

Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC16-45

IN RE: TASK FORCE ON APPELLATE COURT SAFETY AND
 SECURITY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The purpose of the Task Force on Appellate Court Safety and Security is to develop proposed standards and best practices relating to safety and security of the supreme court and district courts of appeal. The task force's responsibilities encompass such issues as security staffing models and levels, safety policies and practices, security personnel qualifications and training, site hardening, weapons and other security equipment, dignitary protection, implementation of the ADA Standards for Accessible Design and other state and federal regulations affecting safety in appellate court facilities, and disaster preparedness.

During the next two years, the task force shall perform the following duties, noting the strong connection between these issues and several of the goals and strategies in The Long Range Strategic Plan for the Florida Judicial Branch 2016-2021:

1. In support of Goal 4.1 (Protect all judges, court personnel, court users, and facilities through effective security, emergency preparedness, and continuity of operations plans) develop a proposed methodology for determining appellate court security staffing that is needed to ensure qualified officers and security personnel are available to monitor each facility, operate security equipment effectively, respond to emergency or security needs, and perform other essential appellate court security functions.
2. In support of Goal 5.3 (Provide timely education and training to judges and court employees to ensure high-level performance), develop model training programs for appellate court officers and security personnel and determine the resources needed to support such training.
3. Also in support of Goal 4.1, identify the complement of basic security equipment that should be available in every Florida appellate court facility. The task force should also recommend best practices with regard to security equipment maintenance, replacement schedules, and user training.
4. Perform such other tasks in the furtherance of appellate court safety and security as may be directed by the chief justice.

In acknowledgment that enhancing court security requires scarce budgetary resources, the task force should prioritize recommended implementation steps.

The task force should submit reports and recommendations to the chief justice through the state courts administrator.

The following individuals are reappointed to the task force for a term that expires on June 30, 2018:

Mr. Silvester Dawson
Marshal, Supreme Court of Florida

Mr. Daniel DiGiacomo
Marshal, Fourth District Court of Appeal

Ms. Jacinda Haynes
Marshal, Second District Court of Appeal

The Honorable Richard J. Suarez
Chief Judge, Third District Court of Appeal

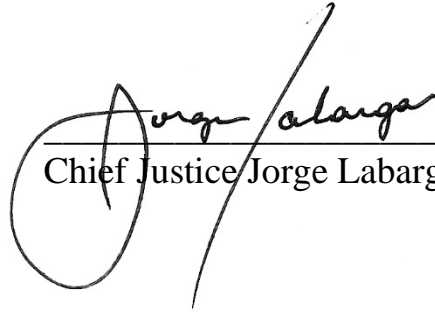
Christopher Connell, Capitol Police Director, or his designee
Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Julius Halas, Division Director
Division of State Fire Marshal
Florida Department of Financial Services

Marshal Silvester Dawson shall serve as chair until June 30, 2018. Staff support will be provided by the Office of the State Courts Administrator.

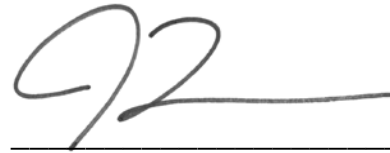
The task force is encouraged to seek input from individuals or organizations who possess expertise on safety and security matters within the task force's scope of responsibility, as appropriate.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on June 30, 2016.



Chief Justice Jorge Labarga

ATTEST:



John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

