

Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC18-30

IN RE: STEERING COMMITTEE ON FAMILIES
AND CHILDREN IN THE COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The purpose of the Steering Committee on Families and Children in the Court is to continue establishing a fully integrated, comprehensive approach to handling all cases involving children and families. In carrying out that purpose, the Steering 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 1.2 (Ensure the fair and timely resolution of all cases through effective case management), Goal 1.5 (Encourage the use of consistent practices, procedures, and forms statewide), Goal 1.6 (Increase the use of constructive and non-adversarial resolutions in family law cases), and Goal 2.4 (Collaborate with justice system partners and community organizations to deliver appropriate services).

Over the next two years, the Steering Committee shall perform the following tasks:

1. In consultation with an instructional designer, develop a Handling Family Cases course curriculum, including a Family Case Refresher course, using a blended learning approach. Subject to available resources, host an annual family court workshop to further promote implementation of the one family, one judge model.
2. Continue supporting the circuits on refining one family, one judge practices. Develop the format for the annual family court report and analyze the responses to gauge the level of implementation in each circuit. Provide training recommendations for the family court course based on the annual report responses.
3. Assist the multi-disciplinary dependency court improvement panel, the statewide delinquency court improvement advisory group, and the statewide domestic violence advisory group that are established by the Office of the State Courts Administrator to guide the federally-funded improvement projects. Ensure that the work of these various groups benefits all family court case types, when applicable.

The Steering Committee is authorized to propose rule changes that are necessary to fulfill the charges in this administrative order. Should the Steering Committee recommend amendments to the rules of court procedure and/or forms,

it shall file such recommendations in petition form with the Clerk of the Florida Supreme Court.

The Steering Committee is also authorized to propose, in accordance with the applicable state court system protocols, statutory changes that are necessary to fulfill the charges in this administrative order.

Should the Steering 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 Steering 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 Steering Committee shall provide the chairs of these liaison groups with copies of those Steering Committee reports and recommendations, prior to the finalization of the reports.

When feasible, the Steering Committee will collocate meetings with the Steering Committee on Problem-Solving Courts and will hold a shared-agenda meeting with the Steering Committee on Problem-Solving Courts no less than once a year.

The following individuals are appointed to serve on the Steering Committee on Families and Children in the Court for a term that expires on June 30, 2020:

The Honorable Alice Blackwell
Circuit Court Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Hope Bristol
Circuit Court Judge, Seventeenth Judicial Circuit

Teresa Drake, J.D.
Director, Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Clinic
Levin College of Law, University of Florida

The Honorable Christine Greider
Circuit Court Judge, Twentieth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Lee E. Haworth
Senior Judge, State of Florida

The Honorable Sandy Karlan
Senior Judge, State of Florida

The Honorable Carroll J. Kelly
County Court Judge, Miami-Dade County

The Honorable Terrance Ketchel
Circuit Court Judge, First Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Kathleen J. Kroll
Circuit Court Judge, Fifteenth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Laurel M. Lee
Circuit Court Judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Mark Mahon
Chief Judge, Fourth Judicial Circuit

Mr. Jack Moring
Attorney

The Honorable Orlando Prescott
Circuit Court Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Sandra Sue Robbins
Chief Judge, Fifth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Anthony Rondolino
Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Laura Roth
Clerk of the Circuit Court, Volusia County

The Honorable Bertila Soto
Chief Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

Magistrate Amanda Wall
Second Judicial Circuit

Mr. Mark Weinberg
Court Administrator, Seventh Judicial Circuit

The success of family court depends upon effective communication among all stakeholders. Accordingly, the following representatives, or their designees, shall also serve as members of the steering committee:

Executive Director, Florida Guardian ad Litem Program

President, Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association

President, Florida Public Defender Association

Regional Counsel, Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel

Secretary, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Secretary, Florida Department of Children and Families

The Honorable Christine Greider shall serve as chair to the Steering Committee on Families and Children in the Court through June 30, 2020. Staff support shall be provided by the Office of the State Courts Administrator.

The Steering Committee shall submit its reports to the Chief Justice through the State Courts Administrator.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on July 2, 2018.

Charles T. Canady
AOSC18-30 7/2/2018

AOSC18-30 7/2/2018
Chief Justice Charles T. Canady

ATTEST:

John Tomasino
AOSC18-30 7/2/2018
John Tomasino, Clerk of Court

AOSC18-30 7/2/2018

