Retention of Voir Dire Questionnaires in Capital Cases

Directive #5-98	October 29, 1998
Issued by:	James J. Ciancia
	Acting Administrative Director

In its 1996-1998 Report the Criminal Practice Committee recommended that a directive be issued requiring that *voir dire* questionnaires in capital cases be retained by the court where a sentence of death is imposed. The Supreme Court at its Administrative Conference on June 2, 1998, approved the recommendation of the Committee.

Accordingly the following procedure is established. Where a death penalty is returned, all *voir dire* questionnaires are to be retained by the court for as long as a defendant is under the sentence of death. This requirement applies only to questionnaires of jurors who are actually questioned by the court. The questionnaires are to be kept in the court file.