relating to the allegations of the criminal abuse of children, specifically Section 11-9-5.3(2), Section 11-9-5.3(b), Section 40-11-6.1, Section 11-9-5, Section 40-11-3, shall be permitted provided the following findings of facts are made by the judge presiding over the case:

1. That the child witness will be traumatized by the presence of the defendant; and

2. Such trauma as set forth in paragraph (1) is more than de minimis.

Further, the following criteria must be followed:

1. Said child witness must give his or her statement under oath or affirmation;

2. The child witness must submit to cross-examination;

3. The fact finder must be permitted to observe the demeanor of the child witness in making his or her statement, and the defendant must be permitted to communicate with the defense attorney during testimony.

Effective this 12 day of July, 1999.

7/12/99  
Date

Jeremiah S. Jeremiah, Jr.  
Chief Judge