The Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity was established to help advance the State Courts System’s efforts to eliminate from court operations bias that is based on race, gender, ethnicity, age, disability, financial status, or any characteristic that is without legal relevance. In carrying out that purpose, the committee shall perform its responsibilities consistent with The Long-Range Strategic Plan for the Florida Judicial Branch 2016-2021, including but not limited to Goal 1.1 (Perform judicial duties and administer justice without bias or prejudice), Goal 3.1 (Enhance understanding of the purposes, roles, and responsibilities of the judicial branch through education and outreach), and Goal 1 (Promote public trust and confidence by maintaining high standards of professionalism and ethical behavior).

During the next two years the Standing Committee shall perform the following tasks:
1. The Standing Committee shall continue to explore funding opportunities for fairness and diversity education programs. The Standing Committee also should continue working with the Florida Court Educational Council and other funding entities to assist with identifying resources available to ensure that all judges and court staff are afforded the opportunity to attend a fairness and diversity education program.

2. The Standing Committee shall build upon the outreach efforts undertaken during its 2016-2018 term by continuing to coordinate and collaborate with The Florida Bar, local bar associations, community organizations, Florida law schools, and other partners, for the purpose of advancing fairness and diversity initiatives within the Florida justice system. This effort should include participation by the committee members at planned diversity events around the state. Additionally, the Standing Committee shall also visit several Florida law schools to demonstrate the court system’s commitment to diversity within the legal profession and the judicial branch workforce.

3. The Standing Committee shall maintain its education campaign. The campaign shall continue to include developing and publishing
informational resources for judges and court staff on implicit bias and preparing guidance and model educational activities for the courts and the community to build awareness regarding implicit bias in the decisions and actions of the courts. The Standing Committee shall also explore evidence-based practices in fairness and diversity training.

4. The Standing Committee shall work toward creating a diversity speakers list. The diversity speakers list shall include contact information for judges, diversity team members, and Standing Committee members who are willing to deliver diversity training. The speakers must complete the Sentencing Bias Train-the-Trainer Program and the Diversity and Implicit Bias Training Program. The Standing Committee shall work with the Florida Court Education Council to create a speakers criteria checklist. The diversity speakers list shall be made available on the Standing Committee’s page of the Florida Courts website to facilitate easy access to the list by courts, bar associations, law schools, and other organizations that are seeking a diversity speaker for events.
5. The Standing Committee shall develop a training resources library to provide judges and court staff with materials and information to assist with diversity training.

Should the Standing Committee make recommendations that require additional funding or resources to implement, impact court technology, or impact education and training needs of judges and court staff, the Standing Committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationship with the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission, the Trial Court Budget Commission, the Florida Courts Technology Commission, or the Florida Court Education Council, as appropriate. At a minimum, the Standing Committee shall provide the chairs of these liaison groups with copies of those Standing Committee reports and recommendations, prior to the finalization of the reports.

The Standing Committee shall submit its report to the Chief Justice through the State Courts Administrator.

The following individuals are appointed or reappointed to serve on the Standing Committee for a term that expires on June 30, 2020:

The Honorable Scott M. Bernstein
Circuit Court Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit
Miami, Florida

Ms. Arnell Bryant-Willis
Diversity Initiatives Manager, The Florida Bar
Tallahassee, Florida
The Honorable Ken Burke  
Clerk of Court, Pinellas County  
Clearwater, Florida

Ms. Marcelyn Cox  
Assistant Dean for Career Development, University of Miami  
Coral Gables, Florida

The Honorable Peter F. Estrada  
Circuit Court Judge, Tenth Judicial Circuit  
Sebring, Florida

The Honorable Dawn P. Fields  
County Court Judge, Volusia County  
Daytona, Florida

Ms. Pamela Guerrier  
Director, Palm Beach County Office of Equal Opportunity  
West Palm Beach, Florida

Mr. Anthony Holloway  
Chief of Police, St. Petersburg Police Department  
St. Petersburg, Florida

The Honorable Claudia Isom  
Circuit Court Judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
Tampa, Florida

Ms. Michelle Ku  
Assistant General Counsel, University of Central Florida  
Orlando, Florida

Mr. Ricardo Martinez-Cid  
Attorney at Law  
Miami, Florida
The Honorable Peter F. Estrada shall serve as Chair of the Standing Committee and The Honorable Claudia Isom shall serve as Vice Chair of the Standing Committee through June 30, 2020. Staff support shall be provided by the Office of the State Courts Administrator.
DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on July 1, 2018.

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Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

ATTEST:

John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court