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SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

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No. SC13-1702

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IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA RULE OF JUDICIAL  
ADMINISTRATION 2.220(b).

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**THE CONFERENCE OF CIRCUIT JUDGES OF FLORIDA, INC.'S  
COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE AMENDMENTS TO FLORIDA  
RULE OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION 2.220(b)**

On October 31, 2013, the Court invited interested parties to comment on the amendments to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.220(b) ("the Rule"). The Rule amendments are substantially technical in nature and are intended to clarify the current operations of the Conference of Circuit Judges of Florida, Inc. ("the Conference"). The Conference respectfully responds to the invitation to comment on the amendments to update the Rule in the above-styled matter and in support thereof, states:

1. Section 26.55, Florida Statutes, created the Conference in 1959, and it has not been substantively updated since its original passage to reflect the current functions and organization of the Conference. The Rule amendments correctly reflect the current functions and organization of the Conference.

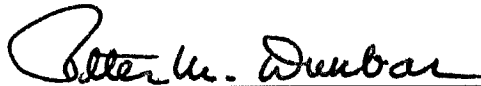
2. The Rule amendments modernize the opportunity for the Conference to make recommendations concerning the administration of justice to the Legislature, permitting them on a continuous basis in a manner consistent with the positions of the Florida Supreme Court. In practice, this is how the Conference currently interacts with the Legislative and Judicial branches. The modified terms will help provide consistency in communications and policies.
3. The Rule amendments provide that when the Conference reports and makes recommendations to the Legislature, it will do so in a manner consistent with the Rules of Judicial Administration. In practice, this is how the Conference currently interacts with the Legislature.
4. The Rule amendments clarify that retired judges engaged in the practice of law are excluded from automatic membership of the Conference. In practice, this is how the law is currently being applied and the Rule amendments accurately reflect the current practice.
5. The Rule amendments update officers in the Conference to reflect the current leadership positions and assure continuity for the Conference activities on behalf of its membership.
6. The Rule amendments revise the purpose of the Conference to include reporting to the Florida Supreme Court on the procedure and practice of

several courts, and confirm that the Conference must do so in a manner consistent with the Rules of Judicial Administration.

### CONCLUSION

The Conference of Circuit Judges of Florida, Inc. believes that the amendments clarify the current operations of the Conference. WHEREFORE, the Conference is in favor of the Rule amendments.

Respectfully submitted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2013.



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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished, by Email, to the following this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2013:

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