



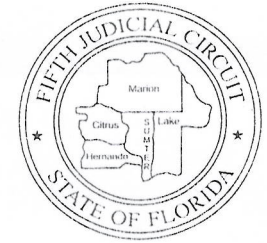
STATE OF FLORIDA

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

CITRUS, HERNANDO, LAKE, MARION AND SUMTER COUNTIES

Daniel B. Merritt, Sr.
Chief Judge



David M. Trammell
Trial Court Administrator

PRESS RELEASE

www.circuit5.org

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

Per David M. Trammell, Court Administrator today in Brooksville, Chief Judge Daniel B. Merritt, Sr. was elected to another term as Chief Judge of the Fifth Judicial Circuit. Judge Merritt's two-year term will commence July 1, 2009. Judge Merritt was first elected by his peers to be chief judge beginning January 1, 2007, completing the term of then retiring Chief Judge Victor J. Musleh.

In addition to being chief judge, Judge Merritt, Sr. also serves as Administrative Judge of Hernando County. He is a graduate of the College of Law at the University of Florida in Gainesville and a lifelong resident of Brooksville. Judge Merritt ran unopposed for his circuit judicial seat in both 2000 and 2006.

Debbie C. Thomas
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