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**Services Other Than Counsel<sup>1</sup>**

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**WHEREAS**, Minn Stat. § 611.21 provides for judicial approval of requests by indigent defendants for services other than counsel; and

**WHEREAS**, the statute provides that services up to \$1000 may be approved by the trial judge, but services exceeding \$1000 must be approved by the chief judge; and

**WHEREAS**, the judges of the Third District are concerned that applications to the trial judge, which are intended to be made *ex parte*, may require the disclosure of trial strategy or legal theories of the defendant; and

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

1. Effective November 1, 2006, counsel for indigent defendants charged with First Degree Murder shall seek authorization for all services other than counsel, including services not exceeding \$1000, from the chief judge of the district, not the trial court.
2. In cases other than First Degree Murder, the trial court may, either on its own motion or on motion of a party, order that all requests for services shall be submitted to the chief judge, rather than the trial judge.
3. If the chief judge of the district is the trial judge, requests for services under Minn. Stat. § 611.21 and this Order shall be made to the assistant chief judge.

Adopted by majority vote of the judges of the third district this 27 day of October 2006.

**BY THE COURT:**

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Hon. Joseph A. Bueltel  
Chief Judge  
Third Judicial District

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<sup>1</sup> The Minnesota Judicial Branch has republished this order to make it digitally accessible. There were no substantive changes. This order was previously signed by Chief Judge William A. Johnson on October 27, 2006, and this order is effective on that date.