



## Supreme Court of Florida

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 6/30/2018

Craig Waters

Florida Supreme Court

(850) 414-7641

[watersc@flcourts.org](mailto:watersc@flcourts.org)

### **Canady Becomes Chief Justice of Florida Supreme Court on Sunday**

TALLAHASSEE – In a quiet transition unmarked by public pomp, Charles T. Canady on Sunday returns to the job heading Florida's judicial branch that he previously held from 2010 to 2012, when he last served as the state's Chief Justice.

He was quietly sworn in June 20 at a small staff ceremony in Tallahassee. Canady is the 11th person in state history to serve two nonconsecutive terms as head of the judicial branch – and the first to do so since 1973.

"I look forward to continuing to serve the people and the judicial branch," said Canady. "I have worked with so many outstanding Florida public servants for many years now, including my fellow Justices. I thank them for their trust in me and look forward to the work ahead."

Under Florida's constitution, the Chief Justice is elected by the other members of the Supreme Court.

Court rules adopted in 2012 established that selection of the chief justice should be based on managerial, administrative, and leadership abilities rather than being strictly based on seniority.

From 2010 to 2012, Canady became Florida's 54th Chief Justice since statehood in his first term as head of the Supreme Court and the state judiciary. Sunday he succeeds Justice Jorge Labarga, who will remain on the Court as a Justice after serving four years as Chief Justice.

A 1976 graduate of Haverford College, Canady went on to attend Yale Law School and received his degree there in 1979. He was in private practice from 1979 through 1992.

In November 1984, he was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, serving three terms through November 1990. He later served in the U.S. House of Representatives from January 1993 through January 2001. His assignments there included membership on the House Judiciary Committee and Chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution.

After leaving Congress, Canady became General Counsel to Gov. Jeb Bush, who later appointed him to Florida's Second District Court of Appeal in November 2002.

On August 28, 2008, Gov. Charlie Crist appointed Canady to the Florida Supreme Court, where he took office on September 8, 2008. Canady is married to Jennifer Houghton and is the father of two children.

His web biography can found at:

<http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/justices/canady.shtml>

###