

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER L-2019-28-B

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER APPOINTING MEMBERS OF THE
LAKE COUNTY PROFESSIONALISM PANEL**

WHEREAS, in order to provide effective coordination of professionalism programs and activities throughout the Fifth Judicial Circuit and in accordance with the Florida Supreme Court's Administrative Order entitled In Re: Commission on Professionalism, dated June 11, 1998, mandating the establishment of a local Professionalism Committee in each judicial circuit; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of promoting professionalism, a Professionalism Committee allows the bench and the Bar to coordinate professional activities for lawyers and judges in furtherance of and in an effort to maintain the highest standards of professionalism in the Fifth Circuit; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2013, the Florida Supreme Court entered Administrative Order No.: SC13-688 In Re: Code for Resolving Professionalism Complaints; and

WHEREAS, said Order mandates that a local subdivision of the Fifth Circuit Professionalism Committee be developed in each County in this Fifth Circuit to receive, screen and act upon any and all complaints of unprofessional conduct and to resolve those complaints informally, if possible, or refer to The Florida Bar if necessary; and

As Chief Judge of this Fifth Judicial Circuit and in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(2), it is now therefore:

ORDERED: That

A. The following Members of The Florida Bar shall constitute the Local Professionalism Panel for Lake County:

1. Honorable James R. Baxley, Circuit Judge, Chair of the Panel;
2. Patricia Mueller, Esquire, Liaison for the Panel;

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3. Earl Peterson, Esquire, Member;
4. Sandy Minkoff, Esquire, Member;
5. John Spivey, Esquire, Member;
6. Ron Watson, Esquire, Member;
7. Steven Johnson, Esquire, Member.


B. The Local Panel shall operate within the perimeters and procedures as established by Administrative Order A-2019-23 *In Re: Administrative Order Establishing Local Professionalism Panels and Procedures for Resolving Professionalism Complaints and Vacating Administrative Order A-2013-45-B.*

C. All Panel Members shall serve for a term of two (2) years from the date of this Order.

D. This Order shall take effect upon its entry.

E. This Order shall expire by its own terms on December 4, 2021.

IT IS SO DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Brooksville, Hernando County, Florida this 4th day of December, 2019.



DANIEL B. MERRITT, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT