

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

IN RE:

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF
JUDICIAL CONDUCT; THE
FLORIDA RULES FOR
CERTIFIED AND COURT-APPOINTED
MEDIATORS;
THE FLORIDA RULES OF
CIVIL PROCEDURE; THE
FLORIDA RULES
OF JUDICIAL
ADMINISTRATION; THE
FLORIDA RULES OF
JUVENILE PROCEDURE; AND
THE FLORIDA FAMILY LAW
RULES OF PROCEDURE
– SENIOR JUDGES AS MEDIATORS.**

CASE NUMBER SC13-1732

**THE SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE
RESOLUTION RULES AND POLICY'S COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CODE OF JUDICIAL CONDUCT,
THE RULES FOR CERTIFIED AND COURT-APPOINTED MEDIATORS,
THE
FLORIDA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, THE FLORIDA RULES OF
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION, THE FLORIDA RULES OF JUVENILE
PROCEDURE, AND THE FLORIDA FAMILY LAW RULES OF
PROCEDURE**

Pursuant to the Court's request, the Supreme Court Committee on
Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and Policy (ADR Committee) files this
response to the Court's proposed amendments to the Code of Judicial Conduct, the
Rules for Certified and Court-Appointed Mediators, the Florida Rules of Civil
Procedure, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, the Florida Rules of

Juvenile Procedure, and the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure. The proposed amendments would no longer allow senior judges to serve as mediators.

Upon receipt of the Court's opinion, the members of the ADR Committee were polled to see if they had any comments to make to the Court with regard to the opinion. No comments were received. We believe whether to allow senior judges to serve as mediators is a policy decision more appropriate for comments from judicial entities than from the ADR Committee.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of November, 2013.

/s/ William D. Palmer, Chair

Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution
Rules and Policy

palmerw@flcourts.org

Florida Bar No. 220361

Fifth District Court of Appeal

300 South Beach Street

Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

Telephone: 386-947-1502

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies a true and correct copy of the foregoing
Comments in Response to Proposed Amendments was made by e-service on
November 14, 2013:

Honorable Dennis P. Maloney
Senior Judge
104 Fox Den St.
Auburndale, Florida 33823-9561
(863) 534-4624
E-Mail Address Unavailable

Whitney Marie Untiedt, Chair
Rules Juvenile Procedure Comm.
Office of the Public Defender
35 North Main Street
Gainesville, Florida 32601
352-338-7370
untiedtw@pdo8.org

Mary L. Miller Wagstaff, Chair
Family Law Rules Committee
Wagstaff Law Office P.A.
161 14th Street N.W.
Largo, Florida 33770
727-584-8182
marylou@wagstafflawoffice.com

Honorable John C. Lenderman
Senior Judge
1000 2nd Street North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
727-612-4888
judgejcl@hotmail.com

Honorable Jon B. Morgan, Chair
Rules of Judicial Admin. Committee
Circuit Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit
2 Courthouse Square, Room 6420
Kissimmee, Florida 34741
407-742-2516
ctjujm2@ocnjcc.org

Honorable David L. Tobin
Senior Judge
7807 S.W. 88th Terrace
Miami, Florida 33156
305-274-6403
osomodevilla@jud11.flcourts.org

Honorable Roberto Arias
Chair, Judicial Ethics Advisory
Committee
Duval County Courthouse
501 W Adams St., Rm 7180
Jacksonville, Florida 32202-4603
(904) 255-1318
rarias@coj.net

James C. Goodlet
Office of State Court Administrator
500 S. Duval St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-6556
(850) 410-0649
goodletc@flcourts.org

Mark P Buell
Raymond T. Elligett Jr.
Amy S. Farrior
Shirley T. Faircloth
& Elligett, PA
3003 W Azeele St., Ste. 100
Tampa, Florida 33609-3147
(813) 874-2600
buell@belawtampa.com
elligett@belawtampa.com
farrior@belawtampa.com
faircloth@belawtampa.com

Honorable J. Thomas McGrady, Chair
Judicial Administration Committee,
Conference of Circuit Judges of Florida
14250 49th Street North
Clearwater, Florida 33762
(727) 464-7457
enew@jud6.org

Thomas H. Bateman III
Chair
Fla. Civil Procedure Rules Committee
Messer Caparello, P.A.
2618 Centennial Place
Tallahassee, FL 32308
(850) 222-0720
tbateman@lawfla.com

David A. Rowland, Court Counsel
for Honorable Manuel Menendez, Jr.,
Chief Judge,
Thirteenth Judicial Circuit
800 East Twiggs Street, Suite 603
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813) 272-6843
rowlanda@fljud13.org

Honorable Olin W. Shinholser, Chair
Conference of Circuit Judges of Buell
Florida
430 S. Commerce Avenue, Room 333
Sebring, Florida 33870
(863) 402-6901
oshinholser@jud10.flcourts.org

Peter M. Dunbar & Ashley E. Gault
Conference of Circuit Judges of
Florida
P.O. Box 10095
Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 222-3533
pete@penningtonlaw.com
adinunzio@penningtonlaw.com

Honorable R. James McCune, President
Conference of County Judges of
Florida
110 Northwest 1st Avenue, Suite 505
Ocala, Florida 34475
(352) 401-7824
jmccune@circuit5.org

Honorable John Marshall Kest
Circuit Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit
425 N. Orange Avenue, Suite 1740
Orlando, Florida 32801
(407) 863-0443
ctjujk1@ocnjcc.org

Honorable Margaret Steinbeck, Chair
Trial Court budget Commission
1700 Monroe Street
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
(239) 533-9162
msteinbeck@ca.cjis20.org

John F. Harkness, Jr.,
Executive Director, The Florida Bar
651 East Jefferson Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 561-5600
jharkness@flabar.org

Honorable Stevan Northcutt, Chair
Conference of District Court of Appeal
Judges of Florida
1700 N. Tampa Street, Suite 300
Tampa, Florida 33602
(813) 272- 3430
northcus@flcourts.org

Melanie G. May, President
Florida Conference of District
Court of Appeal Judges
Fourth District Court of Appeal
1525 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 242-2028
maymg@flcourts.org

CERTIFICATE OF TYPEFACE COMPLIANCE

The undersigned further certifies this response complies with the font requirements of Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.100 (l).

/s/ William D. Palmer, Chair

Committee on Alternative Dispute Resolution
Rules and Policy

palmerw@flcourts.org

Florida Bar No. 220361

Fifth District Court of Appeal

300 South Beach Street

Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

Telephone: 386-947-1502