

# Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC18-68

IN RE: 2019 FLORIDA JUDICIAL COLLEGE

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Florida Court Education Council has developed a series of educational programs to assist in preparing every new judge for judicial service. Operating under the auspices of the Florida Judicial College (FJC), these programs include a trial skills workshop and orientation program in January (Phase I), a curriculum focusing on complex substantive and procedural matters in March (Phase II), a program for new appellate judges in April, and a year-long mentor program. The 2019 FJC Phase I program is scheduled for January 13-18, 2019. The 2019 FJC Phase II program is scheduled for March 10-15, 2019.

Additionally, rule 2.320(2) of the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration establishes minimum requirements for continuing judicial education, including requirements for new judges. This administrative order implements that rule and sets the specific requirements for new judges attending FJC in 2019. This order also sets the requirements for new magistrates and child support enforcement hearing officers attending FJC in 2019.

### **New Trial Court Judges**

To ensure that new trial court judges have the essential information and skills to fulfill their judicial duties, all trial court judges appointed or elected after the Phase I program in January 2018, who have never previously attended the Phase I program as a newly sitting judge, are required to participate in the 2019 Phase I program. Likewise, all trial court judges elected or appointed after the Phase II program in March 2018, who have never previously attended both Phase I and II as a newly sitting judge, are required to participate in both the 2019 Phase I and Phase II programs.

### **New Appellate Court Judges**

All district court of appeal judges appointed after the 2018 FJC Phase I program, who have never served as a trial court judge, are required to attend the 2019 FJC Phase I program in January of 2019.

In addition, all district court of appeal judges appointed after the New Appellate Judges' Program in 2018 are required to attend the next New Appellate Judges' Program, which will be held in April of 2019.

### **New General Magistrates and Child Support Enforcement Hearing Officers**

To ensure that new general magistrates and child support enforcement hearing officers have the essential information and skills to fulfill their duties, all general magistrates and child support enforcement hearing officers are required to

attend both phases of FJC in their first year of service as a general magistrate or child support enforcement hearing officer. However, magistrates or child support enforcement hearing officers who have previously attended Phase I of FJC as a new magistrate or child support enforcement hearing officer are not required to attend Phase I a second time. Likewise, magistrates or child support enforcement hearing officers who have previously attended Phase II of FJC as a new magistrate or child support enforcement hearing officer are not required to attend Phase II a second time.

### **Mentor Judges**

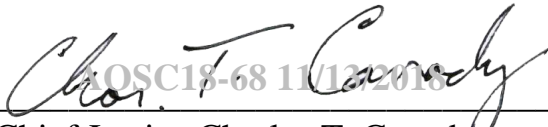
The Supreme Court recognizes the mentoring program as an integral, mandatory part of the FJC experience. All new trial court and district court of appeal judges should be assigned a mentor judge from their respective tier within 48 hours of appointment or election to the bench.

### **County Court Judges Elevated to the Circuit Court Bench**

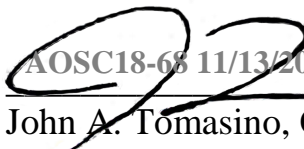
All county court judges appointed or elected to the circuit court bench are required to attend either the three-day Fundamentals program at Phase II of FJC in the track most relevant to their new assignment or a minimum of four full days at the Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies in subject areas focusing on the judge's new assignment, within one year of elevation. The Fundamentals portion of the 2019 FJC Phase II program will be held March 12 through 14, 2019. The

2019 Florida College of Advanced Judicial Studies will be held May 28 through 31, 2019.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida on November 13, 2018.

  
AOSC18-68 11/13/2018  
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Chief Justice Charles T. Canady  
AOSC18-68 11/13/2018

ATTEST:

  
AOSC18-68 11/13/2018  
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John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court  
AOSC18-68 11/13/2018

