

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL
FIRST DISTRICT, STATE OF FLORIDA

THE JUSTICE
ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMISSION, A STATE
AGENCY,

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO
FILE MOTION FOR REHEARING AND
DISPOSITION THEREOF IF FILED

CASE NO. 1D09-2360

Petitioner,

v.

SUSAN L. STANFORD, ESQ., and
JOSEPH O. REOSTI, ESQ,

Respondents.

_____ /

Opinion filed August 28, 2009.

Petition for Writ of Certiorari.

Christian D. Lake, Assistant General Counsel, Tallahassee, for Petitioner.

No appearance for Respondents.

BARFIELD, J.

The Justice Administrative Commission (JAC) petitions this court for a writ of certiorari, challenging a circuit court order compelling the JAC to process bills for payment of attorneys' fees on behalf of counsel who were appointed to represent the

grandparents of a juvenile in a dependency proceeding. As indicated in Justice Administrative Commission v. Peterson, 989 So. 2d 663 (Fla. 2d DCA 2008), and reiterated in Justice Administrative Commission v. Grover, 2009 WL 1770155 (Fla. 1st DCA, June 24 2009), the grandparents do not have a constitutional or statutory right to such counsel and there is no authority to compel the JAC to effect payment of these fees. The circuit court thus departed from the essential requirements of law as to this matter. The petition for a writ of certiorari is therefore granted, and the challenged order is quashed.

KAHN and VAN NORTWICK, JJ., CONCUR.