

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
STATE OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER A- 2016- 10

**IN RE: ESTABLISHMENT OF FIFTH CIRCUIT PRO BONO
COMMITTEE and DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL LEGAL
AID PROVIDERS**

WHEREAS, the Florida Supreme Court has held that "every lawyer who is a member of The Florida Bar has an obligation to represent the poor when called upon by the courts and that each lawyer has agreed to that commitment when admitted to the practice of law in this state," In Re: Amendments to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, 573 So. 2d 800 (Fla. 1990); and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has approved a modification of recommendation number 24 of The Florida Bar/Florida Bar Foundation Joint Commission on Delivery of Legal Services to the Indigent in Florida which requires that each circuit develop a plan to provide pro bono legal services to the indigent population in that circuit, see In Re: Amendments to the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar, 598 So. 2d 41 (Fla. 1992); and

WHEREAS, Rule 4-6.5(c) of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar requires the establishment of a circuit pro bono committee in each of the judicial circuits of Florida to be appointed and convened by the Chief Judge of each circuit court, or the Chief Judge's designee; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that:

1. A Pro Bono Committee for the Fifth Judicial Circuit is hereby established, which shall be comprised of the following members;
 - a. The Chief Judge or the Chief's designee.
 - b. One Judge from each county that comprises the Fifth Judicial Circuit.
 - c. A representative from each local Bar Association within the Circuit.
 - d. A representative from Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida, Inc.
 - e. An eligible pro bono services client who is a resident of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, whom shall be selected by the Pro Bono Committee.
 - f. A public member who is a resident of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, whom shall be selected by the Pro Bono Committee

Membership will at all times be comprised of those representatives from the organizations called for by Rule, as such organizations may come into existence for the Fifth Judicial Circuit.


2. The Pro Bono Committee shall provide oversight and direction of pro bono legal services for indigent persons in the counties of the Fifth Judicial Circuit.

3. Both the Committee Chairperson, and each Vice-Chair shall be nominated and elected by the Pro Bono Committee. Every county shall have a Vice-Chair, except any county from where a member is serving as Chairperson for the Committee. The governance and terms of service shall be determined by the Circuit Pro Bono Committee in accordance with Rule 4-6.5 of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar.

4. In meeting its responsibilities under Rule 4-6.5(c)(2) of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar, the Committee shall meet periodically during the year to consider and review the Administrator's work, oversee and allocate any funding, make recommendations regarding the community's needs, review the resources available to meet those needs, and develop a long-term plan to fulfill the legal profession's obligation to the community. The Committee shall submit an annual report to The Florida Bar Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services.

5. The Circuit Pro Bono committee, in coordinating and administering the Circuit Pro Bono Plan, may develop any policy necessary to implement and maintain the Plan.

ORDERED this 27 day of April, 2016.



Don F. Briggs
Chief Judge
Fifth Judicial Circuit