IN THE COURT OF APPEALS OF MARYLAND AMENDED ORDER GOVERNING ORIENTATION ON INITIAL ASSIGNMENT OR APPOINTMENT AS JUVENILE JUDGE OR MASTER

WHEREAS, the Maryland Foster Care Court Improvement Project has been charged with a duty to develop an education program for Maryland Juvenile Court Judges and Masters who hear child welfare cases, and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the Maryland Judicial Conference's Subcommittee on Juvenile Law, the Project has proposed an orientation program for judges and masters newly assigned or appointed to a juvenile court; and

WHEREAS, it is intended that this program enhance, rather than contradict or supersede, the Administrative Order governing orientation procedures for all new trial judges; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the present order to ensure full implementation of the orientation program;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and the administrative head of the Judicial Branch of this State, pursuant to the authority conferred by Article IV, Section 18 of the Maryland Constitution, ORDER this 14th day of November, 2002 as follows:

1. Definitions

- a. New Juvenile Court Judge is an individual who:
 - (1) is assigned to a Circuit Court sitting as a juvenile court and
 - (2) has neither served as a Juvenile Court Judge or Master before December 28, 2000, nor participated in an orientation program as described in this Order.
- b. New Juvenile Court Master is an individual who:
 - (1) is appointed by a Circuit Court as a Juvenile Court Master; and
 - (2) has not served as a Juvenile Court Master of a circuit court before December 28, 2000, nor participated in an orientation program as described in this Order.

2. Orientation Procedures

a. <u>Certification.</u> All administrative judges who wish to designate, assign, or appoint judges or masters to their juvenile courts under the Annotated Code of Maryland,