

As a reminder, the funding methodology developed for this proposal is based on the number of backlogged cases (in the civil areas) in each circuit. A ratio of one General Magistrate, one Case Manager and two Administrative Support positions for every 15,000 backlogged cases was applied to estimate need. One Administrative Support position is dedicated to mediation for the coordination of civil cases covered under this program with the exclusion of residential homestead mortgage foreclosure cases handled through the managed mediation program. The annual salaries used to calculate the allocation amounts were approximately: \$79,688 for General Magistrates, \$39,126 for Case Managers, and \$26,090 for Admin Support.

Additional information is also needed again from the circuits as to how economic recovery resources will be deployed circuit-wide. Court leadership would like to be able to share this information with the clerks so they can plan accordingly, since they were appropriated \$3.6 million to support our initiative. Please provide:

-The amount of **magistrate/senior judge FTE's** that will be assigned in **each county** based on the expected workload from the backlogged cases. *Note: Single county circuits can ignore this question.*

-If you have multiple **magistrate/senior judge FTE's** in the proposal, what is the maximum number of courtrooms that will be scheduled at any one time **in each county**?

As usual we are under a tight timeframe. Please respond by **Wednesday, May 12th C.O.B.**

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,  
Heather

Heather Thuotte-Pierson  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Court Statistics Consultant  
(850) 410-3376  
[REDACTED]

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 8:44 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Senior Secretary

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 7:46 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** RE: Senior Secretary

Well, I come into the office this morning and I have a message from Tammie saying she has reconsidered and is now declining our offer. So, the plan will be to have Tracy and Kim cover section 1 until I can find a good alternative.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2010 4:39 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Senior Secretary

Looks good. Thanks for jumping on this.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:59 PM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** Senior Secretary

We had a very good case manger applicant that we did not hire that I thought might be a good fit as a secretary. I called her and she said she would accept the position. Her name is Tammie Shirey. She has extensive paralegal experience of almost 20 years. She was laid-off by the law firm of Fee & Jeffries in October 2008 and has been unable to get a job in the field since. She did not interview well but her experience may outweigh her nervousness in meeting with me. She has good references and her background check has cleared. She also committed to start on July 1. So we are now fully staffed.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 01, 2010 3:56 PM  
**To:** Callanan, Richard; Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Rick,

Thanks for the quick response. The clerks in each county will be providing OSCA with a base list of pending foreclosure cases outstanding as of June 30, 2010. The OSCA will preload a set of workbooks for each circuit. Assuming the Court Statistics and Workload Committee signs off on the data plan, we expect to have the working data out to the circuits by 7/16.

I understand what you are saying, Rick. It is something we struggled with as we put this together. Coming up with something that will help those circuits that need it without hobbling the operations of other circuits has been quite a challenge. Of course, that is why we sent the workbooks out to you. Now is a good time for some feedback and discussion.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks again  
PJ

PJ Stockdale  
Senior Court Statistics Consultant  
OSCA - Court Services  
Supreme Court Building Annex  
500 S Duval St  
Tallahassee FL 32301-1900  
(ph) 850.410.1523  
(fax) 850.414.1342

---

**From:** Callanan, Richard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 01, 2010 3:10 PM  
**To:** P.J. Stockdale; Mike Bridenback  
**Cc:** Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** Re: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

PJ

Thank you for the chance to review and comment. Will the clerks or osca be providing the base list/excel file of pending cases? I am reviewing this with my IT, statistical reporting and civil folks and will get you comments next week.

As I mentioned to you, I understand the need for case status tracking to identify delayed cases and we have local MIS pending case reports from most clerks already to help track and move cases. I don't think having a case manager data enter this manually for 59000 cases is the best way to do this on case by case basis. That said we are looking at ways to pull the majority of these status codes from clerk database and will

On Jul 1, 2010 2:24 PM, P.J. Stockdale <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Mike, Rick,

Please find attached a copy of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System (fercts\_devel\_v10-8-1a.xls). We know it isn't a complete solution but I guess the first question we have is whether this application is workable to capture this data. The idea was to find some balance between the needs of small and large circuits. I would be most appreciative to hear your suggestions on how we might make this application more usable for the initiative staff. There are still a few minor bugs that we are working out but all the major components work. In order to meet our deadline to get the workbooks out to the circuits by 7/16, I will need to finalize the application by next Friday (7/9)

I've also attached a draft summary which contains a brief overview of the application and a list of the data captured along with their definitions. Mostly we used the standard SRS definitions. However, there are two fields, case status and reopen closed date that do not have SRS definitions. We have proposed a definition for these fields that we believe to be consistent with SRS that should help initiative staff complete the workbooks. Please take a look at these, particularly the one for reopen closed date. Does this seem to be a workable definition for this project?

Since this tracking application is based upon VBA macros, there are a few steps that need to be taken to get it installed and running. I've attached a set of installations instructions but you may want to have one of your IT people set it up. Please have your IT folks give me a call, if needed, and I'll go through it with them.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks

PJ

PJ Stockdale

Senior Court Statistics Consultant

OSCA - Court Services

Supreme Court Building Annex

500 S Duval St

Tallahassee FL 32301-1900

(ph) 850.410.1523

(fax) 850.414.1342

---

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager.

This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept by Symantec Mail Security for the presence of computer viruses.

[www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)

## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 06, 2010 4:08 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Noll, Sharon  
**Subject:** RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System  
**Attachments:** SRS Category.docx; SRSCategory001.docx

Mike,

In reviewing the Case Tracking Form, I question why in the SRS category drop down box (please open attachments and review) the form would include commercial foreclosure when this project is limited to residential foreclosure actions. I would strongly suggest that OSCA remove this data category from the drop down since the project does not include commercial foreclosure actions.

I also question the relevance in breaking down the SRS category for the purposes of backlogged foreclosure actions between Residential Mortgage Foreclosure - Homestead and Non-Homestead Residential Foreclosures. The backlog project is handling all residential mortgage foreclosure actions whether it is homestead or non-homestead. I do not understand the significance of why this needs to be broken down to this level for collection purposes. A residential mortgage foreclosure is a residential mortgage foreclosure. Again, I would suggest that breaking down the data collection down to this level is time consuming and question whether the case managers will have time to enter the data, much less, time to try and determine whether it was a homestead or non-homestead foreclosure. Please note: I can see breaking the data down to this level when reporting the data for the Managed Mediation Project because that is for Homestead - Residential Mortgage Foreclosure actions filed after July 1, 2010.

Same thing with the last category RP/MF – Other Real Property, why do we care it's a backlogged foreclosure action without an improvement on the property. It's still a backlog case and being foreclosed on.

An additional data request is broken down to the estimated value of the property by category. The categories were originally created and broken down to this level in order to determine the increase/escalating filing fee based on the estimated value of the property. Again, I question the value in collecting this information.

Finally, to report track the data requested, we are going to have the case managers read the pleadings ("Complaint") to determine whether each piece of real property is homestead or non-homestead, improved or non-improved and the estimated value: \$0-50K, \$50-249K or \$250K+ The case managers are going to have plenty to do in the big circuits based on each circuits back log numbers just to get the cases ready for hearing.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 01, 2010 3:56 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Noll, Sharon  
**Subject:** Fwd: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Please review  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "P.J. Stockdale" [REDACTED]  
**To:** "Bridenback, Mike" [REDACTED], "Callanan, Richard"  
**Cc:** "Kristine Slayden" [REDACTED], "Arlene Johnson" [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Mike, Rick,

Please find attached a copy of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System (fercts\_devel\_v10-8-1a.xls). We know it isn't a complete solution but I guess the first question we have is whether this application is workable to capture this data. The idea was to find some balance between the needs of small and large circuits. I would be most appreciative to hear your suggestions on how we might make this application more usable for the initiative staff. There are still a few minor bugs that we are working out but all the major components work. In order to meet our deadline to get the workbooks out to the circuits by 7/16, I will need to finalize the application by next Friday (7/9)

I've also attached a draft summary which contains a brief overview of the application and a list of the data captured along with their definitions. Mostly we used the standard SRS definitions. However, there are two fields, case status and reopen closed date that do not have SRS definitions. We have proposed a definition for these fields that we believe to be consistent with SRS that should help initiative staff complete the workbooks. Please take a look at these, particularly the one for reopen closed date. Does this seem to be a workable definition for this project?

Since this tracking application is based upon VBA macros, there are a few steps that need to be taken to get it installed and running. I've attached a set of installations instructions but you may want to have one of your IT people set it up. Please have your IT folks give me a call, if needed, and I'll go through it with them.

I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks

PJ

PJ Stockdale

Senior Court Statistics Consultant

OSCA - Court Services

Supreme Court Building Annex

500 S Duval St

Tallahassee FL 32301-1900

(ph) 850.410.1523

(fax) 850.414.1342



**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Snavely, Carla [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:45 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Pride, Lisa; Gary, Angela; Healy, Donna  
**Subject:** Foreclosures

*Can we get our teams together so they can meet each other and talk a little about how everyone envisions this project? I think it would be good for everyone.*

*Carla S. Snavely*

Chief Deputy of Court Operations  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
(813) 276-8100 Ext. 6100

**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 23, 2010 5:48 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Fwd: Administrative Order S-2010-087 Residential Foreclosure Procedure-Case Management  
**Attachments:** 2010-087-S.PDF; ATT1001004.htm

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Barton, James " [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 23, 2010 4:21:10 PM EDT  
**To:** "Bridenback, Mike" <[BRIDENML@fljud13.org](mailto:BRIDENML@fljud13.org)>, "Snavely, Carla" <[snavely@hillsclerk.com](mailto:snavely@hillsclerk.com)>  
**Cc:** "Greno, Linda" <[GRENOLF@fljud13.org](mailto:GRENOLF@fljud13.org)>  
**Subject:** FW: Administrative Order S-2010-087 Residential Foreclosure Procedure-Case Management

fyi

---

**From:** Barbas, Lee  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 23, 2010 4:05 PM  
**To:** Mestas, Joy; Pendino, Judge; Foster, Robert A.; Barton, James ; Sisco, Michelle; Bergmann, Charles; Cook, Martha; Silver, Bernard; Baumann, Herbert J.; Arnold, James; Levens, William; Nielsen, Richard; Tharpe, Chet ; Menendez, Manuel; [cpruitt@hillsbar.com](mailto:cpruitt@hillsbar.com)  
**Cc:** Rowland, Dave; Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** Administrative Order S-2010-087 Residential Foreclosure Procedure-Case Management

Attached is Administrative Order S-2010-087 regarding Residential Foreclosure Procedures-Case Management. The administrative order is effective October 1, 2010.

\*\*\*\*\*

Leeisa Barbas

Court Counsel's Office

Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

800 East Twiggs Street, Suite 603

Tampa, Florida 33602

Phone: 813-272-6843

E-mail: [barbaslj@fjud13.org](mailto:barbaslj@fjud13.org)

**IN THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER S-2010-087  
(Supplements Administrative Orders S-2009-098 and S-2010-052)**

**RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURE PROCEDURES – CASE MANAGEMENT**

The Florida Legislature authorized and designated funds for the purpose of processing the backlog of residential mortgage foreclosure cases. Since July 1, 2010, this circuit has utilized these funds to establish two special sections, staffed with senior judges, court clerks, and case managers, to process residential mortgage foreclosure cases. For some unknown reasons, most law firms specializing in residential mortgage foreclosure cases have failed to schedule summary judgment motions for hearing.

Under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545, the trial judge shall take charge of all cases at an early stage in the litigation and shall control the progress of the case until the case is determined. Likewise, Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.200(a) authorizes a trial judge to order a case management conference at which a trial date may be set. Setting cases for trial is an effective way a trial judge can control a residential foreclosure case and alleviate the backlog.

It is necessary to supplement the procedures for residential foreclosure cases to effectuate the legislative purpose of processing the backlogged cases. By the power vested in the chief judge under Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(b)(2), it is therefore ORDERED:

**1. Case Management – Setting Cases for Trial**

In accordance with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.200(a) and Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.545(b), the senior judges assigned to Sections I and II will order a case management conference and schedule all residential foreclosure cases which are at issue for trial with time allocated for dispositive motions to be considered and disposed.

**2. Previous Administrative Orders Supplemented**

The procedures implemented by this administrative order supplement the procedures of Administrative Order S-2009-098 (*Foreclosure Procedures*) and Administrative Order S-2010-052 (*Residential Foreclosure Procedures*), which remain in full force and effect.

**3. Effective Date**

This administrative order is effective October 1, 2010.

It is ORDERED in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida, on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2010.

  
Manuel Menendez, Jr., Chief Judge

Original to: Pat Frank, Clerk of the Court  
Copy to: All General Civil Division Judges  
Hillsborough County Bar Association

## Melendi, Rick

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2010 8:45 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: New Foreclosure Schedule - Section II  
**Attachments:** Mortgage Foreclosure Schedule.xls

Any questions let me know - thanks

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2010 8:31 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: New Foreclosure Schedule - Section II

Thank you. Will you be revising the existing July calendar today which will reflect the Shapiro/Fishman hearing dates? If so, please send me the revised schedule so I can start planning sr. judge coverage during the month of July.

Thank you.

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2010 8:25 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: New Foreclosure Schedule - Section II

Correcto

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2010 5:24 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Cc:** Roberts Julie  
**Subject:** RE: New Foreclosure Schedule - Section II

Based on this email, I assume that the schedule for Section I is not going to change. Is this correct?

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2010 4:09 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** New Foreclosure Schedule - Section II

Here you to

# July 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>Evans—CR409 (B,I,K)</i>	2	3
4	5 <i>INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY</i>	6 <i>Little-CR409 (I,A) Gomez-CR513 (D)</i>	7 <i>Little-CR409 (I,K) Gomez-CR513 (F)</i>	8 <i>Little-CR409 (K,G)</i>	9	10
11	12 <i>Padgett-CR513 (I,B)</i>	13 <i>Padgett-CR513 (B) Little-CR409 (I,C,G)</i>	14 <i>Padgett-CR513 (I,C,B,J)</i>	15 <i>Padgett-CR513 (C,B) Little-CR409 (J)</i>	16 <i>Evans-CR409 (J)</i>	17
18	19 <i>Evans-CR409 (B,K)</i>	20 <i>Evans-CR409 (Shapiro &amp; Fishman, A)</i>	21 <i>Gomez-CR513 (Shapiro &amp; Fishman, K)</i>	22 <i>Gomez-CR513 (Shapiro &amp; Fishman)</i>	23	24
25	26 <i>Steinberg-CR409 (H)</i>	27	28	29	30	31

# August 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	3 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	4 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	5 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	6 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	7
8	9 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	10 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	11 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	12 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	13 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	14
15	16 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	17 <i>Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	18 <i>Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	19 <i>Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	20 <i>Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	21
22	23 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	24 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	25 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	26 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	27 <i>Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	28
29	30 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	31 <i>Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>				<i>Section 1—HR513 (Div A,B,C,D,F) Section 2—CR409 (Div G,H,I,J,K)</i>



# September 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—HR513 (Div A,B,C,D,F) Section 2—CR409 (Div G,H,I,J,K)</i>			<i>1 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>2 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>3 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6 LABOR DAY</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>9 ROSH HASHANAH</i>	<i>10 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i>	<i>13 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>16 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>17 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>23 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>24 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>30 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>		

# October 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—HR513 (Div A,B,C,D,F) Section 2—CR409 (Div G,H,I,J,K)</i>					<i>1 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>4 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>5 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>6 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>11 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>12 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>13 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i>	<i>18 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>19 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>20 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i>	<i>25 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>26 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>27 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>31</i>						

# November 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—HR513 (Div A,B,C,D,F) Section 2—CR409 (Div G,H,I,J,K)</i>	<i>1 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>2 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>3 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>4 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>5 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>9 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>10 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>11 VETERAN'S DAY</i>	<i>12 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>16 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>17 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>18 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>19 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21 Section 1—Ctrm 500</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>23 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>24 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>25 THANKSGIVING</i>	<i>26 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>30 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>				

# December 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—CR500 (Div A,B,C,D,F) Section 2—CR409 (Div G,H,I,J,K)</i>			<i>1 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>2 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>3 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>9 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>10 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12 Section 1-Park #8  CMCs-CR 1-Park 177</i>	<i>13  Section 1&amp;2—Little CMCs-Taylor</i>	<i>14  Section 1&amp;2—Little CMCs-Taylor</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little CMCs-Taylor</i>	<i>16 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little CMCs-Taylor</i>	<i>17 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little CMCs-Taylor</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20 Section 1—Evans Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Evans Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Evans Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>23 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</i>	<i>24 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>30 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>31 NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY</i>	

# January 2011

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—CR500 (Park #177) Section 2—CR409 (Park #207)</i>						1
2	<i>3 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>4 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>5 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>6 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	8
9	<i>10 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>11 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>12 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>13 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	15
<i>16 Padgett-Park #8  CMCs-CR 1-Park 177</i>	<i>17 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., HOLIDAY</i>	<i>18 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>19 Section 1—Padgett-8 Section 2—Gomez CMCs—Taylor-177</i>	<i>20 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	22
<i>23 Section 1-Park #8  CMCs-CR 1-Park 177</i>	<i>24 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez CMCs—Taylor-177</i>	<i>25 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez CMCs—Taylor-177</i>	<i>26 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez CMCs—Taylor-177</i>	<i>27 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez CMCs—Taylor-177</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez CMCs—Taylor-177</i>	29
<i>30 Section 1—CR501</i>	<i>31 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>					

# February 2011

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—CR501</i>		<i>1 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>2 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>3 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>4 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6 Section 1—CR500 (park #177) Section 2—CR409 (park #207)</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>9 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>10 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>11 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>16 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>17 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>18 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>23 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>24 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>25 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>					

# March 2011

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—CR500 (park #177) Section 2—CR409 (park #207)</i>		<i>1 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>2 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>3 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>4 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6 Section 1—CR501</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>9 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>10 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>11 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>13 Section 1—CR501</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>16 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>17 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>18 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20 Section 1—CR500</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>23 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>24 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>25 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>30 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>31 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>		

# April 2011

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—CR500 (park #177) Section 2—CR409 (park #207)</i>					<i>1 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>4 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>5 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>6 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>10</i>	<i>11 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>12 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>13 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i>	<i>18 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>19 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>20 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>22 GOOD FRIDAY</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i>	<i>25 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>26 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>27 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>30</i>



# May 2011

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i> Section 1—CR500 (park #177) Section 2—CR409 (park #207)</p>	<p><i>2</i> Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</p>	<p><i>3</i> Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</p>	<p><i>4</i> Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</p>	<p><i>5</i> Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</p>	<p><i>6</i> Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Evans</p>	<p><i>7</i></p>
<p><i>8</i></p>	<p><i>9</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>10</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>11</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>12</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>13</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>14</i></p>
<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>17</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>18</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>19</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>20</i> Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Little</p>	<p><i>21</i></p>
<p><i>22</i></p>	<p><i>23</i> Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</p>	<p><i>24</i> Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</p>	<p><i>25</i> Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</p>	<p><i>26</i> Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</p>	<p><i>27</i> Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</p>	<p><i>28</i></p>
<p><i>29</i></p>	<p><i>30</i> MEMORIAL DAY</p>	<p><i>31</i> Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</p>				

# June 2011

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Section 1—CR500 (park #177) Section 2—CR409 (park #207)</i>			<i>1 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>2 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>3 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Gomez</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>7 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>8 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>9 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>10 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i>	<i>13 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>14 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>15 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>16 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>17 Section 1—Padgett Section 2—Evans</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>21 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>22 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>23 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>24 Section 1—Taylor Section 2—Little</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>28 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>29 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>	<i>30 Section 1—Steinberg Section 2—Little</i>		

## Sequeira, Maria

---

**From:** Sequeira, Maria  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 3:02 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Question

Plaintiff wants to set a hearing for a Motion for Partial Summary Judgment as to Priority. Should they schedule it on the (excluding MSJ) Docket on Friday?

## Schatzberg,Beth

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2010 4:24 PM  
**To:** 'Gonzalez, Ronald'; Williams, Clifton  
**Subject:** RE: Summary Judgment Packets

I do have all of these files & the law firm stated that they were all being mailed together with the notes for each one. They also don't have envelopes & the rest of the packet – is there anything else to go with them?

---

**From:** Gonzalez, Ronald [<mailto:ronald.gonzalez@hillsclerk.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2010 4:21 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth; Williams, Clifton  
**Subject:** RE: Summary Judgment Packets

Which ones?

Ron Gonzalez  
Circuit Civil Division  
Edgecomb Courthouse  
800 E. Twiggs Street Rm 530  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Telephone (813) 276-8100 Ext. 4883

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth [<mailto:schatzbm@fljud13.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2010 3:02 PM  
**To:** Gonzalez, Ronald; Williams, Clifton  
**Subject:** Summary Judgment Packets

I had some delivered to my desk – do you know if any of them had the notes also filed? That was supposed to be a part of the delivery on all of the packets and their delays.

## Schatzberg,Beth

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 1:41 PM  
**To:** 'smaasarani@defaultlawfl.com'  
**Subject:** RE: F09123024 B10059077FW: Suggestion of bankruptcy on your file

I will run it by Judge Gomez & let you know what he decides. Thanks for your promptness!

---

**From:** [smaasarani@defaultlawfl.com](mailto:smaasarani@defaultlawfl.com) [<mailto:smaasarani@defaultlawfl.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 1:39 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** FW: F09123024 B10059077FW: Suggestion of bankruptcy on your file

Thanks so much for all your continued help, Beth! Luckily, looks like the BK atty came through rather quickly. He mentioned we don't have an order but the above attachments and explanation below. Please let me know if the Judge is content with the provided proof. Seems it should be sufficient.

Thanks,

**Samir**

-----  
**From:** Kevin Comer  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 1:19 PM  
**To:** Samir Maasarani  
**Subject:** FW: F09123024 B10059077FW: Suggestion of bankruptcy on your file

Samir-

We don't have an order. There is a procedure in Tampa that if the debtor's Chapter 13 bankruptcy plan surrenders the property, then there is relief from stay and the foreclosure can go forward. I'm attaching the Ch 13 plan and the bankruptcy trustee's order establishing duties. I can give the JA a call if you think that would be helpful.  
Thanks!  
Kevin

---

**From:** Samir Maasarani  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 12:57 PM  
**To:** Kevin Comer  
**Subject:** F09123024 B10059077FW: Suggestion of bankruptcy on your file

Hey Kevin,

Please fwd me a copy of order on relief from stay when you get it. JA below needs it for FSJ.

Thanks,

**Samir A. Maasarani, Esq.**

Foreclosure Attorney  
Florida Default Law Group, PL  
9119 Corporate Lake Drive, Suite 120  
Tampa, Florida 33634  
813-342-2200 Ext. 3738  
813-251-1541 Fax  
[smaasarani@defaultlawfl.com](mailto:smaasarani@defaultlawfl.com)

Please be advised that this law firm may be acting as a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt and any information provided will be used for that purpose.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE - This e-mail transmission, and any documents, files or previous e-mail messages attached to it may contain information that is confidential or legally privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, or a person responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you must not read or play this transmission and that any disclosure, copying, printing, distribution or use of any of the information contained in or attached to this transmission is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. If you have received this transmission in error, please immediately notify the sender by telephone or return e-mail and delete the original transmission and its attachments without reading or saving in any manner.

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth [<mailto:schatzbm@fljud13.org>]

**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 12:52 PM

**To:** Samir Maasarani

**Subject:** Suggestion of bankruptcy on your file

Samir-

Hey! I hope that you had a good weekend!! Summer Hodges appeared on your behalf for file # 09-ca-32779. There was a suggestion of bankruptcy & Summer had confirmation that it had been dismissed. We were waiting for a copy of the letter removing it from bankruptcy. Can you e-mail it to me so that we can dispose of this file?

Thanks!

Beth

**Beth M. Schatzberg**

Case Manager

Sect. II Mortgage Foreclosures

Hillsborough County Courthouse

800 E. Twiggs St., Ste. 425

(813) 272-8578

**Moreno,Elisa**

---

**From:** Tracy, Deb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2010 10:48 AM  
**To:** Wells, Tracy; Sequeira, Maria; Valdes,Ryan  
**Cc:** Schatzberg,Beth; Hickmon,Angelina; Gammage,Trillany; Moreno,Elisa; Pisacane, Elvira; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: DAILY DOCKETS

I don't know who is the person for Section II, but, whoever you are, when you bring the daily docket up, would you please let me know so I can be sure to pick it up as quickly as possible? You could even just give me a call or send me an e-mail and I'll be more than happy to go down there and pick it up. ☺

My number is 2-8569. Thanks!

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2010 10:45 AM  
**To:** Sequeira, Maria; Valdes,Ryan  
**Cc:** Schatzberg,Beth; Hickmon,Angelina; Gammage,Trillany; Moreno,Elisa; Tracy, Deb; Pisacane, Elvira; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** DAILY DOCKETS

ALERT!

All of you know that I am leaving on vacation today. In my absence, please leave the daily dockets (either at the end of each day or first thing in the morning) with the receptionist on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the Edgecomb.

The data entry team will pick those up daily from Alina.

Thank you.

## Wells, Tracy

---

From: Melendi, Rick  
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 5:25 PM  
To: Wells, Tracy  
Subject: Re: foreclosure mail

Yes

----- Original Message -----

From: Wells, Tracy  
To: Melendi, Rick  
Sent: Tue Jul 06 17:24:56 2010  
Subject: FW: foreclosure mail

We need the mail to be delivered to the new foreclosure offices on the 4th and 5th floors respectively.

Do you want me to handle this?


T.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bridenback, Mike  
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:16 PM  
To: Barton, James  
Cc: Wells, Tracy  
Subject: Re: foreclosure mail

Tracy

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 6, 2010, at 2:14 PM, "Barton, James "  wrote:

> Who would tell the mail people to deliver the mail to the two new  
> foreclosure section offices?



## Wells, Tracy

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2010 6:05 PM  
**To:** Sequeira, Maria  
**Cc:** Schatzberg, Beth; Gammage, Trillany  
**Subject:** TOMORROW (JULY 22)

Maria,

I need you to sit with Ryan from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. tomorrow morning. I have a meeting regarding foreclosures with my boss in the morning at 10:00 a.m. They will be introducing the new data forms that we will have to use to track foreclosure cases. I am not sure how long it will last, but I hope we are through by 11:30.

I know you all have an afternoon docket, but I really need you to sit with Ryan while Section I hearings are going on in the morning.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.

Thank you.

Tracy.

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2010 1:36 PM  
**To:** Pride, Lisa; Snavely Carla  
**Cc:** Gary, Angela; Healy, Donna  
**Subject:** RE: 2nd Floor Training Room

I appreciate the update.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[REDACTED]  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



---

**From:** Pride, Lisa [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2010 1:30 PM  
**To:** Snavely Carla; Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Gary, Angela; Healy, Donna  
**Subject:** RE: 2nd Floor Training Room

Good Afternoon,

We are anticipating using the Training or overflow Jury room daily (Monday thru Friday) from August 1, 2010 thru August 8, 2011. The schedule that has been put in place is to have two separate sales daily, the first is to begin at 10:00 AM and the second at 2:00 PM. This foreclosure sales schedule is to accommodate the mortgage foreclosure backlog project and each sale is estimated to last one to two hours depending on the length of the bidding process.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns,

Thank you,

*Lisa L Pride, Director  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
Circuit Civil Division  
P O Box 989  
Tampa FL 33601  
(813) 276-8100 x4807*  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Snavely, Carla  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2010 2:35 PM  
**To:** Pride, Lisa  
**Subject:** FW: 2nd Floor Training Room

*Please scan the schedule and send it to me and Mike. Thanks*

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2010 2:14 PM  
**To:** Snavelly, Carla  
**Cc:** Yanez, Nancy  
**Subject:** 2nd Floor Training Room

You may schedule the foreclosure sales in this room next to the jury assembly room as a part of the mortgage foreclosure backlog project. Please send me your anticipated sales schedule whenever you get a chance. Unless you notify me otherwise, I am assuming the room will not be available of other uses during the time the project is in place.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[REDACTED]  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2010 1:30 PM  
**To:** Kristine Slayden  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Information

Kris,

How often do you want this info and for what period of time? We are tracking cancellation daily and we are now requiring the attorney who cancel on our web-based calendar to indicate a reason.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Kristine Slayden [mailto:kristine.slayden@flcourts.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2010 1:23 PM  
**To:** Trial Court Chief Judges; Trial Court Administrators  
**Cc:** Lisa Goodner; Laura Rush; P.J. Stockdale; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Information

Chief Judges/Trial Court Administrators – As a follow up to the JAC conference call yesterday, we would like to request any information you can provide on the cancellations of hearings or suspension of foreclosure cases by the plaintiff. You can either send summary information by email, case specific information in a spreadsheet or you can provide information in the comment section of the existing Foreclosure Case Tracking application. Please note, in order to determine the magnitude of the cancellation, we need to know total number of hearing scheduled. We will compile the data and attempt to quantify a statewide estimate of the impact. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you. Kris

Kris Slayden  
Research and Data  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Florida Supreme Court  
500 S. Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
850-922-5106 (wk)  
850-556-2335 (cell)  
850-414-1342 (fax)

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2010 9:56 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris; Melendi, Rick; Snavely, Carla  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to Chief Justice Canady  
**Attachments:** Ltr to Chief Justice Canady.FINAL.pdf

See reference in letter regarding Hillsborough county.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[REDACTED]  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Lisa Goodner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2010 9:51 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Chief Judges; Trial Court Administrators  
**Cc:** OSCA-MANAGERS  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to Chief Justice Canady

FYI.

Lisa

---

**From:** Larry Schwartzol [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 12, 2010 7:07 PM  
**To:** Craig Waters  
**Subject:** Letter to Chief Justice Canady

Craig,

I hope this email finds you well. As I mentioned earlier today, the ACLU is working with a coalition of organizations representing members of the Florida news media to protest barriers to access to foreclosure proceedings around the state of Florida. The attached letter will be delivered by UPS to the Chief Justice on Monday morning, and we expect to issue a press release that afternoon. In order to give the Chief Justice advance notice, we wanted to send this to you now. If you wouldn't mind forwarding this to the Chief Justice, I would greatly appreciate it.

Best,

Larry

Larry Schwartzol | Staff Attorney  
*Racial Justice Program*  
**The American Civil Liberties Union**  
125 Broad Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor | New York, NY 10004  
Phone: 212-519-7849

This e-mail message is intended only for the named recipient(s) above, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise the sender immediately by reply e-mail and delete this message and any attachments without retaining a copy.



**Florida Press Association**  
336 E. College Avenue, Suite 203  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(850) 521-1199  
Fax (850) 577-3629

Chief Justice Charles T. Canady  
Florida Supreme Court  
500 South Duval Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1925

November 12, 2010

Dear Chief Justice Canady,

We write to express our concern that the right to open access to judicial proceedings is being unduly impeded in foreclosure proceedings around the state. Our organizations have received numerous reports that extraordinary barriers to access are preventing members of the general public, as well as representatives of the news media, from observing foreclosure proceedings in judicial circuits around the state. We believe these barriers undercut the transparency of the judicial process; they also violate the strong presumption of open access to judicial proceedings under Florida law. We urge you to take action to secure the public's right to observe the workings of the judicial system.

As you know, Florida law recognizes a strong presumption in favor of open access to judicial proceedings. We have no objection, of course, to ordinary security screening measures. We are concerned, however, that the barriers to access here go far beyond such measures, leaving members of the public and press subject to the discretion of individual foreclosure judges to admit or exclude them.

The reports we have received come from all around the state, and although the precise nature of the barriers to access varies, a troubling pattern emerges: foreclosure divisions recently established by the judicial circuits have been operating under a presumption of closure to members of the general public, rather than the presumption of openness mandated by Florida law. An illustrative, but not exhaustive, list of encounters that have been reported to our organizations since August 2010 follows:

- A court observer in Hillsborough County called the court to ask about the rules governing attendance at foreclosure proceedings and was told that the proceedings were not open to the public.
- A pro se defendant in Duval County was told by a member of court security that she could not access foreclosure proceedings because only attorneys were permitted.
- A court observer called the Orange County courthouse to ask about attending foreclosure proceedings. She was informed that foreclosure hearings were held "in private chambers" and therefore not open to the public.

- In Citrus County, an individual preparing to mount a pro se defense in his own foreclosure case attempted to attend foreclosure hearings in advance of his own so that he could know what to expect when his case was heard. He was told that foreclosure hearings are “private” and take place in judges’ chambers, and that he would not be permitted to observe them.
- Most recently, a legal aid attorney in Jacksonville attended a foreclosure proceeding accompanied by a reporter from Rolling Stone Magazine. Neither the attorney nor the reporter did anything disruptive to the proceedings. At one point the reporter left the proceedings in order to interview a pro se litigant whose case had just been heard. Later that day, the judge sent an email to the attorney castigating her for bringing the reporter into the proceedings. He stated that, while “attorneys are welcome in Chambers at their leisure,” members of the media are “permitted” entry only upon “proper request to the security officer.” He further informed the attorney that she “did not have authority to take anyone back to chambers without proper screening” and stated that her “apparent authorization that the reporter could pursue a property owner immediately out of Chambers into the hallway for an interview” may be “sited [sic] for possible contempt charges in the future.”<sup>1</sup>

In raising our concerns about this pattern of exclusion, we rely on the extensive body of case law that has made Florida a model for open government. Systematically excluding members of the press and public from judicial foreclosure proceedings violates the robust guarantee of open access to courts provided by Florida law. This Court has held that “both civil and criminal court proceedings in Florida are public events and adhere to the well established common law right of access to court proceedings and records.” *Barron v. Fla. Freedom Newspapers, Inc.*, 531 So. 2d 113, 116 (Fla. 1988); *see also* Fla. R. Jud. Admin. 2.420 (codifying public right of access to records of the judiciary). *Barron* articulated this right of access in forceful terms. It emphasized that “a strong presumption of openness exists for all court proceedings” and outlined the carefully circumscribed exceptions to this broad rule:

[C]losure of court proceedings or records should occur only when necessary (a) to comply with established public policy set forth in the constitution, statutes, rules, or case law; (b) to protect trade secrets; (c) to protect a compelling governmental interest [e.g., national security; confidential informants]; (d) to obtain evidence to properly determine legal issues in a case; (e) to avoid substantial injury to innocent third parties [e.g., to protect young witnesses from offensive testimony; to protect children in a divorce]; or (f) to avoid substantial injury to a party by disclosure of matters protected by a common law or privacy right not generally inherent in the specific type of civil proceeding sought to be closed.

---

<sup>1</sup> Since the incident in Duval County was particularly egregious, we have also asked that Chief Judge Moran consider appropriate action.



*Id.*, at 118. Even in these exceptional circumstances, “before entering a closure order, the trial court shall determine that no reasonable alternative is available to accomplish the desired result, and, if none exists, the trial court must use the least restrictive closure necessary to accomplish its purpose.” *Id.*

The protection of public access to judicial proceedings serves fundamental constitutional values. In particular, the “value of openness lies in the fact that people not actually attending trials can have confidence that standards of fairness are being observed; the sure knowledge that *anyone* is free to attend gives assurance that established procedures are being followed and that deviations will become known.” *Sarasota Herald-Tribune v. State*, 924 So. 2d 8, 12 (Fla. 2d DCA 2005) (quoting *Press-Enter. Co. v. Super. Ct.*, 464 U.S. 501, 508 (1984)). “A trial courtroom is a public place where people have a general right to be present, and what transpires in the courtroom is public property.” *Plaintiff B v. Francis*, No. 5:08-cv-79, 2010 WL 503067, \*2 (N.D. Fla. Feb. 5, 2010). Foreclosure proceedings are currently a matter of intense public interest. Indeed, the media has, in recent months, scrutinized them for possible procedural deficiencies. *See, e.g.*, Gretchen Morgenson and Geraldine Fabrikant, *Florida’s High-Speed Answer to a Foreclosure Mess*, N.Y. TIMES, Sept. 14, 2010; Polyana da Costa, *Before Foreclosing, Judges Must Hear Out Homeowners*, MIAMI DAILY BUS. REV., Oct. 14, 2010.

As the examples outlined above show, Florida’s presumption of openness is being inverted in the context of foreclosure proceedings: courts across the state are effectively imposing a presumption of closure, which may be overcome only by special permission to observe proceedings. In effect, only those who actively assert their right of access in the face of initial barriers, and then ultimately receive permission, may exercise their right to observe foreclosure hearings.

Under Florida law, there are few justifications that can counterbalance the right to access. Even when those exceptional circumstances exist, the court must still determine that no more narrowly tailored alternative is available. *Barron*, 531 So. 2d at 118; *see also Globe Newspaper Co. v. Super. Ct. for the County of Norfolk*, 457 U.S. 596 (1982) (invalidating statute closing trials for certain sex offenses involving minors where state had a “compelling” interest in protecting minors’ privacy but where the court “offered no empirical support” that closure would effectively further that interest). There is no indication that closure of foreclosure courts occurs only when such rigorous analysis has taken place. Indeed, the opposite appears to be true: by choosing to conduct foreclosure hearings in “private” conference rooms or judicial chambers and treat those as closed proceedings, the burden shifts to members of the press or public to convince the court to allow access.

We recognize that the heavy volume of foreclosure cases has led to difficulties finding judges and courtrooms to hear the cases. As a result, some cases are being held in chambers for lack of an available traditional courtroom. Nevertheless, the proceedings must be open, even if they are held temporarily in a smaller and less formal physical

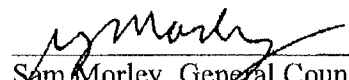
setting than usual. While we understand the necessity for ordinary and uniform security screening procedures, the unavailability of a traditional courtroom cannot justify a deprivation of the rights established under Florida law and the U.S. Constitution.

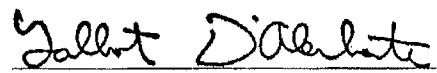
This Court has noted that the press plays an indispensable role in maintaining “the judicial system’s credibility in a free society.” *Barron*, 531 So. 2d at 116. That credibility cannot be maintained when members of the public and media are dependent on the indulgence of the presiding judge to allow them to observe important judicial proceedings.

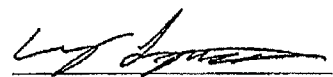
It is our sincere hope that we, and other representatives of the media, will be able to avoid instituting litigation over the issue of access to foreclosure proceedings. We do face certain time constraints, however, because Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.100(d) provides for expedited review of orders excluding the public and media from judicial proceedings, and it requires such petitions to be filed within 30 days of an exclusion order.<sup>2</sup>


Accordingly, we respectfully urge you to take corrective action to ensure citizen and press access as guaranteed by Florida’s right-of-access jurisprudence. In particular, we ask that you promulgate an Administrative Order or take other expeditious and appropriate action to ensure that both the public and media may observe proceedings consistent with Florida law and subject only to ordinary security measures

We thank you for your attention to this important matter.

  
Sam Morley, General Counsel  
The Florida Press Association

  
Talbot D'Alemberte, Bar No. 0017529  
The Florida Press Association

  
Larry Schwartz, Staff Attorney  
The American Civil Liberties Union

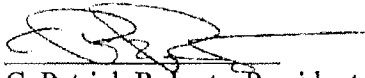
  
Randall Marshall, Legal Director  
The American Civil Liberties Union of Florida

---

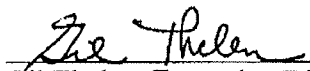
<sup>2</sup> The incident in Duval County occurred on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Accordingly, the last day to file a petition for review pursuant to Rule 9.100(d) is November 29<sup>th</sup>.



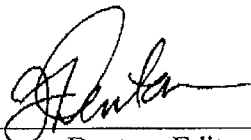
James Parker Rhea, Director & General Counsel  
The First Amendment Foundation



C. Patrick Roberts, President & CEO  
Florida Association of Broadcasters



Gil Thelen, Executive Director  
The Florida Society of Newspaper Editors



James Denton, Editor  
The Florida Times-Union

## **Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 10, 2010 11:14 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Report – 2010/10  
**Attachments:** 13\_29Hillsborough\_FERCTS.xlsm

Attached is our monthly report for the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Tracking Spreadsheet, please submit this report to OSCA.

Thank you.

**From:** Flores,Roberto  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 10, 2010 11:02 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Report – 2010/10

Disposed total 5612 of 33645

Disposed on October and through November 10, 2010 – 1363

Disposed on July – 696

Disposed on August – 1837

Disposed on September - 1710

Disposed on 2006 – 1

Active – 102

Inactivity - Attorney inactivity - 1

Insufficient pleading or Documentation – 240

Mediation/Settlement negotiations – 43

Stayed Bankruptcy – 8

Inactivity – other -27638

Blank – 1

229 Dismissed out of 5612 Disposed.

# Roberto Flores

**Desktop Support Tech  
Court Technology**

Office : (813)272-6095

Work: (813)785-4315

Fax: (813)301-1935

Cell: (813)465-8203

[floresro@fljud13.org](mailto:floresro@fljud13.org)



**CERTIFIED**

## **Administrative Office of the Courts**

The 13th Judicial Circuit

800 Twiggs St.

Tampa FL 33602



## **Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 3:40 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Subject:** NY Times Article

**This was the article that followed the visit by Mr. Martin. It does not focus on Tampa. The article that focused on us was from Blumberg News. I did not have any contact with that reporter and there was no complaint from him as to access.**

## **Flawed Foreclosure Documents Thwart Home Sales**

By **ANDREW MARTIN** and **DAVID STREITFELD**

OCALA, Fla. — Amanda Ducksworth was supposed to move in to her new home this week, a three-bedroom steal here in central Florida with a horse farm across the road. Instead, she is camped out with her 7-year-old son at her boss's house.

Like many buyers across the country, Ms. Ducksworth was about to complete the purchase of a foreclosed house when it suddenly went off the market. Fannie Mae, the giant mortgage holding company that buys loans from commercial lenders, is pulling back sales of homes that might have been foreclosed in bad faith.

"I gave up my rental thinking I would have a house," said Ms. Ducksworth, a 28-year-old catering assistant. "Now I'm sharing a room with my son. What the hell is up with that?"

With home sales this past summer at the lowest level in more than a decade, real estate is ill-prepared to suffer another blow. But as a scandal unfolds over mortgage lenders' shoddy preparation of foreclosure documents, the fallout is beginning to hammer the housing market, especially in states like Florida where distressed properties are abundant.

"This crisis takes a situation that's already bad and kind of cements it into place," said Joshua Shapiro, chief United States economist for MFR Inc., an economic consulting firm.

Three major mortgage lenders — Bank of America, GMAC Mortgage and JPMorgan Chase — have said they are suspending foreclosures in the 23 states where they first need a judge's approval. They are also waving off Fannie Mae from selling any of the foreclosed homes whose loans they sold to Fannie.

The companies say they are reviewing their operations after disclosures that employees signed documents without determining the accuracy of the material, as is required by law.

Those reviews are throwing into limbo hundreds of thousands of foreclosures and pending home sales, analysts estimate, though the lenders and Fannie Mae have been mostly silent about precise numbers and other specifics.

More broadly, the revelations about the sloppy paperwork are emboldening homeowners and law enforcement officials in many states to question whether lenders rightfully hold the notes underlying foreclosed properties — further chilling the housing market.

Distressed properties, many of which are in foreclosure, make up about a third of all home sales. “Foreclosures are going to slow to a crawl,” said Guy D. Cecala, publisher of the trade magazine Inside Mortgage Finance.

Of the 23 states where foreclosures need court approval, Florida has by far the most trouble — about a half-million cases clog its courts — and the moratoriums are having a noticeable effect.

Because most lenders sold their mortgages to Fannie Mae, it is largely that company that has been sending e-mails to real estate agents about putting off deals and removing houses from the market. In most cases, the agents are being told the freeze will last 30 to 90 days, but agents say there is no way to know for sure.

A snapshot of the problems can be seen at the real estate agency that sold Ms. Ducksworth her home, Marc Joseph Realty, based in Fort Myers.

The agency had 35 deals that were supposed to close this month. As of Thursday, Fannie had postponed 11 of them. Another handful of homes that did not have offers or were being prepared for market had also been withdrawn.

“If this wipes out half my inventory, that’s a scary thing,” said Bill Mitchell, the agency’s closing coordinator.

As he spoke, his computer pinged and another message from Fannie came through about withdrawing a house. It had the subject line, “Unable to Market Notice.”

Another client of the agency, Richard Clark, is caught in the foreclosure vise on both ends.

A delivery truck driver, Mr. Clark has gone through several rough years: his wife lost her banking job and they eventually separated; a vending business did not succeed; he fell behind on his home payments; and CitiMortgage rebuffed his efforts to restructure the mortgage.

With the prospect of being tossed out of his house in a foreclosure of his own, Mr. Clark, 62, cobbled together \$58,000 — most of it from his parents — and successfully bid on a house in North Fort Myers that was in foreclosure. His offer on the house, with three bedrooms and two baths, a Jacuzzi tub in the master bedroom and a Key lime tree in the backyard, was finally approved on Oct. 1.

“It’s been a rocky two years,” Mr. Clark, a stocky man with a short pony tail, wire-rim glasses and a gold hoop earring, said while touring the rambling one-story home. “It’s a dream house for me.”

At least, it was. On Tuesday, Fannie suspended the deal. Mr. Clark said he did not know what to do. “I’m kind of hoping I have a place to live,” he said. “Now, who knows?”

It is possible the foreclosure on his current house in nearby Cape Coral — he has a court hearing on Dec. 7 — will also become caught up in the current problems, but Mr. Clark said he was not pleased by the prospect of staying there any longer.

“I’d rather just get on with it, get on with my life,” he said.

In the states far from Florida where foreclosures are an equally large problem but there is no judicial review — Nevada, Arizona and California — there were early signs this week that the document crisis was spreading. The only time a foreclosure in those states enters a courtroom is when the borrower sues the lender, something few of those in default have the money or the will to do.

In a telephone interview on Wednesday, Gary Kent, a foreclosure specialist in San Diego who has 80 listings, said he had not heard from Fannie or any lender about withdrawing a property. All his deals were on track, Mr. Kent said.

But a few hours later, Mr. Kent said he had received an e-mail about removing a home that was under contract.

The message was from his title insurer, who said that Pittsburgh-based PNC Bank was imposing a 30-day moratorium on all foreclosure sales. (PNC declined to comment to a reporter.)

Mr. Kent's confidence was shaken. "My buyer's upset, my agent's upset and I'm a little nervous," he said.

Several factors are likely to delay many more foreclosed houses from reaching the market and finding new owners.

Law enforcement officials in several states, including Texas, Maryland and Connecticut, are demanding a suspension of foreclosures until lenders can prove they are using legal methods.

It is unclear how many lenders will go along.

In a move that sets up a potential showdown in Texas, one major lender, CitiMortgage, is arguing that it is being considered guilty until proven innocent by the state attorney general.

"We have no reason to believe our employees are not following our process, and therefore have no reason to stop foreclosures," a Citi spokesman said.

Another factor is the reaction of the title insurers, who defend homeowners in disputes over a home's ownership. Lenders require title insurance before approving a mortgage.

The crisis took many title insurers by surprise, said Kurt Pfothenauer, the chief executive of the industry's trade group, the American Land Title Association.

One possibility the title insurers are discussing is obtaining warranties from lenders against errors in their foreclosures. Every title insurer, Mr. Pfothenauer said, "understands there is a brand new risk that has to be evaluated. It's not at all clear that courts across the country are going to be reversing their earlier decisions on foreclosures. But we don't know."

In the meantime, buyers like Ms. Ducksworth here in Ocala are at a loss for answers.

"She's in a mess, actually," said Jim Haston, Ms. Ducksworth's agent.

"I really don't know what to tell her," he said.

*Andrew Martin reported from Florida and David Streitfeld from California.*



\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*

Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800

[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 9:16 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: July 2010 status report  
**Attachments:** Status Report as of July 31, 2010.pdf

Based on this chart, we are not where we need to be. Let's discuss.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



---

**From:** Kristine Slayden [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 9:09 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: July 2010 status report

Mike - Would you take a quick look at this table and see if it makes sense to you? What I will say in the transmittal email is:

Attached is the first monthly "progress report" that shows how each circuit is doing in reaching their 62% goal for reducing backlog in foreclosure cases. At the end of the initiative in June 2011, all circuits should have 100% in the "Percent of Target Reduced" column. Please note that this first month report includes any activity by the trial courts in preparation for initiative, i.e. cleaning up data, disposing outstanding cases, etc.

The statewide progress of 27.5% for the first month may seem high, but this is due to two factors. The first factor, mentioned above, counts in the "Number of Backlog Foreclosure Cases Reduced to Date" column any cases that were closed out as part of the clean up/preparation in the months leading up to the beginning of the initiative start data of July 1, 2010. In addition, foreclosure cases came in lower than expected in the last few months of FY 2009-10, which means that the actual backlog accumulated for that year was lower than the original estimated amount.

Please call me if you have any questions. Thanks. Kris

Kris Slayden  
Research and Data  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Florida Supreme Court  
500 S. Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399  
850-922-5106 (wk)  
850-556-2335 (cell)  
850-414-1342 (fax)

---

**From:** Arlene Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 8:43 AM  
**To:** Kristine Slayden  
**Subject:** July 2010 status report

Arlene Johnson  
OSCA, Research and Data  
Telephone 850.922.5103  
Facsimile 850.414.1342

**Foreclosure and Economic Recovery**  
**62 Percent Estimated Target Backlog Reduction**  
**of Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Cases**  
**Status Report as of July 31, 2010**

<b>Circuit</b>	<b>Target Backlog Cases<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Number of Backlog Cases Reduced To Date</b>	<b>Percent of Target Reduced</b>
1	8,035	1,791	22.3%
2	2,719	919	33.8%
3	822	181	22.1%
4	13,344	3,493	26.2%
5	12,357	4,985	40.3%
6 <sup>2</sup>	24,424	8,005	32.8%
7	13,383	3,270	24.4%
8	1,597	688	43.1%
9	31,372	11,956	38.1%
10	8,047	2,484	30.9%
11	54,532	11,365	20.8%
12	15,845	4,172	26.3%
13	23,672	5,533	23.4%
14	2,873	726	25.3%
15	39,309	10,442	26.6%
16	1,656	423	25.5%
17	35,659	9,324	26.1%
18	19,252	3,549	18.4%
19	12,844	1,492	11.6%
20	25,423	10,552	41.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>347,165</b>	<b>95,351</b>	<b>27.5%</b>

Note: Totals may not be exact due to rounding.

<sup>1</sup> Target Backlog Cases represent 62 percent of the total backlog for real property/mortgage foreclosure cases calculated during Session 2010.

<sup>2</sup> The Sixth Judicial Circuit does not include data for Pasco County for January 2010 through July 2010. The county is currently upgrading their case maintenance system and anticipate completion prior to the next monthly Status Report.

## Melendi, Rick

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 04, 2010 10:56 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** 13th Circuit's Clarification Request re: ACLU Public Record Request

Mike,

Attached is a draft of our clarification questions for records by the ACLU. Please review same and let me know if you have any additional clarifying questions, revisions or deletions. Chris has reviewed the draft and believes it covers everything we discussed.

Laura,

As a follow up to our meeting of yesterday regarding the ACLU Public Records Request, the 13<sup>th</sup> circuit would request clarification of the following:

1. Clarification as to whether the ACLU request for all records from January 1, 2009 to present (October 19, 2010) includes, all foreclosure records unrelated to the circuit's Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Project?
2. Clarification of paragraph 2 of the request, as to what is meant in regard to all records relating to rules, procedures and practices established to manage, adjudicate or dispose of foreclosures cases? More specifically, provide us examples of records the ACLU believes relate to rules, procedures and practices established to manage, adjudicate or dispose of foreclosures cases? Further, clarify whether the records requested include all records relating to rules, procedures and practices established to manage, adjudicate or dispose of foreclosures cases from January 1, 2009 to present (October 19, 2010), or all records post establishment of the circuit's Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Project?
3. Clarification of paragraph 3 of the request, as to the definition of the term clerk?
4. Clarification of paragraph 5, as to all records, citing an example, as to rules relating to the governing of public access to civil proceedings including, public access to proceedings in foreclosures cases? Also, specifically, clarification as to whether the request includes all records from January 1, 2009 to present (October 19, 2010) regarding public access, or public access post the establishment of the circuit's Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Project?

**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Snavely, Carla [Snavely@hillsclerk.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:45 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Pride, Lisa; Gary, Angela; Healy, Donna  
**Subject:** Foreclosures

*Can we get our teams together so they can meet each other and talk a little about how everyone envisions this project? I think it would be good for everyone.*

*Carla S. Snavely*

Chief Deputy of Court Operations  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
(813) 276-8100 Ext. 6100

**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:48 PM  
**To:** Snavely Carla; Melendi, Rick  
**Cc:** Pride, Lisa; Gary, Angela; Healy, Donna; Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosures

I will have Tracy arrange.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[bridenml@fjud13.org](mailto:bridenml@fjud13.org)  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Snavely, Carla [<mailto:Snavely@hillsclerk.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:45 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Pride, Lisa; Gary, Angela; Healy, Donna  
**Subject:** Foreclosures

*Can we get our teams together so they can meet each other and talk a little about how everyone envisions this project? I think it would be good for everyone.*

*Carla S. Snavely*  
Chief Deputy of Court Operations  
Clerk of the Circuit Court  
(813) 276-8100 Ext. 6100

Welcome Court Administration

### Senior Judge Menu Options

#### Court Administrators

List of Senior Judges who have submitted consent.

List of Senior Judges who have not submitted consent.

Enter Senior Judge Reimbursement Requests or Registration Information

Person Search

Add New Person

Search All Available Judges

Search Judges for Eleventh Judicial Circuit

View Eleventh Judicial Circuit Reimbursement Requests Awaiting Approval

Allocation Usage Detail & Summary Reports

Senior Judge Name, Address, Phone & Email List

 View Eleventh Judicial Circuit Allocation Usage History

Blank Reimbursement Compensation Form

Travel Reimbursement Voucher - Print & Complete Requires Adobe Reader 

Travel Reimbursement Voucher - Complete & Print Microsoft Excel Spreadsheet

Log Off




Internet Explorer window: Court Allocation Detail History  
Address: https://www.courts.state.fl.us/cas/...  
Menu: Home | Courts | Citizens | Court News | Press

Welcome Court Administration  
**Court Allocation Detail History**  
*for the Eleventh Judicial Circuit*

Select Fiscal Year: [dropdown]    Select Type of Allocation: [dropdown]    [Submit]

- Regular Senior Judge Allocation
- Foreclosure Senior Judge Allocation

[Return to Menu](#)



**Valdes,Ryan**

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2010 11:26 AM  
**To:** Valdes,Ryan  
**Subject:** RE: PHONE NUMBER TO SCHEDULE FORECLOSURE MEDIATIONS

You are welcome.

T.

---

**From:** Valdes,Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2010 10:18 AM  
**To:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** RE: PHONE NUMBER TO SCHEDULE FORECLOSURE MEDIATIONS

Thank you very much Tracy.

Ryan.

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2010 10:07 AM  
**To:** Sequeira, Maria; Valdes,Ryan  
**Subject:** PHONE NUMBER TO SCHEDULE FORECLOSURE MEDIATIONS

For your information,

The number to refer plaintiffs/defendants, if they want to schedule a mediation for foreclosure is **(813) 221-7777**. That is the number for the Florida Bar.

Thank you.

Tracy.

## Schatzberg,Beth

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 3:07 PM  
**To:** 'Gary, Angela'  
**Subject:** RE: Question

THANK YOU!!! An amended summary judgment has been signed & it'll have anew sale date of Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> – FYI.

---

**From:** Gary, Angela [<mailto:GARY@hillsclerk.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 3:02 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Question

Yes, the sale is cancelled for Friday

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth [<mailto:schatzbm@fljud13.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 2:58 PM  
**To:** Gary, Angela  
**Subject:** RE: Question

Did your receive a NOC for case # 10-CA-6782 set for sale on 9/17?

---

**From:** Gary, Angela [<mailto:GARY@hillsclerk.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 11:53 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Question

They should fax in the Notice of Cancellation form to 813-272-5508.

Thank you

*Angela L Gary*

Angela L Gary

Manager

Circuit Civil Division

800 E Twiggs St Room 530

PO Box 989

Tampa FL 33601-0989

Phone # 813.276.8100 ext 3886

Fax # 813.272.5508

[gary@hillsclerk.com](mailto:gary@hillsclerk.com)

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth [<mailto:schatzbm@fljud13.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 11:49 AM  
**To:** Gary, Angela  
**Subject:** Question

We had an FJ packet have the wrong sale inadvertently reflected for this Friday, 9/17. The Plaintiff Law Firm has sent an amended Final Judgment packet with the new sale date of 12/9/10. Is that sufficient for the case to not go forward on Friday's sale docket or do you need more to cancel the sale?

Beth

**Beth M. Schatzberg**

Case Manager

Sect. II Mortgage Foreclosures

Hillsborough County Courthouse

800 E. Twiggs St., Ste. 425

(813) 272-8578

## Moreno,Elisa

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010 11:34 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy; Greno, Linda; Pisacane, Elvira; Tracy, Deb  
**Subject:** FW: Revised Docket Annotations

Please note additional annotation codes below.

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010 8:18 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy; Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Docket Annotations

Good Morning,

As a result of the increase in hearing cancellations, annotations to the docket will need to start reflecting the reason for cancellation or resetting of the hearing. This information will assist in accurately reporting the monthly data for all hearings.

Therefore, if a hearing is cancelled or reset, the annotation on the docket needs to state a reason and should read as follows:

Cancellation (why?): Annotation: affidavit review/review of documents - by whom (client review = bank, law firm review or other reason?)

Reset (why?): Annotation – client hold, document review or affidavit review - by whom (client review = bank, law firm review or other reason?)

FTA – by whom? Reason:?

Note: Please refrain from using Cancellation/Reset - Internal Review (I/R), as an annotation: unless, you provide more specificity as to the reason (e.g., affidavit review/review of documents - by whom (client review = bank, law firm review or other reason?) for the cancellation or resetting of the hearing. The reason for the cancellation/resetting will need to be entered into the comment section for purposes of the data entry.

Annotations – to be used:

No Final Judgment Packet (No FJP): Annotation = I/P (Insufficient Pleading or Documentation)

No Packet: Annotation: I/P (Insufficient Pleading or Documentation)

No Mortgage and Note: Annotation = I/P (Insufficient Pleading or Documentation)

No Note: Annotation = I/P (Insufficient Pleading or Documentation)

No Mortgage: Annotation = I/P (Insufficient Pleading or Documentation)

Conciliation: Annotation = MSN (Mediation/Settlement Negotiations)

Loss Mitigation: Annotation = MSN (Mediation/Settlement Negotiations)

Forbearance: Annotation = MSN (Mediation/Settlement Negotiations)

This annotation document/cheat sheet is a work in progress and subject to further modification as we come across other annotations that are not clear for purposes of data entry.

## Moreno,Elisa

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 05, 2010 12:08 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** RE: Annotations of Daily Dockets

Sorry- the law firms are stating that they are cancelling them for Internal Review. It's now rare if cases go through.

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 05, 2010 12:06 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth; Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** RE: Annotations of Daily Dockets

Please clarify what Strike- internal review mean? It would help if you provided me an example, situation or circumstance of when this annotation would be used.

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 05, 2010 11:53 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** RE: Annotations of Daily Dockets

Based on the hearings held thus far, are we all good to write Strike – I/R (for internal review)?

Beth

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 04, 2010 12:18 PM  
**To:** Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** Annotations of Daily Dockets

Good Afternoon, Ladies:

This may be a regular annotating practice in which you have already been engaged in doing; but, just in case, I need for each of you to incorporate this into your daily case management practices and start annotating on the dockets all hearings that are cancelled - by whom and why, all hearing re-sets- by whom and why (if known), and all no-shows – who no showed attorney, respondent/defendant starting today in the p.m.

Thanks.

**Nauman, Chris**

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 2010 10:10 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure Letter to Chief Justice Canady.docx

---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010 3:01 PM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** FW:

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 5:14 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Rowland, Dave; Nauman, Chris; Barton, James  
**Cc:** Cash, Kim  
**Subject:** RE:

See my suggested changes attached.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
bridenml@fljud13.org  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 4:28 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Rowland, Dave; Nauman, Chris; Barton, James  
**Cc:** Cash, Kim  
**Subject:**  
**Importance:** High

Here's a draft response to the Chief Justice's memo. Please review and give me your thoughts.

*Manuel Menendez, Jr.*  
*Chief Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida*  
*800 E. Twiggs St., Suite 602, Tampa, FL 33602*  
*813-272-5022*



Letter to Chief Justice Canady

Copy to Lisa Goodner, State Court Administrator

Dear Chief Justice Canady:

This is in response to your memorandum regarding the recent letter you received from the Florida Press Associations and other organizations. Thank you for providing a copy of the correspondence. In that letter it is alleged that members of the public or the press have either been prevented from attending foreclosure proceedings or have been told they were not allowed to attend. As it relates to the Thirteenth Circuit the letter states "...[a] court observer in Hillsborough County called the court to ask about the rules governing attendance at foreclosure proceedings and was told that the proceedings were not open to the public." To say that I was aghast to read such an allegation would be an understatement! Other than for proceedings that are by operation of law deemed to be confidential (such as proceedings for Termination of Parental Rights under F.S. 39.809(4), Adoptions under 63.162(1), and Judicial Waiver of Parental Notification of Abortion under F.S. 390.01114(4)©, 390.01116, and Rule 8.820(e) of the Florida Rules of Juvenile Procedure) we do not conduct court proceedings that are not open to the public. Hence I have attempted to determine the accuracy of the statement.

As one can well imagine, it rather is difficult to investigate an allegation from an anonymous "court observer" that fails to provide any specifics as to when the call was allegedly made or who it was that allegedly provided the information. Nevertheless we have conducted an inquiry to determine whether there might be any validity to the allegation.

There are multiple entities that someone might call to obtain information about court proceedings. These include a judicial assistant for a judge, a judge, the court administrator's office and its various departments, the clerk of court and its various departments or the sheriff's court security and operations unit.

Each of the judicial assistants and judges who routinely handle mortgage foreclosure cases were contacted. None recalled a call concerning rules governing attendance at foreclosure proceedings, and none recalled advising any caller that such proceedings were not open to the public. Moreover, each confirmed their understanding that foreclosure hearings are indeed open to the public and indicated that they would not have otherwise told anyone that the hearings are closed.

The office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court was likewise contacted during our inquiry. The chief deputy for court operations who oversees the departments that support the handling of mortgage foreclosure cases inquired of her staff to determine if any of them might have received such a call. No one recalled fielding such a call. She further confirmed that her staff acknowledged an

understanding that foreclosure proceedings are in fact open to the public and that they would not have indicated otherwise to anyone making such an inquiry.

In addition, administrative staff members working with the mortgage foreclosure project were also interviewed. This included the chief of court operations, chief administrative assistant to the court administrator, the central receptionist who handles all calls coming into the court administrator's office, as well as the case managers and secretaries assigned to the foreclosure project. Again, no one recalls receiving a call regarding rules association with attending foreclosure proceedings, and all confirmed that they understood that these proceedings are open and stated that they would not have ever said otherwise to anyone who may inquire either in person or on the telephone.

The bailiffs who support the foreclosure proceedings were also contacted. They likewise fully understand the policy of foreclosure proceedings being open to the public. The sheriff has a comprehensive education and training program that addresses proper protocols for officers to address issues such as this. They too do not recall fielding any inquiry as to whether foreclosure proceedings are public.

Prior to implementation of the foreclosure project these cases were assigned to each of the 10 judges in our general civil division. The judges had no case management support to assistance in managing their cases. The hearings in those cases, as with the hearings in most civil cases, were held in hearing rooms adjacent to chambers. Courtrooms were generally reserved for jury trials.

As a result of the limited funding for the foreclosure project, we now have the equivalent of 2 judges handling all foreclosure cases with the assistance of case management support. Due to space constraints we have been conducting foreclosure proceeding on two floors of the courthouse. One of the foreclosure divisions conducts the proceedings in a traditional courtroom setting on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Access to the courtroom is from a public lobby area. The other foreclosure division conducts the proceedings in a hearing room adjacent to judges' chambers in an area where entry is screened for security reasons. Unlike the courtroom setting, the hearing room is not set up to allow unfettered entry and exit from a public lobby area. Entry to the chambers area is monitored by bailiffs. Accordingly, access to the hearing room may in fact be a bit slower or cumbersome than the entry to the courtroom. However, to my knowledge no one has been denied access to the foreclosure proceedings in either of the locations currently being utilized.

The senior judges hearing the foreclosure cases are very experience judges. I have no doubt they are reviewing each case on its merits and making rendering judgments based on the facts and the law. Prior to the hearings our case managers review every case calendared to determine whether all required documents are properly filed and ready for consideration by the court. Hundreds of cases have been pulled from the calendar due to insufficient documentation. The case managers attend the hearings and record all actions taken by the judge. The cases are set in 30 minute

blocks of time with no more than 15 cases schedule per time block. We use an automated system where the attorneys schedule their cases on a web-based calendaring system. Before an attorney can calendar a foreclosure hearing through the court's automated calendaring system, the attorney is required to upload a copy of the motion or mortgage foreclosure packet which can then be accessed and review by a judge or case manager. Once this task is completed, the attorney receives a confirmation that the hearing is scheduled ~~must certify that the case is ready for final resolution before it can be calendared.~~ Notice to all associated parties is provided through this automated calendaring system. Many of the hearings are conducted telephonically.

Summary Judgment hearings are held Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm. Cases are calendared on two dockets each handled simultaneously by a senior judge. We have a pool of 6 senior judges who are assigned for a two week period. On Fridays of each week, non-dispositive motion hearings are held between 9 am and 5 pm. Beginning in December, we will also be conducting case management conferences for those cases that have not been calendared for summary judgment hearing. The purpose of these hearings is to determine why the case is not moving toward disposition and if feasible to set trial dates for those cases.

A possible source of the allegation that foreclosure proceedings are not open to the public might be from an internet blog published by attorney Matt Weidner (mattweidnerlaw.com). I am told that in a blog on September 24, 2010, Mr. Weidner states that "across this state, oftentimes in secret courtrooms that are hidden from the public using evidence and information that is hidden from the scrutiny of press or public view, judges will be signing thousands of foreclosure judgments. I was in one of those secret Kafka-esque courtrooms in Tampa yesterday..." I do not share Mr. Weidner's opinion as to the proceedings being held in Hillsborough County, and I believe a reasonable analysis of the foreclosure process in place in the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit would show Mr. Weidner's statements to be rather exaggerated.

I would note that in September a reporter from the New York Times visited the courthouse and wished to observe the foreclosure proceedings. The reporter was apparently advised by someone in the clerk's office that the proceedings were in the hearing room area and that entry into that area was controlled by the bailiffs. The reporter sought out our court administrator to discuss the issue of access. It was explained that access was not prohibited but that security screening procedures were in place. The reporter was allowed access to the hearing room, observed the proceedings, and conducted an interview with one of the judges. The reporter subsequently wrote an article which appeared in the New York Times , (Flawed Foreclosure Documents Thwart Home Sales, By Andrew Martin and David Streitfeld, , New York Times, October 8, 2010). No mention is made in that article of anyone not being allowed to observe foreclosure proceedings. Likewise, a reporter from Bloomberg News visited our courthouse, observed foreclosure proceedings, interviewed a judge, and wrote an article ("Florida's 30-Second Foreclosure Dash Hits Wall of Fraud Claims, By David McLaughlin – Bloomberg News, Oct 13, 2010). All with no apparent problems, and with no mention of having been denied access.

In any event, we are now in the process of developing a ~~rotation~~ schedule that will hopefully free up courtroom space starting Monday, November 22, 2010, so that all the foreclosure proceedings may be held in that type of setting, rather than in a hearing room. As you know, we are struggling to handle an extraordinary amount of work with limited resources. We have put in place procedures which we feel are efficient and which allow for due process to all who have business before the court. We are of course always open to suggestions as to how to improve the system and would welcome an independent review of our process.

Please advise if there is any additional information you desire.

**Nauman, Chris**

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 27, 2010 2:46 PM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: Office/Courtroom Location & Phone Numbers / Foreclosure Sections I & II

ACLU PRR

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:16 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** Fwd: Office/Courtroom Location & Phone Numbers / Foreclosure Sections I & II

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Melendi, Rick" <MELENDRT@fljud13.org>  
**Date:** June 29, 2010 12:15:00 PM EDT  
**To:** "Bridenback, Mike" <BRIDENML@fljud13.org>  
**Cc:** "Wells, Tracy" <WELLSTB@fljud13.org>, "Albury, Janice" <ALBURYJR@fljud13.org>, "Noll, Sharon" <NOLLSL@fljud13.org>  
**Subject:** FW: Office/Courtroom Location & Phone Numbers / Foreclosure Sections I & II

fyi

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2010 2:22 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda; Barton, James  
**Cc:** Noll, Sharon  
**Subject:** FW: Office/Courtroom Location & Phone Numbers / Foreclosure Sections I & II

Judge,

For ease of use and convenience, I revised the original email contacting the office/courtroom locations and contact information.

rtm

## **Section I**

(General Civil, Divisions A, B, C, D & F)

### **Judicial Office, Suite 513**

Office - Phone No.: (813) 272-8572

Hearing Room - Phone No.: (813) 272-8575

Senior Judge - Phone No.: (813) 272-8571

### **Judicial Library, Room 515**

Case Mgr. - Phone No.: (813) 272-8583

Case Mgr. - Phone No.: (813) 272-8584

---

## **Section II**

(General Civil, Divisions G, H, I, J & K)

### **Judicial Office, Suite 422 & Courtroom 409**

Office Phone No.: (813) 272-5121

Courtroom - Phone No.: (813) 272-8581

Senior Judge - Phone No.: (813) 272-5773

### **Room 425**

Case Mgr. - Phone No.: (813) 272-8578

Case Mgr. - Phone No.: (813) 272-8579

## **Wells, Tracy**

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 16, 2010 2:11 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Sylvia Landis

Rick,

Sylvia called and wanted to get a copy of the docket on a particular day. Her phone number is 335-6308. I told her that someone would get back to her from this office with her request.

Thank you.

T.

## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 3:53 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

How many were scheduled?

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 3:52 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: Cancelled Hearings

fyi

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 3:51 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Cc:** Gammage, Trillany  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

We had a total of 35 cases cancelled for today's hearings

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:47 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Please do I have a deadline to meet with the media today at 4:00 p.m., as to the total number of cancellations.

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:44 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Cc:** Gammage, Trillany  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

There are more hearings scheduled for this afternoon – both telephonic & non-telephonic. We will keep you posted as the time goes by.

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:41 PM



**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

So, this is a total of 33 a.m. and p.m. cancelled hearings? Will you have additional p.m. cancellations today at the time of the telephonic hearing?

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:38 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Cc:** Gammage,Trillany  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

On JAWS – we had 27 cases cancelled prior to today. On this morning’s docket, we had 5 cancellations & 1 cancelled @ 1:30.

Beth

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:04 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Yes, the hearings on today’s morning docket and today’s afternoon docket.

Thank you.

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 12:48 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Do you mean the hearings scheduled for today’s docket?

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 12:22 PM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Subject:** Cancelled Hearings

Please provide me the total number of hearings cancelled this morning asap. Also, I will need the total number of hearings canceled by 3:30; 3:45 at the latest.

Thank you.

## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 4:00 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: Cancelled Hearings

Section I – Total 59 hearing set; 27 hearings cancelled.

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 3:53 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** FW: Cancelled Hearings

Section I had 27 total cancelled cases for today.

---

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 3:46 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Good afternoon Rick,

3 total cancellations for PM

Reasons:

1. FTA
2. missing original note
3. problem with existence of original plaintiff

Thank you!

Elisa

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:34 PM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Thank you. And, please update me later on the p.m. cancellations at time of hearing.

---

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:29 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Yes, 2 for am and I can update you on PM cancellations at time of hearing...

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:28 PM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Does the a.m. & p.m. number include those cancellations which may occur at the time of the telephonic hearing?

---

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:25 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Rick,

24 total cancelled for today

Breakdown:

15 AM cancellations (two cancellations at the time of hearing)  
9 PM cancellations

Thanks!

Elisa

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:18 PM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

All cancelled a.m. & p.m. hearings for "today" - which will include cancellations prior to the hearing and those cancellations that occur at the time of the hearing.

Sorry for not being clear.

---

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 1:14 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Cc:** Hickmon,Angelina  
**Subject:** RE: Cancelled Hearings

Rick,

Do you need the cancelled hearings "at the table" or a list of all that were cancelled prior to today?

Thanks,

Elisa

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 12:22 PM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Subject:** Cancelled Hearings

Please provide me the total number of hearings cancelled this morning asap. Also, I will need the total number of hearings canceled by 3:30; 3:45 at the latest.

Thank you.

**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:17 PM  
**To:** Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Valdes,Ryan; Gammage,Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** Chief Justice Memo to Chief Judges re: Mortgage Foreclosures  
**Attachments:** Memo to Chief Judges re Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings.pdf

Attached for your review is a copy of a Memo from the Chief Justice to all Chief Judges regarding Mortgage foreclosure Proceedings.

Thank you.

**Melendi, Rick**

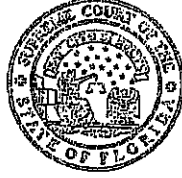
---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 1:59 PM  
**To:** Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** Chief Justice Memo to Chief Judges re: Foreclosures  
**Attachments:** Memo to Chief Judges re Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings.pdf

Janice,

Please distribute the attached to all sr. judges involved in the foreclosure proceedings.

Thank you.



# Supreme Court of Florida

500 South Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

CHARLES T. CANADY  
CHIEF JUSTICE  
BARBARA J. PARIENTE  
R. FRED LEWIS  
PEGGY A. QUINCE  
RICKY L. POLSTON  
JORGE LABARGA  
JAMES E.C. PERRY  
JUSTICES

THOMAS D. HALL  
CLERK OF COURT

KEVIN WHITE  
ACTING MARSHAL

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Chief Judges of the Circuit Courts

**FROM:** Chief Justice Charles T. Canady *CTC*

**DATE:** November 17, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings

---

Enclosed for your review and action is a letter dated November 12, 2010, that I received from the Florida Press Association and other organizations. The letter alleges that in some instances, members of the public and/or press either have been advised that they cannot attend mortgage foreclosure proceedings or have been prevented from attending such proceedings.

As the chief administrative officer of the Florida judicial branch, I am directing all chief judges to examine the current practices within their respective circuits to ensure that those practices are entirely consistent with the constitutional, statutory, procedural rule, and case law requirements of this state regarding the presumption that state court proceedings are open to the public.

I also ask that you communicate with all judges and court staff in your circuit to remind them of the relevant provisions relating to open court proceedings. It is important for you to communicate with the clerks of court and bailiffs within your circuit as well to ensure that those offices provide any visitors

Chief Judges of the Circuit Courts  
November 17, 2010  
Page Two

or callers with the correct information about attendance at mortgage foreclosure or other court proceedings.

I would also like to take this opportunity to clarify the Supreme Court's understanding of the goals of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Initiative, which was partially funded by the Legislature during the 2010 Legislative Session. I have reviewed Judge John Laurent's memorandum of October 28, 2010, a copy of which is attached and incorporated herein by reference. I agree with his description of the 62-percent goal established by the Trial Court Budget Commission as a means to help measure the court system's progress in the initiative and to document how the appropriation for the foreclosure initiative is being spent. There is no reason why the 62-percent goal should interfere with a judge's ability to adjudicate each case fairly on its merits. Each case must be adjudicated in accordance with the law.

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to appropriately administer and resolve the avalanche of mortgage foreclosure cases that have been overwhelming the court system during the past few years. I recognize that the challenge you face in assuring that these cases are resolved properly is unprecedented. I am confident that with the cooperation of all judges and court staff—along with the tools of the revised rules of court procedure, implementation of the managed mediation program, and the influx of court resources through the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Initiative—the Florida courts will be able to meet this challenge in a manner that protects and preserves the rights of all parties as well as interested observers.

CTC/LG/dgh

Enclosures

cc: Trial Court Administrators



Jeff Sourbeer  
Court Technology Officer  
Fourth Judicial Circuit  
Clay, Duval and Nassau Counties  
Duval County Courthouse, Room 514  
330 East Bay Street  
Jacksonville, Florida 32202  
Email [sourbeer@coj.net](mailto:sourbeer@coj.net)  
Phone (904)630-7333  
Fax (904)630-8345

---

**From:** P.J. Stockdale  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 9:56 AM  
**To:** Joseph Stelma, Jr.  
**Subject:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System

Joseph,

Please find attached the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System (FERCTS) workbook for each county in your circuit. These workbooks have been pre-loaded with all non-disposed, reopened and pending cases as of June 30, 2010 as provided by the Clerks of Court for that county. We apologize for the delay in completing these workbooks for you. Since the Foreclosure Initiative began July 1, 2010, please update these workbooks to include all initiative activity beginning on July 1, 2010. Please email a copy of these workbooks to the OSCA on the 10th of each month. **Since we are late getting this to you and there is probably a lot of work being done initially, we are going to skip the first reporting cycle and ask that you provide your first submission on September 10, 2010.** Please see the attached FERCTS Users Guide for more information.

Since this tracking application is based upon VBA macros, there are a few steps that need to be taken to get it installed and running. I've attached a set of installations instructions to this email. However, each circuit has established different security procedures that could affect installation. You may want to have one of your IT people set the application up to ensure it works properly. Please have your IT folks give me a call, if needed, and I'll go through it with them. **Please note that if you only see a spreadsheet and not a data entry screen, the application may not have installed properly.**

Please do not hesitate to contact Court Services, Kris Slayden ([slaydenk@flcourts.org](mailto:slaydenk@flcourts.org)), or PJ Stockdale ([stockdap@flcourts.org](mailto:stockdap@flcourts.org)) if you have any questions or if we can be of any assistance.

Thanks  
PJ

PJ Stockdale  
Senior Court Statistics Consultant  
OSCA - Court Services  
Supreme Court Building Annex  
500 S Duval St

Tallahassee FL 32301-1900  
(ph) 850.410.1523  
(fax) 850.414.1342

---

Please be advised that Florida has a broad public records law, and all correspondence to me via email may be subject to disclosure. Under Florida records law (SB80 effective 7-01-06), email addresses are public records. If you do not want your email address released in response to a public records request, do not send public records request to this entity. Instead, contact this office by phone or in writing.

## Melendi, Rick

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 10:34 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings

We need to send the Chief Justice's memo to all of the judges, staff, bailiffs and clerks involved in the foreclosure hearings.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 8:33 AM  
**To:** Barton, James ; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[bridenml@fjud13.org](mailto:bridenml@fjud13.org)  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Debbie Howells [<mailto:howellsd@flcourts.org>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 8:03 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Chief Judges  
**Cc:** Trial Court Administrators; Lisa Goodner; Blan Teagle; Laura Rush; Kristine Slayden; Brenda Johnson; Judge John Laurent  
**Subject:** Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings

Please see the attached memorandum from Chief Justice Canady regarding mortgage foreclosure proceedings.

Also attached is a copy of Chief Justice Canady's letter to The Florida Press Association.

Debbie Howells  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
500 S. Duval Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1900  
Phone 850-922-4370  
Fax 850-488-0156  
Email [howellsd@flcourts.org](mailto:howellsd@flcourts.org)

## Melendi, Rick

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 23, 2010 2:35 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Assistance - Mortgage Foreclosure Notices of Case Management Conference

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*

Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[bridenml@fjud13.org](mailto:bridenml@fjud13.org)  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 23, 2010 2:33 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Assistance - Mortgage Foreclosure Notices of Case Management Conference

I believe the division JA's would help, with the approval and encouragement of the division judges. We will work on the dates, with the first hearings set by the end of this year. We should set a maximum number of cases with input and agreement from the clerk. I also envision courtroom 1 as the place for the hearings. I would like J. Taylor to handle these hearings. I plan on discussing this with her next week. An AO setting the stage for these hearings has been drafted and is awaiting Manny's signature.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 23, 2010 9:37 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** Assistance - Mortgage Foreclosure Notices of Case Management Conference

I met with Carla and we are on the same page as it relates to the dismissal dockets notices and the case management notices. Her staff will handle the dismissals and our staff will handle the case management notices. She did agree to pay postage for our notices.

She has also agreed to give our staff access to banner to enter the addresses of the parties. This is the big workload issue. The first step in the process is to enter the addresses of the litigants that we will be sending the notices to. The only source for these addresses is the file. So, do you think some or all of the JA's could assist in this task? If not, ok.

The other decisions we need are:

- 1) The dates of the case management conferences through June 30, 2011
- 2) The maximum number of cases scheduled per conference
- 3) Where should we hold the conferences? I am assuming that we would use CR 1
- 4) Which Senior Judges do we want to handle the conferences?

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[bridenml@fjud13.org](mailto:bridenml@fjud13.org)  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2010 2:07 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Revised Senior Judge Schedule  
**Attachments:** Mortgage Foreclosure Schedule(2).xls

I revised the schedule to:

1. Add J. Barton to the AM of July 15 (1 hr only)
2. Removed J. Barton from the PM of July 15 (he will handle)
3. Removed J Sisco from July 7 (she will handle)
4. Removed J. Foster from July 14 at 9:45 (he will handle)

That should be it!

SENIOR JUDGE COVERAGE SCHEDULE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				7/1	7/2
				J. Evans CR. 409	
8:45				J. Foster	
9:00				J. Baumann	
9:15				J. Baumann	
9:30				J. Baumann	
9:45					
10:00					
10:15				J. Baumann	
10:30				J. Baumann	
10:45					
11:00				J. Levens	
11:15				J. Levens	
11:45				J. Levens	
12:00				J. Levens	
1:30					
1:45					
2:00				J. Foster	
2:15				J. Foster	
2:30					
2:45					
3:00					
3:15					
3:30					

SENIOR JUDGE COVERAGE SCHEDULE

	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	7/5	7/6	7/6	7/7	7/7	7/8	7/9
8:45	Holiday	J. Gomez	J. Little	J. Gomez	J. Little	J. Little	
9:00		Rm. 513	CR. 409	Rm. 513	CR. 409	CR. 409	
9:15							
9:30		J. Sisco	J. Baumann	J. Bergmann	J. Baumann		
9:45		J. Sisco		J. Bergmann	J. Baumann		
10:00		J. Sisco		J. Bergmann	J. Baumann		
10:15		J. Sisco		J. Bergmann	J. Baumann		
10:30		J. Sisco		J. Bergmann	J. Baumann		
10:45		J. Sisco		J. Bergmann	J. Baumann	J. Levens	
11:00		J. Sisco		J. Bergmann	J. Baumann	J. Levens	
11:15		J. Sisco	J. Baumann		J. Baumann	J. Levens	
11:30		J. Sisco				J. Levens	
11:45		J. Sisco					
12:00		J. Sisco					
1:30					J. Levens	J. Cook	
1:45					J. Levens	J. Cook	
2:00		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
2:15		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
2:30		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
2:45		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
3:00		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
3:15		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
3:30		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens	J. Cook	
3:45		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens		
4:00		J. Sisco	J. Pendino	J. Bergmann	J. Levens		
4:15		J. Sisco	J. Pendino				
4:30							



SENIOR JUDGE COVERAGE SCHEDULE

	Monday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Thursday	Friday
	7/12	7/13	7/13	7/14	7/15	7/15	7/16
	J. Padgett Rm. 513	J. Padgett Rm. 513	J. Little CR. 409	J. Padgett Rm. 513	J. Padgett Rm. 513	J. Little CR 409	J. Evans CR 409
9:00	J. Baumann		J. Baumann	J. Baumann	J. Barton		
9:15	J. Baumann		J. Baumann	J. Baumann	J. Barton		
9:30				J. Baumann			
9:45				J. Baumann			
10:00				J. Baumann			J. Arnold
10:15				J. Baumann			J. Arnold
10:30				J. Baumann			J. Arnold
10:45				J. Baumann			J. Arnold
11:00			J. Barton	J. Baumann	J. Barton		J. Arnold
11:15			J. Barton		J. Barton		J. Arnold
11:30							J. Arnold
11:45							J. Arnold
12:00							J. Arnold
1:30		J. Foster		J. Barton			
1:45		J. Foster		J. Barton			
2:00	J. Foster		J. Baumann			J. Arnold	
2:15	J. Foster		J. Baumann			J. Arnold	
2:30	J. Foster	J. Foster		J. Foster	J. Foster	J. Arnold	
2:45	J. Foster	J. Foster		J. Foster	J. Foster	J. Arnold	
3:00	J. Foster	J. Foster	J. Cook	J. Arnold	J. Foster	J. Arnold	
3:15	J. Foster	J. Foster	J. Cook	J. Arnold	J. Foster	J. Arnold	
3:30	J. Foster	J. Foster	J. Cook	J. Arnold	J. Foster		
3:45			J. Cook	J. Arnold	J. Foster		
4:00					J. Foster		
4:15							
4:30							

SENIOR JUDGE COVERAGE SCHEDULE

	Monday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	7/19	7/19	7/20	7/21	7/22	7/23
	J. Evans CR 409	J. Evans CR 409	J. Evans CR. 409 Section II cases	J. Gomez Rm. 513 Section I cases	J. Gomez Rm. 513 Section I cases	
8:45						
9:00	J. Foster	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	
9:15		J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	
9:30		J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	
9:45		J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	
10:00			Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	
11:00			Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	Shapiro & Fishman	
11:15						
11:30						
11:45						
					Section II Cases	
1:30				J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
1:45				J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
2:00			J. Pendino	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
2:15			J. Pendino	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
2:30	J. Foster		J. Pendino	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
2:45			J. Pendino	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
3:00			J. Pendino	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
3:15			J. Pendino	J. Levens	Shapiro & Fishman	
3:30			J. Pendino	J. Levens		
3:45			J. Pendino	J. Levens		
4:00			J. Pendino			
4:15			J. Pendino			
4:30						

SENIOR JUDGE COVERAGE SCHEDULE

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	7/26	7/27	7/28	7/29	7/30
	J. Steinberg CR 409				
9:00	J. Silver				
9:15	J. Silver				
9:30	J. Silver				
9:45	J. Silver				
10:00	J. Silver				
10:15	J. Silver				
10:30	J. Silver				
10:45	J. Silver				
11:00	J. Silver				
11:15	J. Silver				
11:30	J. Silver				
11:45	J. Silver				
12:00	J. Silver				
1:30	J. Silver				
1:45	J. Silver				
2:00	J. Silver				
2:15	J. Silver				
2:30	J. Silver				
2:45	J. Silver				
3:00	J. Silver				
3:15	J. Silver				
3:30	J. Silver				
3:45					
4:00					
4:15					
4:30					

## Gammage, Trillany

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 16, 2010 7:11 PM  
**To:** Valdes, Ryan; Hickmon, Angelina; Moreno, Elisa; Sequeira, Maria; Gammage, Trillany; Schatzberg, Beth  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure motions

Please read the email below from Judge Barton to all Circuit Civil Judges and Judicial Assistants reminding them of the procedures for all motion scheduling in Sections I & II and the referrals of motions by the sr. judges to the original circuit civil division. Please note in red below, Judge Barton's directive regarding the referrals of motions made by the sr. judges back to the original division and the tagging of the files at the time of the hearing. As it relates to workflow processes, the case manager shall be responsible for tagging the file (noting the original division circuit civil by letter division via post-it note on the court file) in the courtroom at the time the referral is made by the sr. judge. The case managers shall also be responsible for delivering the tagged files to the originally assigned circuit civil divisions – judicial assistant immediately following the conclusion of the a.m. or p.m. docket.

If you should have any questions, please get with me.

Thank you.

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 15, 2010 4:59 PM  
**To:** CIRCCIVJUD  
**Cc:** CIRCCIVJA; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Foreclosure motions

Please make sure that, when an attorney's office calls to schedule a motion hearing in a residential foreclosure case (i.e., motions to dismiss, motions to strike, etc.), the attorney is told to schedule the hearing on JAWS with the appropriate foreclosure Section. If the motion has been referred by a Section senior judge back to the original circuit civil division judge because the motion is complex or for some other reason, the attorney should be told to set the matter on the original circuit civil division judge's calendar.

Mr. Melendi should inform the Section teams to tag the files where a senior judge refers a motion back to a regular division judge and to send those files to the division judge's JA.

Questions?

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Aloia, Nancy K [mailto:naaloia@flcourts.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 5:28 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Callanan, Richard  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Trial List Notice/Case Management Conf  
**Attachments:** Order setting DS 8-10.doc; Foreclosure report.xlsx

Hello

Sorry for the slight delay but I wanted to forward you the most recent version of the order which was modified just yesterday.

We have 4 docket types running:

- 1) Docket Soundings (where the Motion for Summary Judgment may also be noticed)
- 2) Contested Hearing dockets
- 3) Uncontested Summary Judgment dockets also known as "Foreclosure Fridays"
- 4) Trial dockets

We had been allowing for other types of motions to be set at the docket soundings. However, with the new notice I am forwarding, you will notice that motions are now being required to be heard in advance of the docket sounding dates (with the exception of the MSJ). We are still modifying the process as we go along but it appears that what we have developed is working. We are showing a clearance rate of 306% for the month of August with 2,505 dispositions. Many disposition are being filed after the DS notice is received and before the actual DS date. Suggestions of Bankruptcy are also being filed once the DS notice is received because they previously forgot to put the court on notice. Just one suggestion on bankruptcy cases: You may want to check these against PACERs because it appears that once the stay is placed on the case there does not seem to be a real urgency by the attorneys to let the court know that the stay should be lifted.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can assist you with. Thank you – Nancy

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike [mailto:mbriden@flcourts.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 3:18 PM  
**To:** Callanan, Richard; Aloia, Nancy K  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Trial List Notice/Case Management Conf

Rick/Nancy,

When do you think you could send me a copy of your trial notice?

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
Tampa, FL 33602  
p: 813.272.5894  
f: 813.301.3800  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



---

**From:** Callanan, Richard [mailto:rcallanan@flcourts.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 3:42 PM  
**To:** Aloia, Nancy K  
**Cc:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Trial List Notice/Case Management Conf

Hi Nancy

When you get a moment, please send Mike Bridenback, TCA in the 13<sup>th</sup>, a copy of the Trial Notice we are using to set these Foreclosure Case Management/Docket Sounding dates. Also, it might be helpful to Mike to get him a copy of the Foreclosure settings thru October/stat report that we discussed yesterday.

Also, Mike wanted to know how we are hearing motions on those foreclosure cases – on that date or as referred to judge/magistrate at another setting? I don't know the answer to that!

Thanks Nancy.

Rick

*Richard Callanan, Trial Court Administrator  
20th Judicial Circuit  
1700 Monroe Street  
Fort Myers, FL. 33901  
239 533-1712*

---

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager.

This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept by Symantec Mail Security for the presence of computer viruses.

[www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)

---

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager.

This footnote also confirms that this email message has been swept by Symantec Mail Security for the presence of computer viruses.

[www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)



## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 12:01 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Barton, James ; Fernandez, Gaston  
**Cc:** Cash, Kim  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program Allocations

Let's meet next Monday. Kim will coordinate a time.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 11:42 AM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Barton, James ; Fernandez, Gaston  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program Allocations

We need to discuss where to cut. Attached was our original and new allocation. The new allocation is \$ 259,760 less. The due date is Wednesday May 12.

---

**From:** Heather Thuotte-Pierson [mailto:heather@courts.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 11:27 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Chief Judges; Trial Court Administrators  
**Cc:** Lisa Goodner; Kristine Slayden; Sharon Buckingham; Charlotte Jerrett; Dorothy Wilson; Arlene Johnson; Patty Harris; Theresa Westerfield; Elizabeth Garber; Greg Youchock; Gary Phillips  
**Subject:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program Allocations

Good morning,

The Legislature appropriated funding for the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program in the amount of \$5,955,606 for FY 2010/11 to the trial courts. These non-recurring funds will be used to provide temporary resources in the trial courts to eliminate backlog in the civil areas. We will be sending information on target backlog reduction goals as well as parameters for implementation and clerk involvement in this program after the May 20, 2010 Trial Court Budget Commission meeting.

The amount of funding authority appropriated for this program is less than the amount originally requested, thus the estimated allotment for each circuit also has been adjusted. You will find the estimated allocation by circuit along with estimated backlog cases in the attached PDF file – Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program. **Considering your adjusted allocation, please indicate, using the attached ForeclosureandEconomicRecovery \_ Distribution spreadsheet, how you would like the funds for your circuit distributed – by category and element.** For every element (General Magistrates and/or Senior Judges, Case Managers, General Magistrate/Senior Judge Admin Support and Mediation Admin Support) specify the dollar amount and category in which the funds should be allocated - OPS, contracted services and/or expenses dollars. To allow for maximum flexibility, funds may be expended in one or all of the elements.

As a reminder, the funding methodology developed for this proposal is based on the number of backlogged cases (in the civil areas) in each circuit. A ratio of one General Magistrate, one Case Manager and two Administrative Support positions for every 15,000 backlogged cases was applied to estimate need. One Administrative Support position is dedicated to mediation for the coordination of civil cases covered under this program with the exclusion of residential homestead mortgage foreclosure cases handled through the managed mediation program. The annual salaries used to calculate the allocation amounts were approximately: \$79,688 for General Magistrates, \$39,126 for Case Managers, and \$26,090 for Admin Support.

Additional information is also needed again from the circuits as to how economic recovery resources will be deployed circuit-wide. Court leadership would like to be able to share this information with the clerks so they can plan accordingly, since they were appropriated \$3.6 million to support our initiative. Please provide:

-The amount of **magistrate/senior judge FTE's** that will be assigned in **each county** based on the expected workload from the backlogged cases. *Note: Single county circuits can ignore this question.*

-If you have multiple **magistrate/senior judge FTE's** in the proposal, what is the maximum number of courtrooms that will be scheduled at any one time in **each county**?

As usual we are under a tight timeframe. Please respond by **Wednesday, May 12th C.O.B.**

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,  
Heather

Heather Thuotte-Pierson  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
Court Statistics Consultant  
(850) 410-3376  
piersonh@flcourts.gov



## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Walt Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 30, 2010 8:30 AM  
**To:** Lisa Goodner; Trial Court Administrators  
**Subject:** foreclosure article from 12th

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

# Foreclosure firm challenges judge who fined it

*By Todd Ruger*

*Published: Thursday, September 30, 2010 at 1:00 a.m.*

A foreclosure firm that was scolded and fined for unprofessional conduct by a Manatee County circuit judge last month has fired back, saying the judge is prejudiced against them and broke the rules herself.

The vice president of Smith, Hiatt and Diaz law firm has filed motions accusing Circuit Judge Janette Dunnigan of violating judicial ethics when she leveled a \$49,000 fine against them last month for repeatedly scheduling hearings and then not showing up.

The Fort Lauderdale firm asked for a rehearing and requested Dunnigan be disqualified from the case where she found the firm in civil contempt of court. The firm "fears that it will not receive fair consideration due to prejudice and bias of the presiding judge."

The clash over reputations -- both of the judge and lawyers who could be punished for their behavior - - underscores the growing imbroglio caused by a glut of foreclosures as local judges assert themselves to re-establish control in their courtrooms.

Judges and court dockets are overwhelmed with foreclosure cases in the wake of the housing market downturn, and large foreclosure firms are handling cases en masse, frequently filing messy and sometimes fraudulent filings to retake properties, judges say.

In a judicial district where judges have taken a hard line on improper filings, Dunnigan's ruling stood out as the first time a court officer openly attacked the methods of one of the firms responsible for filing thousands of foreclosures statewide.

The judge ruled the firm's attorneys filed what amounted to "sham" paperwork in a 2007 Manatee County foreclosure, setting seven hearings over two years and then failing to appear in court or tell the judge or other parties when they were canceled.

The order went viral in the online Florida legal community and among troubled homeowners who watchdog the so-called "foreclosure mills."

Smith, Hiatt and Diaz now has defended itself in 24 pages of motions that fault Dunnigan for breaking rules preventing judges from independently investigating facts in a case or considering evidence from other cases in front of other judges.

Roy Diaz, the firm's vice-president, said in the motions that Dunnigan essentially "blind-sided" the firm with information from other cases -- conduct that would violate judicial canons. To make it worse, he said, that information turned out to be false.

At the August hearing, the most dramatic part of the hearing came after Diaz spent about 20 minutes explaining how his firm had created a "safety net" to fix the chronic absences at hearings after Dunnigan had ordered the firm to appear on contempt of court charges.

Dunnigan retorted with information from another case the firm was handling: "Well, it's not very thorough because the same thing happened today, this morning... no one appeared and no one cancelled the hearing."

Diaz responded that the absence should have been caught in their new system. And in the new motions, Diaz says his firm actually had cancelled the other case hearing six days earlier.

"Unfortunately, due to the ongoing crisis of volume faced by all parties involved in the foreclosure litigation process, it appears that the Manatee County Circuit Court Clerk failed to timely update the Manatee County Court docket," Diaz wrote.

Smith, Hiatt and Diaz is not the only law firm firing back.

Judges have started throwing out foreclosure cases that do not follow simple court rules in the 12th Judicial Circuit, including Manatee and Sarasota counties.

Firms are challenging retired Judge Harry Rapkin's decision to throw 61 cases out of court on Friday, raising the stakes on following court rules.

Dismissing the cases forces lenders to pay another court filing fee to restart the case -- up to \$1,900.

## **Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:36 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Bridenback, Mike; Barton, James  
**Subject:** FW: here's something for your review-

**Importance:** High

fyi – please read email chain.

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:31 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** here's something for your review-

We had a case on the 2:00 docket today (def's motion to dismiss w/ embedded memorandum) where the def. counsel advised the defendant not to attend because the court has "no room". Judge Gomez asked the atty if in fact he did state that he said that he did not. Judge Gomez ruled that it be continued and to reschedule it with Mr. Lopez attending.

---

**From:** Gonzalez, Ronald [mailto:ronald.gonzalez@flcourts.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 1:07 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

She'll be there. Thank you.

Ron Gonzalez  
Circuit Civil Division  
Edgecomb Courthouse  
800 E. Twiggs Street Rm 530  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Telephone (813) 276-8100 Ext. 4883

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth [mailto:beth.schatzberg@flcourts.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:01 PM  
**To:** Gonzalez, Ronald  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

Now I know who you are talking about- tell her to come on!!

---

**From:** Gonzalez, Ronald [mailto:ronald.gonzalez@flcourts.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:59 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

Yep! For Judge Foster.

Ron Gonzalez  
Circuit Civil Division  
Edgecomb Courthouse  
800 E. Twiggs Street Rm 530  
Tampa, FL 33602

Telephone (813) 276-8100 Ext. 4883

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth [mailto:sch[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:53 AM  
**To:** Gonzalez, Ronald  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

Is she a clerk here?

---

**From:** Gonzalez, Ronald [mailto:ronald.gonzalez@hillsclerk.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:52 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

Yep!

Ron Gonzalez  
Circuit Civil Division  
Edgecomb Courthouse  
800 E. Twiggs Street Rm 530  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Telephone (813) 276-8100 Ext. 4883

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth [mailto:sch[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:51 AM  
**To:** Gonzalez, Ronald  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

Sonia is Jose Lopez's daughter?

---

**From:** Gonzalez, Ronald [mailto:ronald.gonzalez@hillsclerk.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:45 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

OK. It's Sonia's father. Sonia is going down at 2pm.

Thank you,

Ron Gonzalez  
Circuit Civil Division  
Edgecomb Courthouse  
800 E. Twiggs Street Rm 530  
Tampa, FL 33602  
Telephone (813) 276-8100 Ext. 4883

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth [mailto:sch[REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 11:38 AM  
**To:** Gonzalez, Ronald  
**Subject:** RE: 12/3/10

The defendant can absolutely be there – it is open and all is welcome!