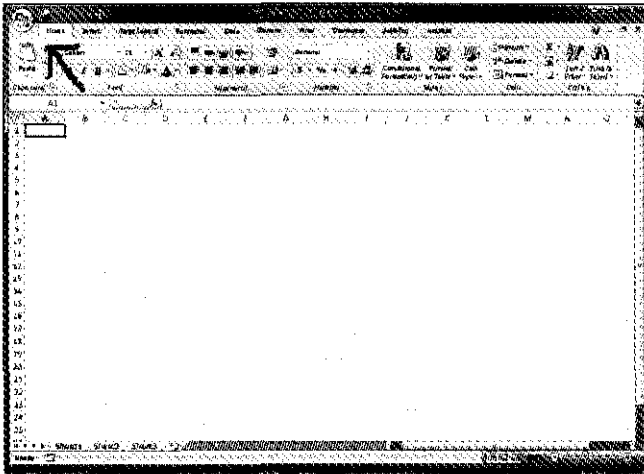


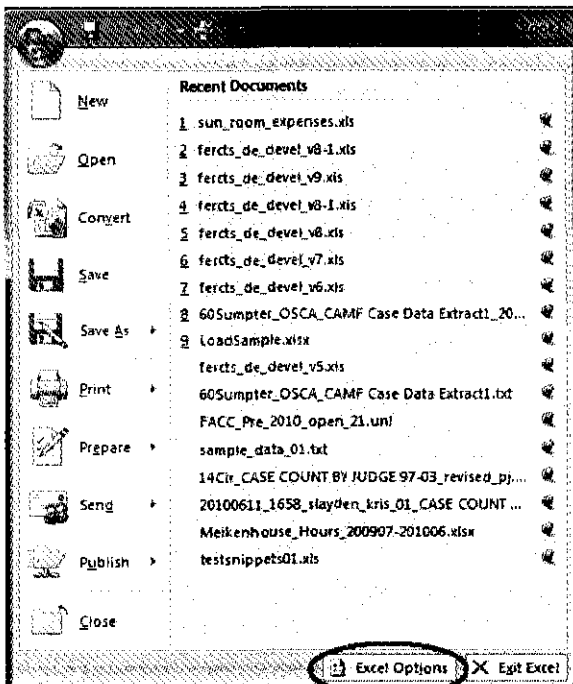
Foreclosure and Economic Recover Initiative Case Tracking System Installation Instructions

This workbook is almost entirely macro driven. Most Microsoft Office installations are installed with a high level of security set by default. To ensure that macros can run for this workbook, there a few steps you must take before you open the workbook. If you are using Excel 2007,

1. Save the FERCTS workbook to a directory to the directory where it will be used and note the location (for example C:\Foreclosure\FERCTS)
2. Open a blank Excel workbook

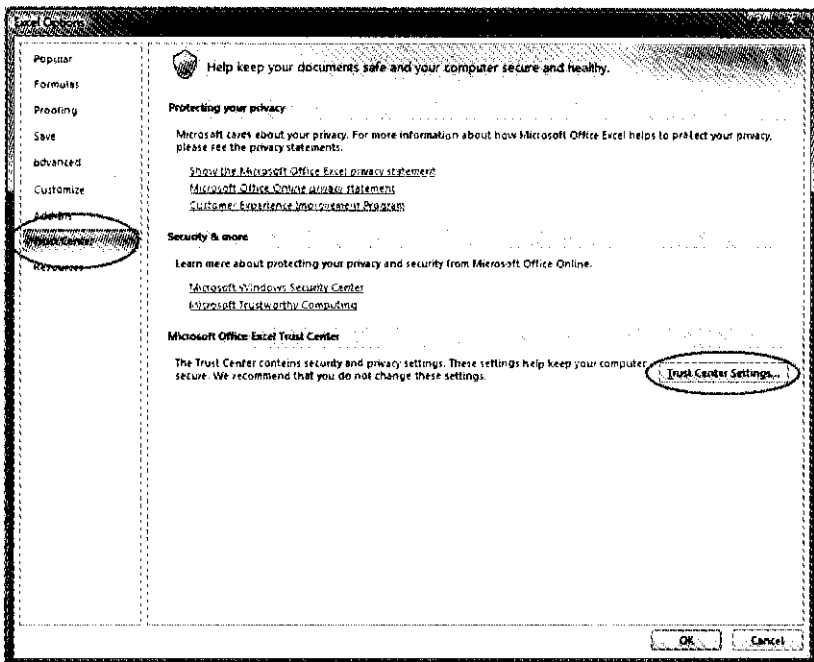


3. Click on the Windows "Office Button" in the upper left corner of the workbook
4. Click on the 'Excel Options" button on the bottom right corner of the menu

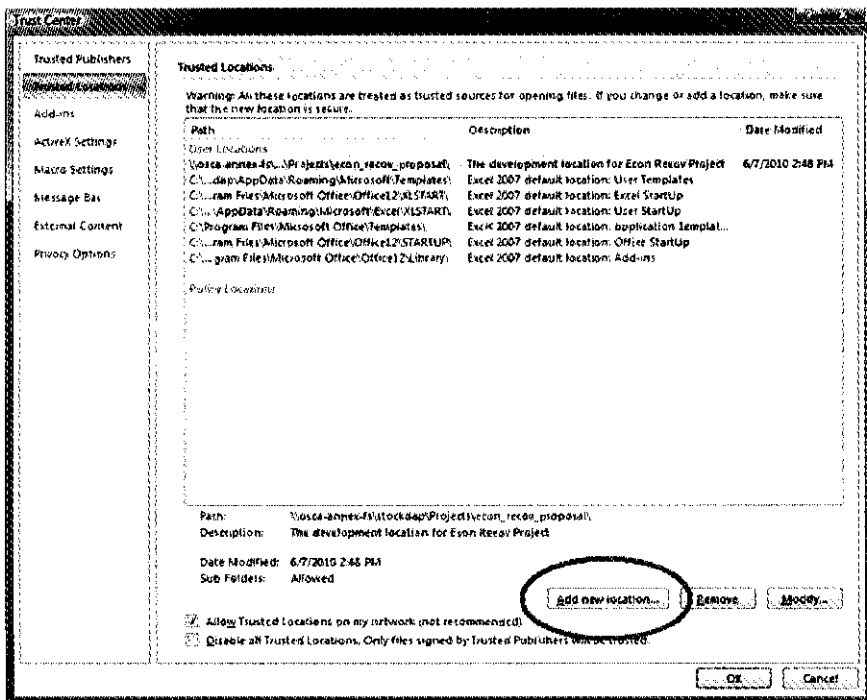


Foreclosure and Economic Recover Initiative Case Tracking System Installation Instructions

5. From this menu, select “Trust Center” and then click on the “Trust Center Settings” button



6. From the Trust Center Settings, Select “Trusted Locations” from the menu along the left side, you should see something similar to the image below:

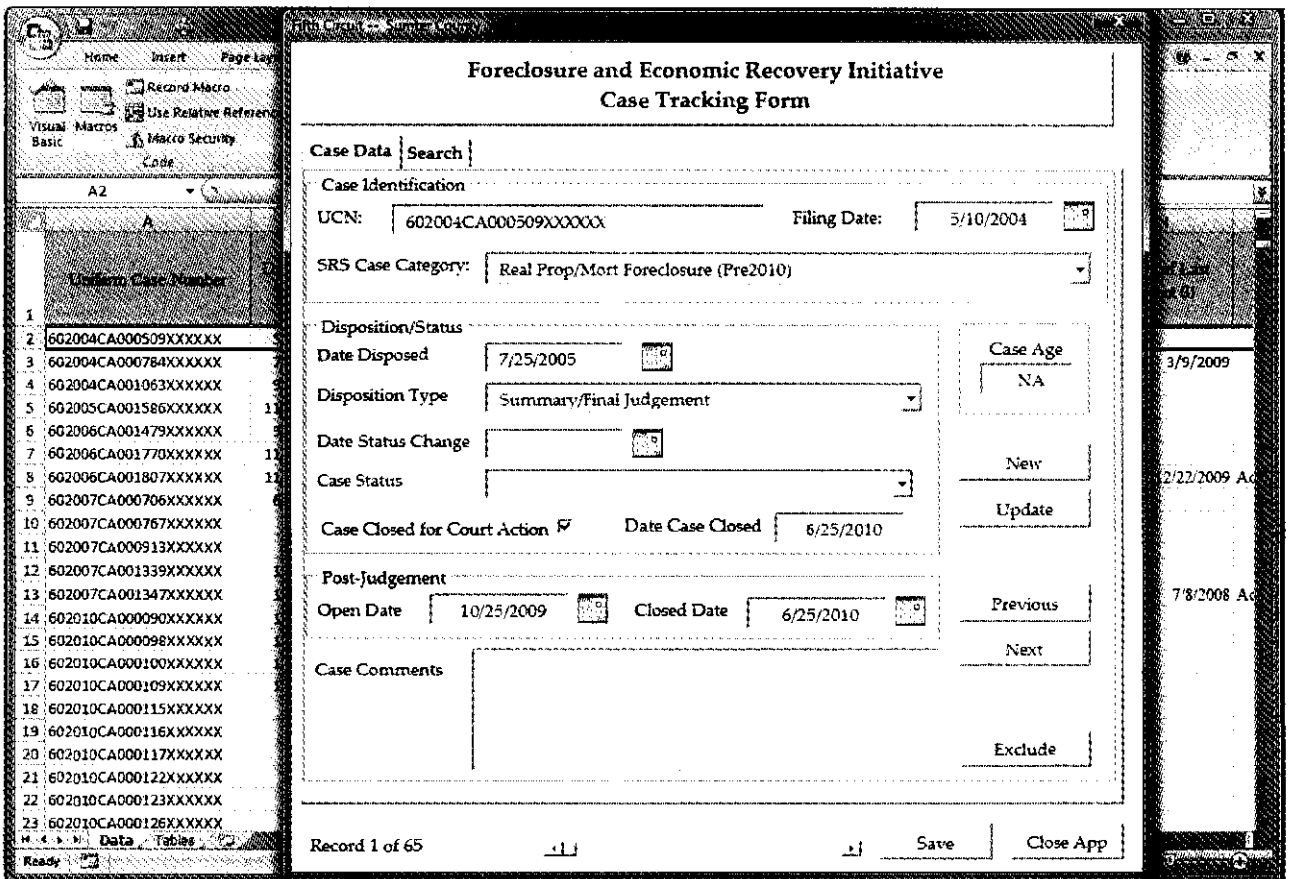


Foreclosure and Economic Recover Initiative Case Tracking System Installation Instructions

7. Click on the “Add new location” button which will bring up a dialog box to enter a location. You are going to enter the location of the FERCTS workbook that you noted in step 1 above. You can type it directly into the text box or you can use the “Browse” button to navigate to the location. Once you have found the location, click OK. This will add the location to your trust center which will allow you to enable macros without compromising security on your machine.

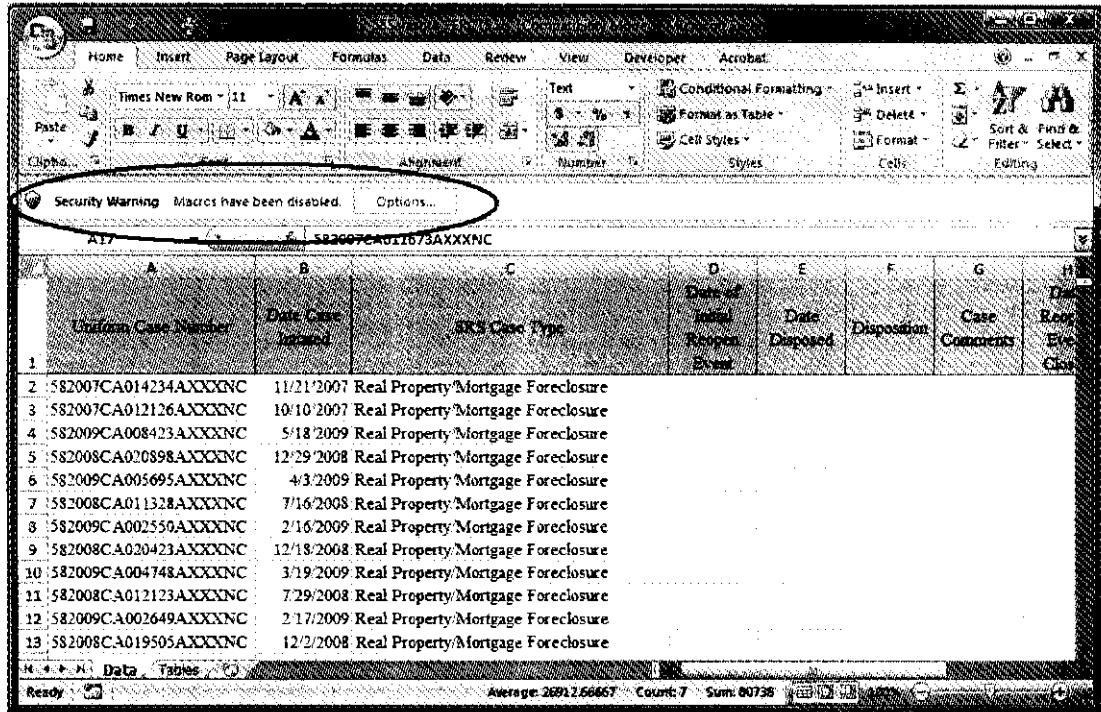
Please note, if the location that you saved your file to is not local to your workstation such as a network drive, then you must also check the box “Allow Trusted Locations on my network (not recommended). While checking this box is not always the best practice, it is acceptable in this instance. If your local security policy prohibits you from checking this box, then you will have to save the workbook in a location local to your workstation.

Now you should be able to open the workbook with macros enabled. When you double click on the workbook, you should see something like the following:

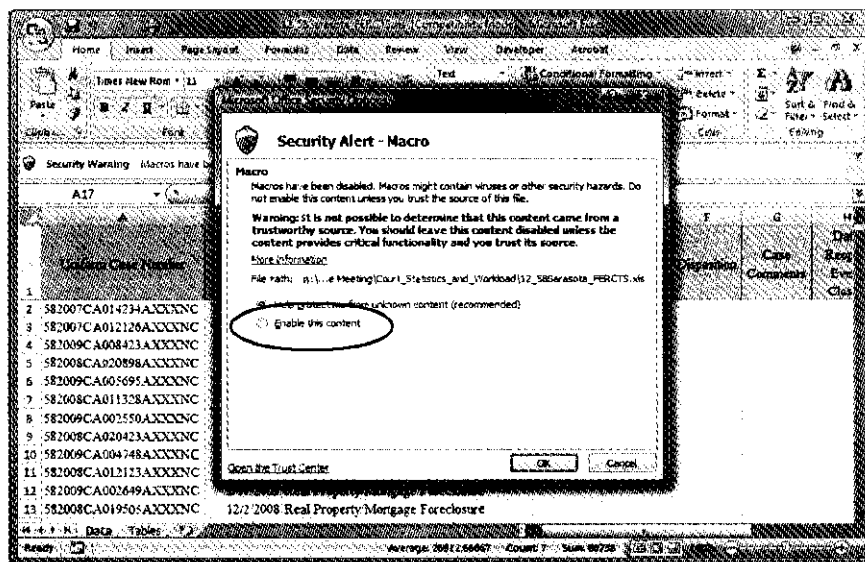


Foreclosure and Economic Recover Initiative Case Tracking System Installation Instructions

If you have completed these installation instructions and you do not receive the Data Entry Screen above but, instead, see the following, then the installation may not have completed successfully or your system has enabled more stringent security restrictions than is standard.



To check installation, click on the box labeled "Options" and click the radio button "Enable this content"



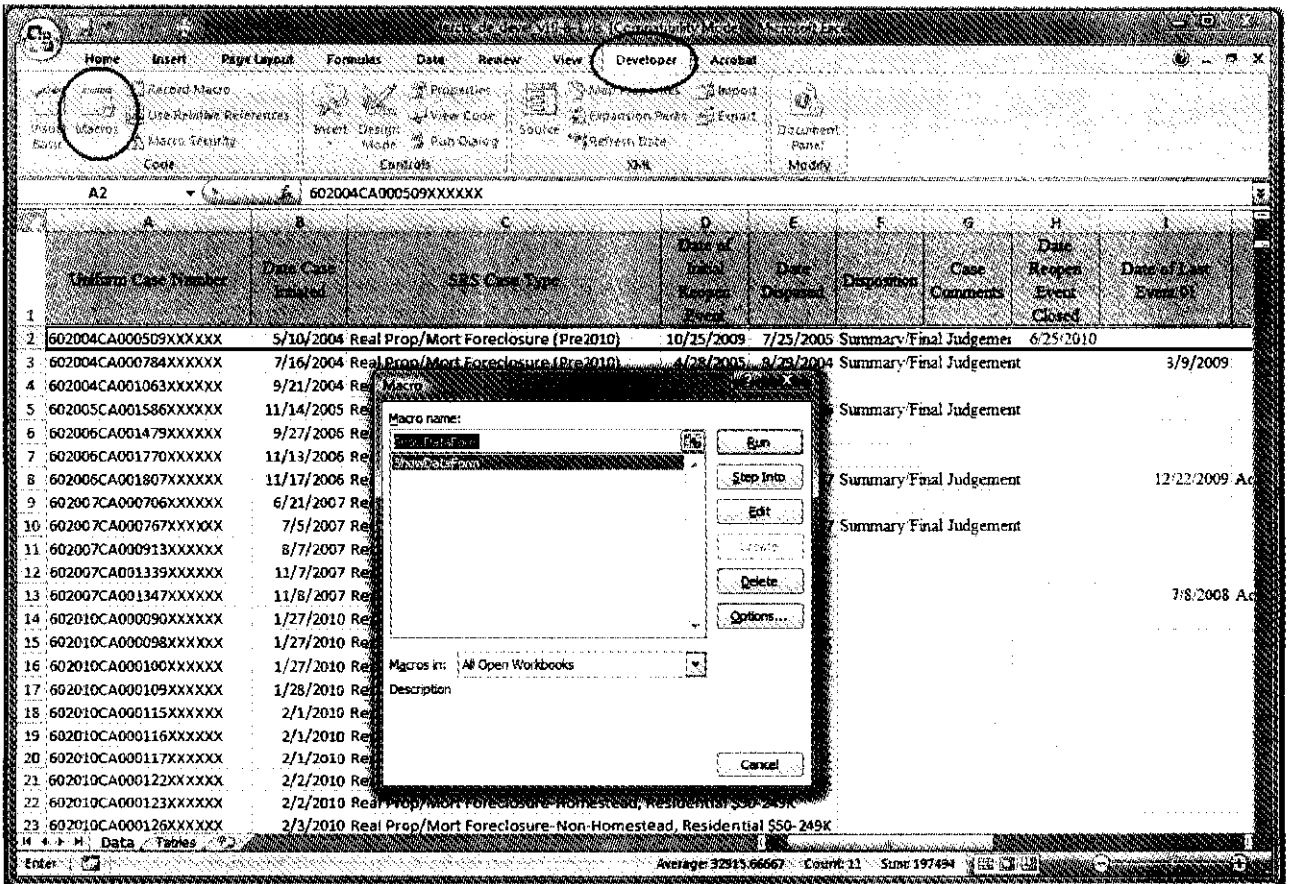
Foreclosure and Economic Recover Initiative Case Tracking System Installation Instructions

If the FERCTS initialized and then displays the data entry screen then the installation did not complete properly. If the data entry screen does not display, please contact your systems administrator for assistance in enabling macro content for these workbooks.

Note: If you are using Excel 2003, there is no solution except to lower your security level to medium or lower.

Running the Data Entry Screen directly from the spreadsheet

The user form may be run directly from the spreadsheet by pressing the shortcut key, CTRL-m or by selecting the Developer -> Macros -> ShowDataForm from the macro menu. Then select Run



Foreclosure and Economic Recovery – Case Tracking System

This document provides guidance on procedures to be used when completing the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery – Case Reporting System (FERCTS). For ease of use, this document is divided into three (3) major sections: 1) Instructions for use, 2) Definitions, and 3) Instructions for reporting to the OSCA.

FERCTS is an Excel based case tracking system that is intended to capture essential case activity data over the life of the initiative. The FERCTS provides one workbook for each county in a circuit. The workbooks have been preloaded with a list of non-disposed and reopened cases for a specific county. This list was provided by the Clerk of Courts and includes all non-disposed, reopened and pending cases outstanding as of close of business June 30, 2010. New cases, filed or reopened after June 30, 2010, that are transferred to the initiative will need to be entered into the tracking application by court administration staff either individually or in bulk.

WARNING! To provide maximum flexibility for all jurisdictions, this Excel application is provided with basic capabilities only. It is not provided as a case management tool.

Please keep in mind that it is an Excel application.

Save your work! And save often!

1. INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

General

FERCTS is an Excel based case tracking system that is intended to capture certain essential case activity data over the life of the initiative. FERCTS is not intended to provide case management capabilities. Nor is it intended to capture every event, reopen or status change in the life of the case. Instead, this application will provide a mechanism to capture and report, to the OSCA, specific and limited case information. This information will then be used as part of the final report to the Legislature describing the outcomes of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative.

The TCBC has directed that each circuit be given the maximum latitude possible in accomplishing the goals of this Initiative. Consequently, the FERCTS was designed to provide basic data reporting capabilities as part of a programmed application while making available the full data management capabilities inherent in Excel. The application provides basic data entry and search capabilities. More advanced data manipulation should be accomplished through Excel search, sort and filter functions.

Installation

The case tracking application is almost entirely driven by macro computer code written specifically for this initiative. Most Microsoft Office installations are installed with a high level of security set by default which prevents most macros from running correctly. To ensure that macros can run for this workbook, there are a few installation steps you must take before you open the workbook. Please see the separate FERCTS Installation Guide for detailed installation instructions.

If the installation was successful, the user should see the following case tracking screen after opening the workbook:

CAUTION

If you do not see the above user form, see only the underlying spreadsheet or receive an error message, please contact Court Services, PJ Stockdale, 850-410-1523, stockdap@flcourts.org for assistance.

Workbooks

The FERCTS provides one workbook for each county in a circuit. The workbooks have been preloaded with a list of non-disposed and reopened cases for a specific county. This list was provided by the Clerk of Courts and includes all non-disposed, reopened and pending cases outstanding as of close of business June 30, 2010. New cases, filed or reopened after June 30, 2010, that are transferred to the initiative will need to be entered into the tracking application by court administration staff either individually or in bulk.

To accommodate all jurisdictions and users, workbook compatibility has been set to Excel 2003. However, this limits the number of cases that can be recorded in any one workbook to approximately 65,000. For the larger circuits, workbooks can be split into county and year (e.g. 11_13MiamiDade_CY2009_FERCTS.xls). If a jurisdiction has Excel 2007 available, the workbook can be converted to Excel 2007 format with the increased capabilities associated with that format. Please contact PJ Stockdale (850-410-1523, stockdap@flcourts.org) for assistance.

Unfortunately, Excel does not have multi-user capabilities in any version. This means that a single workbook cannot be updated by two different persons at the same time. However, it is possible to make copies of the workbooks for different individuals. If multiple persons will be performing data entry, it is recommended that the workbooks be divided into calendar years or case number blocks for each individual so that each case appears in only one workbook. This practice will reduce duplication of effort and will greatly simplify updating. We ask that you save these workbooks using a standard naming format. Some examples of workbook names are

01_17Escambia_0001-4999_FERCTS.xls
01_17Escambia_5000-9999_FERCTS.xls
01_17Escambia_CY2009_FERCTS.xls

WARNING

To provide maximum flexibility for all jurisdictions, this Excel application is provided with basic capabilities. It is not provided as case management tool.

NOTE

To ensure the SAVE feature of the workbook is operational, please be sure to enter the exact, full name of the workbook in the App Workbook cell of the TABLES worksheet. (cell reference TABLES!B7)

Please contact PJ Stockdale (850-410-1523, stockdap@flcourts.org) for assistance

If you choose to bulk load data directly into the spreadsheet, it is imperative that the user use the SRS case category, case disposition category and the Type of Event category exactly as they are listed on the worksheet Tables for SRS Case Category (column D), Case Disposition (column E) and Type of Status (Column F). If these values are not entered exactly, the data entry user form will not recognize the value and will not display the record on the form. Additionally, these case records will be not be considered valid when the data is sent to the OSCA as they cannot be cross referenced to one of these categories.

CAUTION

Please keep in mind that it is an Excel application.

Save your work! And save often!

Data Entry Screen

The application provides a one page data entry and display user form with a second search tab. New cases can be added through the main user form or directly into the spreadsheet. The underlying Excel spreadsheet does allow for basic bulk loading of data to make this task easier for larger circuits. However, care must be taken to ensure the correct format and field order is maintained. Please see the Definitions section for a more detailed description of these fields.

**Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative
Case Tracking Form**

Case Data | Search | About | Glossary

Case Identification
 UCN: 582009CA005172AXXXNC Filing Date: 3/26/2009
 SRS Case Category: Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure

Disposition/Status
 Date Disposed: 11/20/2009
 Disposition Type: Summary/Final Judgement
 Date Status Change: 7/1/2010
 Case Status: Inactivity - Other (see Case Comments)
 Case Closed for Court Action Date Case Closed

Case Age
13

Post-Judgement
 Open Date: 7/6/2010 Closed Date
 Case Comments

Buttons: New, Update, Previous, Next, Exclude

Record 24 of 12264 Save FERCTS Close FERCTS

NOTE:

All pre-loaded backlogged cases assigned to this initiative have been assigned a default status of "Inactivity – Other". Please ensure that this status is changed to "Active" when either the judicial officer or support staff begins work on the case.

How to update a case record

The FERCTS is designed to capture essential case activity data. Consequently, it will be necessary for staff to update case records. For example, assume that the court is ready to take action on the case represented by the data entry screen above.

- The first action required is to reset the case status from “Inactive – Other” to “Active”. Since it is unlikely that every record to be updated will be the first record in the spreadsheet, the user will need to search for the record by UCN. See the section [How to search for a record](#) for more information on searching.

The screenshot shows the 'Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Case Tracking Form'. The case identification is UCN: 582009CA008325A0000NC, Filing Date: 5/15/2009, and SRS Case Category: Real Property: Mortgage Foreclosure. The 'Disposition/Status' section shows 'Date Disposed' as empty, 'Disposition Type' as empty, and 'Date Status Change' as 7/16/2010. The 'Case Status' is currently 'Inactive - Other'. The 'Case Age' is 430. The 'Case Closed for Court Action' checkbox is unchecked. The 'Date Case Closed' field is empty. The 'Post-Judgment' section has 'Open Date' and 'Closed Date' fields empty. The 'Case Comments' field is empty. At the bottom, it says 'Record 31 of 12264' and has 'Save FERCTS' and 'Close FERCTS' buttons.

The screenshot shows the same 'Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Case Tracking Form' but with updates. The 'Date Disposed' is now 7/19/2010, and the 'Disposition Type' is 'Judicial Judgment'. The 'Date Status Change' remains 7/16/2010. The 'Case Status' has been updated to 'Active'. The 'Case Age' remains 430. The 'Case Closed for Court Action' checkbox is now checked, and the 'Date Case Closed' field is populated with 7/19/2010. A note below this field reads: 'The date the case was closed for court action'. The 'Post-Judgment' section has 'Open Date' and 'Closed Date' fields empty. The 'Case Comments' field is empty. At the bottom, it says 'Record 31 of 12264' and has 'Save FERCTS' and 'Close FERCTS' buttons.

Additional status changes may occur as this action proceeds and staff should update the status as required.

- When a case is finally disposed for judicial action whether by disposition or resolution of a post-judgment action (see [Definitions](#)), the user should enter the date of the disposition along with the appropriate disposition type. Please note that for a post-judgment case, the user need only supply the date of re-opening or of closing. The “Case Closed for Court Action” checkbox and the “Date Case Closed” fields will be completed automatically whenever a valid disposition date or a valid post-judgment closed date is entered.
- To reduce the amount of data entry, the case status may be left as “Active” since it is redundant to require a status change of “Disposed”

How to search for a record

The tracking application provides basic search capabilities via the Search tab. Since the user has ready access to the full searching capabilities of Excel, the search function provides search capability on the three fields determined most useful during field tests; 1) Uniform case number, 2) Case status and 3) Case age. For this

initiative, case age is calculated to be the number of days from filing to the current date or from the reopen date (whichever is later) to current date.

The application search function will then allow the user to move through all of items meeting the search criteria using the “Find Next” and “Find Previous” buttons. The search function allows wildcards so that more than one case can be identified such as all cases with a UCN in 2008 (172008*) or with a case age greater than 180 days (>180). Please use the “Tips” button located on the Search tab for additional information on using wildcards.

TIP:

For more advanced data manipulation, please use the inherent processing capabilities of Excel. The user form may be closed by clicking on the red X in the top right corner of the form. The user form may be reactivated by pressing the shortcut key, CTRL-m, or from the menu by clicking the Developer option, then selecting Macros. Select the ShowDataForm macro and click the “run” button. The initial splash screen will not display but after a few moments, the user form will appear.

How to exclude case records

Due to limitations in some Clerk of Court systems, the initial set of cases pre-loaded into these workbooks may include cases that are not appropriate candidates for this initiative. The FERCTS provides an “Exclude” button on in the bottom right corner of the data entry screen which will allow the user to mark these record as ineligible. The record will not be deleted from the spreadsheet but will appear as grayed out on the data entry form.

How to add a new case record

New records may be added by clicking on the “Add” button. This will place the application in insert mode which will blank the data entry screen and will position the cursor on the first blank row at the end of the spreadsheet that is visible behind the data entry form. The user must enter, at a minimum, a Uniform Case Number, filing date and case status. The application will enter the SRS case type automatically. When initially entering a case into the tracking system, please assign the appropriate case status from the list provided.

Once the appropriate data is entered, the user must click the “Update” button to commit the record to the spreadsheet. Most buttons will not work in insert mode. To cancel the new record, click the “Cancel New” button. This will delete the new data and return the cursor to the record that was active before the “New” button was selected. Clicking the “New” button while in insert mode will save the current record and advance the cursor to the next blank record.

The Search and the Insert modes are complimentary in that the user can enter insert mode while search criteria are active. However, the reverse is not true; the user cannot enter search mode while in insert mode.

How to save your work

There are three methods for saving a FERCTS workbook: 1) Click on the “Save FERCTS” on the data entry screen. This will save the workbook and return the user to the data entry screen. 2) Click on the “Close FERCTS” button on the data entry screen. This will save and close the FERCTS workbook. It will not affect other Excel workbooks that may be open. 3) use the SAVE (CTRL-S) option from Excel

CAUTION

Please keep in mind that it is an Excel application.

Save your work! And save often!

Automatic Validity Checks

The FERCTS will perform a variety of data entry validity checks both when the data is entered and when an update is applied. Certain fields such as the UCN and date fields are checked for validity as the data is entered. The user will not be able to advance until the errors are corrected. In the case of a new record, all date errors must be corrected before the "Update" (add record) or "Cancel New" button will work. In addition to field level checks, the entire record is also checked for consistency before it is committed to the spreadsheet. At this stage, the FERCTS will check that the case record is consistent by looking at each field and ensuring that together, the information makes sense. For example, the application will check that a valid disposition category is associated with a valid disposition date.

WARNING:

Please take care if you are bulk loading data directly into the underlying spreadsheet.

It is possible to enter invalid data when entering bulk data directly into the spreadsheet (for example entering a UCN without a filing date). These records will be displayed by the data entry form. However, the application will not allow the user to leave the record until the errors are corrected. A large number of erroneous records could significantly reduce the usability of the FERCTS.

Notes on Specific Data Fields

Case Status:

Case Status captures information on the state of a case as it relates to judicial activity. Status is subdivided into three broad categories which identify whether the court is actively working to resolve a case or whether the case cannot be concluded due to extenuating circumstances and just what those circumstances are. The primary purpose of the tracking application is to identify why cases are not moving through the system

All cases transferred into the initiative have been assigned a default status of “Inactivity – Other (see Case Comments). When there is activity on these cases, please change the status from “Inactivity – Other” to “Active”.

NOTE:

When changing a case status to “Inactivity – Other”, please include a brief description of the reason in the case comments field of the record. In particular, if the case is inactive due to loss mitigation review, please add the notation “**loss mitigation review**” to the case comments. Comments are not required for those cases that were pre-loaded into these workbooks.

Case Closed For Court Action (checkbox and date):

These fields provide a convenient way of flagging a case record when no additional court action is required. They are set automatically when a case is disposed or when a reopened case is closed. Since it is not possible to predict all of the ways a case may move through the court system, the user may manually change the Date Case Closed for Court Action field or may override the status by un-checking the "Case Closed for Court Action" check box. If this box is unchecked, then the case will be considered to require additional court action before the case can be moved to sale so, please, be sure that action is required.

Date Reopen and Reopen Closed:

If the Reopen Date and the Reopen Closed date are both filled in, changing the Reopen date to a value that is greater than the current Reopen Closed date will cause the application to assume a new reopen action is pending. The application will blank out the Reopen Closed date and clear the "Case Closed for Court Action Status."

2. DEFINITIONS

Definitions for this initiative come primarily from the Summary Reporting System Manual (January 2002) with the exception of Case Status and Date Reopen Closed.

For purposes of this initiative, case status captures information on the state of a case as it relates to judicial activity and date reopen closed captures the date that a previously reopened case was closed.

Definitions for these fields are provided below.

- Circuit
- County
- Uniform Case Number – full 20 character UCN as defined by the Supreme Court
- Filing Date – initial document stamp date per the SRS Manual
- SRS Case Category – ‘Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure’
- Date of Case Status Change – captures the date case status changed from one category to another.
- Current Case Status – captures information on the state of a case as it relates to judicial activity. Over broad categories, it identifies whether the court is actively working to resolve a case or whether the judicial action cannot be concluded due to extenuating circumstances.
 - Active
 - Stayed – Bankruptcy
 - Stayed - Pending resolution of another case
 - Stayed - by Agreement of the parties
 - Stayed - Appeal pending
 - Inactivity - Attorney inactivity
 - Inactivity - Insufficient pleadings or documentation
 - Inactivity - Mediation/Settlement negotiations
 - Inactivity - Other (see Case Comments). Please include a brief description of the reason in the case comments field of the record. In particular, if the case is inactive due to loss mitigation review, please add the notation “loss mitigation review” to the case comments
- Date of Disposition – Per the SRS Manual, report cases as disposed after the final judicial decision which terminates a civil proceeding by a summary/final judgment or ordered entered by the court.
- Disposition Type – Summary/Final Judgment, Trial, and Dismissed
- Date of Reopen Event – Report the date that a post-judgment motion is filed and the \$50 fee is paid.
- Date Reopen Event Closed – Report the date on which the reopened case is closed after the motion which reopened the case has been resolved by judicial decision/order which completes court proceedings on the issue raised by the motion (ex. Motion to reschedule foreclosure sale, Order rescheduling sale)

3. INSTRUCTIONS FOR REPORTING TO OSCA

These instructions establish the reporting standards to be followed when entering and submitting FERCTS information. The FERCTS workbook encapsulates all real property/mortgage foreclosure cases that are non-disposed or reopened (i.e. pending) as of June 30, 2010. The data from this tracking system will be used to provide the Supreme Court with information on the number of dispositions, average age and clearance rate of backlogged real property/mortgage foreclosure cases. Trial court administrators are to submit a copy of the tracking system workbook on a monthly basis to the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA.) OSCA is to receive the copy no more than the 10th of the month following the end of the monthly period.

Following are the procedures to use when submitting a copy of the tracking system workbook to the OSCA.

- ✓ This workbook is almost entirely macro driven. Most Microsoft Office installations are installed with a high level of security set by default. To ensure that macros can run for this workbook, there are a few installation steps you must take before you open the workbook. Please see the separate FERCTS Installation Guide for installation instructions.
- ✓ The first transmission of the FERCTS workbook should include updates through July 30, 2010.
- ✓ A copy of the FERCTS workbook must be submitted to the OSCA by the 10th of the month following the end of the month being reported. For example, a copy of the workbook updating information through July 30, 2010 is to be sent to the OSCA by August 10, 2010.
- ✓ The workbook copy must be submitted via e-mail to FERCTS@flcourts.org. When submitting, the e-mail, the subject line must contain the following words: “foreclosure and economic recovery” and the date the workbook is submitted for. For example, a workbook submitted on August 9, 2010 for the July 2010 period would contain the subject line “Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Report – 2010/07”.
- ✓ The workbook must be submitted in the Excel form provided by the OSCA. To ensure proper operation of the application, the file name is fixed as circuit number, underscore followed by county number and name ending with FERCTS.xls. An example file name is 01_17Escambia_FERCTS.XLS.
- ✓ Once the trial court administrators submit a report to OSCA, an error check process will be performed by the OSCA. If reporting errors are identified, the circuit will be notified and errors must be corrected. Corrections will be verified on the next monthly submission.

Sequeira, Maria

From: Sequeira, Maria
Sent: Friday, October 22, 2010 1:42 PM
To: Greno, Linda
Subject: General Question

Linda:

A foreclosure mill representing the lender has asked the court to enter a judicial default instead of a clerk default against his client. The attorney has appeared in the case and also initiated discovery. Would the court ever enter a default without having a hearing?

Nauman, Chris

From: Rowland, Dave
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2010 10:07 AM
To: Nauman, Chris
Subject: FW: Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings
Attachments: Memo to Chief Judges re Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings.pdf; Letter to Florida Press Assn et al.pdf

From: Menendez, Manuel
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 2:58 PM
To: Rowland, Dave
Subject: FW: Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings

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



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 POLSTON
JORGE LABARGA
JAMES E. C. PERRY
JUSTICES

THOMAS D. HALL
CLERK OF COURT

KEVIN WHITE
ACTING MARSHAL

November 17, 2010

Mr. Sam Morley
General Counsel
The Florida Press Association
336 East College Avenue, Suite 203
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Mr. Talbot D'Alemberte
Mr. Larry Schwartztol
Mr. Randall Marshall
Mr. James Parker Rhea
Mr. C. Patrick Roberts
Mr. Gil Thelen
Mr. James Denton

Gentlemen:

Thank you for your letter of November 12, 2010, regarding public access to Florida foreclosure proceedings. As you know, judicial ethics rules prohibit me from intervening in actual legal disputes pending or likely to be filed in lower courts, including the possible future litigation you mentioned with regard to an incident in Duval County.

But Canon 3C(3) of the Florida Code of Judicial Conduct expressly says that "[a] judge with supervisory authority for the judicial performance of other judges shall take reasonable measures to assure . . . the proper performance of their other judicial responsibilities." Under the Florida Constitution, article V, section 2(b), I

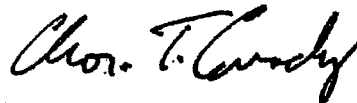
Mr. Sam Morley, et al.
November 17, 2010
Page Two

am the chief administrative officer of the state courts system. I write you solely in that capacity.

The courts of Florida belong to the people of Florida. The people of Florida are entitled to know what takes place in the courts of this state. No crisis justifies the administrative suspension of the strong legal presumption that state court proceedings are open to the public.

Today I have sent to the chief judges of Florida's twenty judicial circuits a supervisory memorandum—a copy of which is enclosed—setting forth my administrative directive on this matter. Under that directive, the chief judges shall ensure that the judges they supervise and the staff who report to those judges, as well as bailiffs and employees of the clerks of court, are not violating the rights of Floridians by improperly closing judicial proceedings to the public. The chief judges shall promptly exercise their administrative and supervisory authority to countermand closures or impediments to access that are inconsistent with Florida law.

Sincerely,



Charles T. Canady

CTC/ps

Enclosure



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



Florida Press Association
336 E. College Avenue, Suite 203
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 521-1189
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.”¹

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.

¹ 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

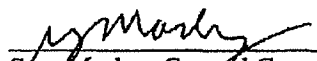
setting than usual. While we understand the necessity for ordinary and uniform security screening procedures, the unavailability of a traditional courtroom cannot justify a deprivation of the rights established under Florida law and the U.S. Constitution.

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.

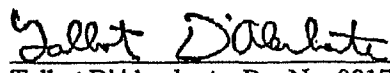
It is our sincere hope that we, and other representatives of the media, will be able to avoid instituting litigation over the issue of access to foreclosure proceedings. We do face certain time constraints, however, because Florida Rule of Appellate Procedure 9.100(d) provides for expedited review of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

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

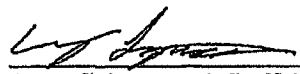
We thank you for your attention to this important matter.




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

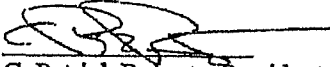


Randall Marshall, Legal Director
The American Civil Liberties Union of Florida

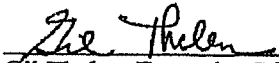
² The incident in Duval County occurred on October 26th. Accordingly, the last day to file a petition for review pursuant to Rule 9.100(d) is November 29th.



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



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



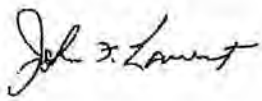
Gil Thelen, Executive Director
The Florida Society of Newspaper Editors



James Denton, Editor
The Florida Times-Union



MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief Judges of the Circuit Courts
FROM: John Laurent 
DATE: October 28, 2010
SUBJECT: Foreclosure Initiative

*The Honorable
John F. Laurent, Chair*

*The Honorable
Margaret Steinbeck,
Vice-Chair*

Members

- Catherine Brunson, Circuit Judge*
- Paul S. Bryan, Circuit Judge*
- Joseph P. Farina, Circuit Judge*
- Charles A. Francis, Circuit Judge*
- Mark Mahon, Circuit Judge*
- J. Thomas McGrady, Circuit Judge*
- Wayne M. Miller, County Judge*
- Belvin, Perry, Jr., Circuit Judge*
- Robert E. Roundtree, Jr., Circuit Judge*
- Clayton D. Simmons, Circuit Judge*
- Elijah Smiley, Circuit Judge*
- Patricia V. Thomas, Circuit Judge*
- Mike Bridenback, Court Administrator*
- Tom Genung, Court Administrator*
- Sandra Lonergan, Court Administrator*
- Carol Lee Ortman, Court Administrator*
- Walt Smith, Court Administrator*
- Mark Weinberg, Court Administrator*
- Robin Wright, Court Administrator*

Ex-Officio Members

- The Honorable Kevin M. Emas
Florida Conference of Circuit Court Judges*
- The Honorable Susan F. Schaeffer
Chair Emeritus*

Supreme Court Liaison

- Justice James E. C. Perry*

Florida State Courts System

500 South Duval Street

Tallahassee, FL 32399-1900

www.flcourts.org

In follow up to the Judicial Administration Committee conference call held on October 18, 2010, I am writing to reiterate the Trial Court Budget Commission's purpose for tracking the progress of cases the trial courts are hearing using funding provided for the foreclosure and economic recovery initiative. When the Florida Legislature appropriated special funding of \$6 million to help the trial courts with the significant backlog of foreclosure cases, the Trial Court Budget Commission established a measurement of progress that corresponded to the funding received: 62% of the backlog cases potentially could be processed because the Legislature funded 62% of the original request from the courts. A simple case tracking system was set up to monitor the progress and identify any reasons for delays. This is so that we will be able to report to the Legislature on how these funds were used. However, the Legislature has not specifically directed us to make such a report.

The 62% rate is not a quota. The 62% rate is simply a goal set by the TCBC to help measure the courts' progress in this initiative and document how the appropriation for the foreclosure initiative is being spent. The 62% rate was set before the initiative began and, most notably, before many of the lender moratoriums and other delays occurred. Please assure judges working on this project that the 62% rate was never intended to interfere with their ability to adjudicate each case fairly on its merits.

We will continue to monitor the progress of this initiative because we have an obligation to account for how these funds have been used. But we also will document all issues related to any difficulties that prevent or delay the court from hearing and disposing of cases before them.

JL/ks

cc: TCBC Members

Bridenback, Mike

From: Menendez, Manuel
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2010 3:20 PM
To: Cash, Kim
Cc: Bridenback, Mike
Subject: Residential Foreclosure Bench Book

Prepared by Hon. Jennifer Bailey & Doris Bermudez-Goodrich. See if it's available from OSCA online, maybe intranet. Then download a copy for each of our senior judges doing foreclosure cases, and our new case managers.

Sent from my iPhone

Bridenback, Mike

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 3:43 PM
To: Menendez, Manuel; Barton, James
Subject: 20th Circuit

I talked to Rick Callanan in the 20th and they are experiencing the same problem we are will the summary judgment calendars not being filled up. They have gone to a trial notice process when any case that has been pending over 12 months, a notice is sent to schedule a trial or disposition date. He says that so far, they are getting dispositions in about 60 percent of the case scheduled. He is sending me their notice and the calendars they use. The typical calendar has 80 cases scheduled and they are doing this 4 days a week.

Michael L. Bridenback
Court Administrator
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604
Tampa, FL 33602
p: 813.272.5894
f: 813.301.3800
brid@fljud13.org
www.fljud13.org



Melendi, Rick

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 12:28 PM
To: mnassief@hcsotampa.fl.us; csomella@hcsotampa.fl.us; sgibson@hcsotampa.fl.us; jlivings@hcsotampa.fl.us
Cc: Williams, Judy; Arnold, James; Albury, Janice
Subject: FW: Amended Trial weeks

Please note the change in the three (3) weeks (January 31, 2011, March 7, 2011 and March 14, 2011), Section I will conduct hearings in CR 501. Please disregard my earlier email.

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 11:51 AM
To: mnassief@hcsotampa.fl.us; csomella@hcsotampa.fl.us; sgibson@hcsotampa.fl.us; jlivings@hcsotampa.fl.us
Cc: Williams, Judy; Arnold, James; Albury, Janice
Subject: FW: Trial weeks

Marilyn,

Please be advised that starting the week of November 29, 2010 to June 30, 2011, Section I – Mortgage Foreclosure hearings will be conducted in CR 500. The only exception will be the weeks of January 31, 2011, March 7, 2011 and March 14, 2011. During those three (3) weeks, Section I will conduct its hearings in CR 501 (Arnold).

As a result of Judges' Silver and Levens agreeing to split CR 502, and the overlap of a few of their trial weeks, below in red is the courtroom number that Judge Silver will occupy during his trial weeks starting from December 13, 2010 thru April 18, 2011.

If you should have any questions, please give me a call.

From: Openchowski, Sasha
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2010 11:49 AM
To: Greno, Linda
Subject: Trial weeks

Hi Linda,
Judge Barton requested that I send you Judge Silver's upcoming trial weeks. The trial weeks are as follows:
Week of 11/15/10
Week of 12/13/10 – CR 502
Week of 1/10/11 – CR 502
Week of 1/31/11 - CR 500
Week of 3/7/11 and 3/14/11 - CR 500
Week of 4/11/11 and 4/18/11 - CR 502

Sasha,

Please send me Judge Silver's trial dockets for May & June, 2011, as soon as you have those dates set.

Thank you.

I will let you know when we post additional trial weeks 😊

Sasha Openchowski
Judicial Assistant to
The Honorable Bernard C. Silver
800 E. Twiggs Street, Room 519
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 272-6972

Melendi, Rick

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2010 5:59 PM
To: Fallon, Simone
Subject: General Civil Judges" Web Site Posting re: Residential Mortgage Foreclosures
Attachments: General CivilJudgeABCDFAnnouncement.docx; GeneralCivilJudgeG-KAnnouncement.docx

Simone,

I spoke with Angie late this afternoon regarding the need for your assistance tomorrow a.m. to post an individual announcement on each General Civil Judges' web page. Attached is the language that needs to be posted to each letter divisions/judges' page which will include a link to the Main Page of the JAWS scheduling application.

I have a meeting at 9:00 tomorrow morning, but let's see if we can get together for a few minutes before that meeting to discuss and in case you have questions.

Thanks.

General Civil, Division A – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section I** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link to JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division B – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section I** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link to JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division C – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section I** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link to JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division D – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section I** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link to JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division F – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section I** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link to JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division G – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link - JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division H – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link - JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division I – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link - JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division J – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link - JAWS Main Page)

General Civil, Division K – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application. (insert link – JAWS Main Page)

Melendi, Rick

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2010 2:47 PM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: FW: Media Requests - Foreclosure Initiative Status Report
Attachments: Status Report for September 2010 Transmission.pdf

Importance: High

Please review and let me know of any issues we need to address.

Michael L. Bridenback

Court Administrator
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Tampa, FL 33602
p: 813.272.5894
f: 813.301.3800
bridenml@fjud13.org
www.fjud13.org



From: Kristine Slayden [<mailto:slaydenk@flcourts.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2010 2:44 PM
To: Trial Court Chief Judges; Trial Court Administrators
Cc: Lisa Goodner; P.J. Stockdale; Arlene Johnson
Subject: Media Requests - Foreclosure Initiative Status Report
Importance: High

Chief Judges/Trial Court Administrators – As follow-up to the JAC conference call on Monday, September 20th, we are sending the updated status reports out and ask for your critical review of the results. We have received numerous requests for this data from reporters and do not feel comfortable releasing the information until you have had an opportunity to let us know if there are any problems with the data. Since these tables were produced from your first submission of data, we understand that there may need to be some kinks worked out in the system. Also, if you would like us to prepare any detailed reports for your circuit/county, we are available to easily produce custom reports for you.

Please contact me by COB, Monday, September 27th if you have any concerns. Thank you for your help. 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: Thursday, September 23, 2010 12:18 PM
To: Kristine Slayden
Subject: status report

Arlene Johnson
OSCA, Research and Data
Telephone 850.922.5103
Facsimile 850.414.1342

**Foreclosure and Economic Recovery
Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Cases Disposed
Status Report¹**

Circuit	Case Dispositions Target ²	July 2010 Dispositions		August 2010 Dispositions
		Total July 2010 SRS Dispositions ³	Total July 2010 Application Dispositions ⁴	Total August 2010 Application Dispositions ⁴
1	8,035	457	8	81
2	2,719	203	16	29
3	822	66	39	25
4	13,344	1,016	NA	NA
5	12,357	2,260	145	319
6 ⁵	24,424	1,208	179	1,205
7	13,383	951	945	1,316
8	1,597	206	178	133
9	31,372	2,712	1,859	2,564
10	8,047	1,129	990	1,126
11	54,532	1,826	1,733	1,290
12	15,845	1,081	320	336
13	23,672	1,348	310	1,830
14	2,873	276	253	237
15	39,309	4,440	4,110	2,980
16	1,656	58	14	54
17	35,659	2,827	2,159	3,543
18	19,252	746	524	504
19	12,844	574	373	79
20	25,423	3,326	1,184	964
Total	347,165	26,710	15,339	18,615

¹ Status Report based on September 2010 Transmission.

² Case Dispositions Target represent 62 percent of the estimated total backlog for real property/mortgage foreclosure cases during Session 2010. These statistics were based on SRS filings and dispositions reported by the Clerk of Court.

³ Total July 2010 SRS Dispositions includes dynamic SRS data for all real property/mortgage foreclosure cases reported by the Clerk of Court. Please note that the dynamic SRS data provided above may be amended by the Clerk of Court at a later date.

⁴ Total July 2010 Application Dispositions and Total August 2010 Application Dispositions are based on the FERCTS data that is provided to the OSCA on a monthly basis by each trial court. These data represent the reported information on cases disposed in July 2010 and August 2010 using the new resources. In addition, Desoto and Okeechobee Counties did not receive Foreclosure and Economic Recovery funding and are not included above; Circuit 4 has not submitted data using the FERCTS application; and Circuit 20 does not include Charlotte County.

⁵ Circuit 6 does not include complete SRS disposition data for Pasco County.

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery
Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure
Estimated Number of Cases Disposed During the "Clean Up" Time Frame
March 2010 through June 2010

Circuit	Estimated Number of Cases Disposed During the "Clean Up"¹
1	19
2	295
3	33
4	1,858
5	404
6 ²	1,161
7	6
8	133
9	1,788
10	0
11	402
12	448
13	450
14	127
15	6,149
16	15
17	256
18	172
19	0
20	1,808
Total	15,525

¹ Estimated Number of Cases Disposed During the "Clean Up" are based on historical behavior of disposition activity using SRS real property/mortgage foreclosure statistics.

² Circuits 6 does not include complete SRS disposition data for Pasco County.

**Foreclosure and Economic Recovery
Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases
Comparison of March 2010 and Current**

Circuit	Estimated Total Real Property/ Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases (March 2010)¹	Real Property/ Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases (through July 2010)²
1	12,960	11,167
2	4,385	3,466
3	1,325	1,144
4	21,523	18,030
5	19,931	14,946
6 ³	39,394	31,389
7	21,585	18,293
8	2,575	1,887
9	50,600	38,644
10	12,979	10,495
11	87,955	76,480
12	25,557	21,385
13	38,180	32,647
14	4,634	3,908
15	63,402	49,153
16	2,671	2,248
17	57,514	48,190
18	31,052	27,503
19	20,717	19,225
20	41,005	30,453
Total	559,945	460,653

Note: Totals may not be exact due to rounding.

¹ Estimated Total Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases represents the backlog calculated during Session 2010.

² Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases represents the actual backlog calculated through July 2010.

³ Circuit 6 does not include complete SRS disposition data for Pasco County.

**Foreclosure and Economic Recovery
Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Cases Disposed
July 2010 and August 2010 Type of Dispositions¹**

Circuit	Dismissed	Summary/ Final Judgment	Trial	Unidentified	Total Disposed
1	13	76	0	0	89
2	8	37	0	0	45
3	29	35	0	0	64
4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
5	120	317	0	27	464
6	7	1,376	1	0	1,384
7	883	1,358	1	19	2,261
8	110	187	5	9	311
9	1,120	3,291	1	11	4,423
10	661	1,450	1	4	2,116
11	2,170	853	0	0	3,023
12	9	646	1	0	656
13	225	1,882	0	33	2,140
14	163	321	0	6	490
15	2,193	4,860	0	37	7,090
16	10	49	0	9	68
17	1,658	4,044	0	0	5,702
18	260	756	1	11	1,028
19	244	198	1	9	452
20	1,725	421	2	0	2,148
Total	11,608	22,157	14	175	33,954

¹ Type of Dispositions are based on the FERCTS data that is provided to the OSCA on a monthly basis by each trial court. These data represent the reported information on cases disposed in July 2010 and August 2010 using the new resources. In addition, Desoto and Okeechobee Counties did not receive Foreclosure and Economic Recovery funding and are not included above; Circuit 4 has not submitted data using the FERCTS application; and Circuit 20 does not include Charlotte County.

**Foreclosure and Economic Recovery
Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure Cases Disposed
Status of Cases as of September 2010 Transmission¹**

Circuit	Disposed	Active	Inactive				Stayed				Total
			Attorney Inactive	Insufficient Pleadings or Documentation	Mediation/Settlement Negotiations	Other ²	Bankruptcy	Pending Resolution of Another Case	Agreement of the Parties	Appeal Pending	
1	89	4	3	6	10	11,357	1	0	0	0	11,470
2	45	322	42	10	13	3,617	11	0	1	0	4,061
3	64	557	0	0	0	700	7	0	0	0	1,328
4	0	0	0	0	0	18,291	0	0	0	0	18,291
5	464	4,028	3	0	3	13,586	29	0	2	0	18,115
6	1,384	276	5	227	37	34,441	8	0	1	6	36,385
7	2,261	0	0	0	0	16,852	2	0	0	0	19,115
8	311	369	119	0	12	1,662	16	0	0	0	2,489
9	4,423	3,295	0	0	0	41,548	3	0	0	1	49,270
10	2,116	9,029	1,573	5	44	646	39	1	3	2	13,458
11	3,023	39,895	0	0	0	40,676	0	0	0	0	83,594
12	656	101	7	8	5	21,035	2	0	0	0	21,814
13	2,140	0	0	0	0	31,311	0	0	0	0	33,451
14	490	1,795	784	4	35	1,628	34	1	7	4	4,782
15	7,090	0	0	0	0	43,237	0	0	0	0	50,327
16	68	396	50	10	12	1,866	10	2	1	1	2,416
17	5,702	24,488	11,559	0	5,140	11,617	0	0	0	0	58,506
18	1,028	539	5	3	1	23,466	5	0	0	0	25,047
19	452	0	0	0	0	20,415	0	0	0	0	20,867
20	2,148	27,188	119	12	1	5,391	3	0	6	0	34,868
Total	33,954	112,282	14,269	285	5,313	343,342	170	4	21	14	509,654

¹ Status of Cases as of September 2010 Transmission are based on the FERCTS data that is provided to the OSCA on a monthly basis by each trial court. These data represent the reported information on cases disposed in July 2010 and August 2010 using the new resources and the status of the remaining pending cases. In addition, Desoto and Okeechobee Counties did not receive Foreclosure and Economic Recovery funding and are not included above; Circuit 4 has not submitted data using the FERCTS application; and Circuit 20 does not include Charlotte County.

² Inactive Other was the initial status setting assigned to all cases.

Hickmon, Angelina

From: Wells, Tracy
Sent: Monday, July 19, 2010 4:51 PM
To: Hickmon, Angelina; Sequeira, Maria; Moreno, Elisa; Wells, Tracy; Schatzberg, Beth; Gammage, Trillany
Cc: Bridenback, Mike; Melendi, Rick
Subject: MEETING WITH CLERK'S STAFF

ATTENTION:

We have a meeting scheduled for Friday, July 23th at 9:00 a.m. in the Jury Auditorium, Courthouse Edgecomb, **Room 201**. This meeting is a meet and greet so that you can put a face to the names of the people that we work with in the Clerk's Office.

Please be prompt for the meeting.

T

**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 22nd 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

Wells, Tracy

From: Wells, Tracy
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2010 10:34 AM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: RE: Foreclosure motions

Thanks Rick.

T.

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Wednesday, September 15, 2010 5:53 PM
To: Wells, Tracy
Subject: Fw: Foreclosure motions

fyi

From: Barton, James
To: CIRCCIVJUD
Cc: CIRCCIVJA; Melendi, Rick
Sent: Wed Sep 15 16:59:17 2010
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: Sondra M. Lanier [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 09, 2010 9:47 AM
To: Trial Court Administrators
Subject: Foreclosure Case Management

Good morning. I'm sure that my esteemed colleagues are ahead of me on this, so would someone please share your plan? We have a conference call with our clerks this afternoon and I am working on my proposal.

Sondra Lanier

Trial Court Administrator
Third Judicial Circuit
(386)758-2163 Lake City
(386)362-1017 Live Oak
(386)362-2658 Fax

Bridenback, Mike

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Friday, September 10, 2010 8:16 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Melendi, Rick; Barton, James ; Menendez, Manuel; Wells, Tracy
Subject: 13th Circuit's Report
Attachments: 13_29Hillsborough_FERCTS.xlsm

Attached is a copy of the 13th circuit's monthly mortgage foreclosure tracking system workbook.

Bridenback, Mike

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 4:16 PM
To: Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Valdes,Ryan; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: Greno, Linda; Barton, James ; Williams, Judy; Arnold, James; Albury, Janice; Snavely Carla; Bridenback, Mike; Menendez, Manuel; Wells, Tracy; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Causey,Michael; Roberts, Julie; Taylor, Kenneth; Stafford, Becki; Drake, Patricia; Gant, Kimberly
Subject: Section I - Mortgage Foreclosure Courtroom Location - Week of November 22, 2010

Please note that Section I – Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings will be conducted in Courtroom 501, Edgecomb Building, 5th floor on **Monday, November 22, 2010, Tuesday, November 23, 2010 and Wednesday, November 24, 2010.**

A courtroom location schedule for Section I - Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings starting on Monday, November 29, 2010, will be forthcoming.

Bridenback, Mike

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 12:22 PM
To: Hickmon, Angelina; Moreno, Elisa; Valdes, Ryan; caranant@hillsdale[REDACTED];
healy@hillsdale[REDACTED]; Causey, Michael
Cc: Wells, Tracy; Bridenback, Mike; Snavey Carla; Greno, Linda; Barton, James ; Albury, Janice;
Schatzberg, Beth; Gammage, Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Roberts, Julie; Drake, Patricia;
Stafford, Becki; Gant, Kimberly; Taylor, Kenneth
Subject: Section I - Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings - week of November 29, 2010

Dear All,

Please be advised that starting the week of November 29, 2010 to June 30, 2011, Section I – Mortgage Foreclosure hearings will be conducted in CR 500. The only exception to the above are the weeks of January 31, 2011 and March 7, 2011 and March 14, 2011. During those three (3) weeks only, Section I will conduct its hearings in CR 501 (Arnold).

If any of you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Bridenback, Mike

From: Callanan, Richard [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 3:10 PM
To: P.J. Stockdale; Bridenback, Mike
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

20th Circuit - Integrity. Fairness. Service

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

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Bridenback, Mike

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Thursday, July 08, 2010 3:00 PM
To: P.J. Stockdale
Cc: Callanan, Richard; Fishbeck, Eric; Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson
Subject: Re: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

I am ok with proposed definition.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 8, 2010, at 10:04 AM, "P.J. Stockdale" [REDACTED] wrote:

Rick,

Thanks for the feedback. We have had some great feedback on this and we presenting all of the recommendations to the Court Statistics and Workload Committee. Hopefully, we can get these details nailed down at last.

There was one other issue that we wanted your feedback on. Actually, Mike, we would like your feedback as well. That is the definition of when a reopened case is closed. There is no formal definition in SRS for this event and we want case managers and initiative staff to have a clear picture of when the case is closed. We used the SRS definition for dispositions as a basis tailored it to specifically to the initiative. Please edit the below definition if you think it needs more discrete direction for the case manager.

Date Reopen Event Closed – report reopen cases as closed after the final judicial decision which terminates court proceedings, including a summary/final judgment or order entered by the court, and that transfers the case to the clerk of court for action to complete sale.

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: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 6:05 PM
To: P.J. Stockdale
Cc: Fishbeck, Eric; Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson; Mike Bridenback
Subject: RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

PJ,

I definitely agree with Mike's idea to limit the case type categories.

We have spent a lot of time with local staff, reviewing these codes and reporting elements, and our biggest problem is the large number of status codes and difficulty in capturing the status code changes. We have some ideas on simplifying the "status codes", since this is the real key to the tracking report. It is also the most difficult to capture since the clerk in the courtroom is the only real-time way to get the status changes and the clerks systems do not capture them in any detailed way.

Anyway, here is our suggestion, and Eric Fishbeck will be calling you to discuss in more detail:

1. Reduce the status codes from nine to four categories: (1) Active, (2) Stayed -Bankruptcy/Other, (3) Inactivity by Attorney/Abatement or (4) Closed. . Most clerks systems can report on at least 3 of these 4 status codes, and with a possible extract report from the clerks system that notes "last event" and "date of last event" staff may be able to research and determine if there was an order staying/inactivating the case. With fewer codes, staff may be able to work with clerks to get these type of extract reports. Frankly, clerks in small counties will a lot of difficulty capturing any data beyond active/inactive/closed.

2. Limit the "Event" reporting to ONLY the "Last Event" , "Date of Last Event" and Status Code otherwise this gets way to cumbersome. Don't try to capture all events and dates of status change through this report. If we want interim time and event analysis , we can do that with sampling.

Eric will be calling with some other thoughts and to discuss in detail..

Thanks again for the chance to comment.

Rick

From: P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 5:06 PM
To: P.J. Stockdale; Callanan, Richard
Cc: Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson
Subject: RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Rick,

Just wanted to follow up on your thoughts for the foreclosure case tracking application. Mike has suggested reducing the SRS case types to one single type "Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure" as there isn't any real need to break it out further. It seems clear from the ongoing discussion up here that the primary purpose of this reporting application is to capture some solid activity data about foreclosure cases rather than disposition data on specific case types so I am very interested in your take on the status values. The challenge is to define case status changes that are broad enough that it is practical to capture the data while making them specific enough to describe the evolution of the case. We've had some good input from Mike and Judge Bailey in this area.

I apologize for rushing a little but we are trying to lock down the details so that we can present to the Court Statistics and Workload Committee on Monday. I look forward to hearing from you.

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: P.J. Stockdale
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 3:56 PM
To: Richard Callanan; Mike Bridenback
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

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Bridenback, Mike

From: Charlotte Jerrett [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 23, 2010 5:01 PM
To: Bridenback, Mike

Hey –

Still no movement on the economic recovery issue. Have a good weekend,
C.

Charlotte Jerrett
Administrative Services Division
Office of the State Courts Administrator
(850) 488-9922
(850) 488-3744 fax

Albury, Janice

From: Albury, Janice
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:52 AM
To: Drake, Patricia
Cc: Stafford, Becki; Gant, Kimberly
Subject: RE: Foreclosure Sections I and II Schedules

I have August through December already penciled in. I'll type it up and send it out to everyone today.

From: Drake, Patricia
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:49 AM
To: Albury, Janice
Cc: Stafford, Becki; Gant, Kimberly
Subject: Foreclosure Sections I and II Schedules

Do you have an August schedule yet showing the judge assignments? I know it's a little early, but please send a copy to the Help Desk when ready. Thanks!!

From: Noll, Sharon
Sent: Thursday, June 24, 2010 9:01 AM
To: Drake, Patricia
Cc: Melendi, Rick
Subject: Phones for Foreclosure Training

Pat: One more thing, please make sure that we obtain a copy of the schedule for the senior judges that will be covering foreclosures. Until the secretaries are hired and fully trained on the phones, I need you to make sure that training is coordinated for the judges as they rotate in (every two weeks), so that the judge coming in is familiar with the phones before they start hearings. Perhaps – if you already haven't – can make up an instruction sheet to leave with them along with the Help Desk number printed on it in case they have a problem. THANKS!

Hickmon,Angelina

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 9:33 AM
To: Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth
Subject: FW: 13th Circuit Foreclosure Stats.xlsx
Attachments: 13th Circuit Foreclosure Stats.xlsx

Good morning,

Pursuant to my email request below, please send me the November, 2010, data spreadsheet. As requested, I need to forward November's data on to the Office of The States Court Administrator (OSCA) today.

Thank you.

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 3:45 PM
To: Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth
Subject: FW: 13th Circuit Foreclosure Stats.xlsx

Case Managers,

Pursuant to a request made by the Office of the States Court Administrator in Tallahassee, you will need to start tracking hearings scheduled and hearings canceled data for the next two (2) months. The information that you need to capture is contained and limited to the data requested in the attached spreadsheet. As you can see the data collection is only for one week in November and December, 2010. Please take a minute to review the attached and note the weeks in the month you will gather data.

Your cooperation and assistance is greatly appreciated.

From: Albury, Janice
Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 12:06 PM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: 13th Circuit Foreclosure Stats.xlsx

Valdes,Ryan

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Thursday, November 18, 2010 4:16 PM
To: Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Valdes,Ryan; caranant@hillsclerk.com; healy@hillsclerk.com; mnassief@hcsotampa.fl.us; csomella@hcsotampa.fl.us; jlivingston@hcsotampa.fl.us; sgibson@hcsotampa.fl.us
Cc: Greno, Linda; Barton, James ; Williams, Judy; Arnold, James; Albury, Janice; Snavey Carla; Bridenback, Mike; Menendez, Manuel; Wells, Tracy; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Causey,Michael; Roberts, Julie; Taylor, Kenneth; Stafford, Becki; Drake, Patricia; Gant, Kimberly
Subject: Section I - Mortgage Foreclosure Courtroom Location - Week of November 22, 2010

Please note that Section I – Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings will be conducted in Courtroom 501, Edgecomb Building, 5th floor on **Monday, November 22, 2010, Tuesday, November 23, 2010 and Wednesday, November 24, 2010.**

A courtroom location schedule for Section I - Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings starting on Monday, November 29, 2010, will be forthcoming.

Sequeira, Maria

From: Sequeira, Maria
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 1:40 PM
To: Greno, Linda
Subject: Question

Question:

Can an attorney upload the Motion first, then schedule the hearing, then go back in after it has been schedule and then upload the notice of hearing?

Do they still have to send in a courtesy copy, if they upload the documents?

Bridenback, Mike

From: Callanan, Richard [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 09, 2010 5:35 PM
To: 'Sondra M. Lanier'; Trial Court Administrators
Subject: RE: Foreclosure Case Management
Attachments: MemotoClerks060410.pdf

Sondra

Attached is a letter to the Clerks that summarizes the Foreclosure plans we are taking in the five counties in the circuit. Essentially, we are planning the following:

--Expedited Default Dockets- All Counties with Senior Judges assigned 4-8 days per month to expedited default dockets(250-300) per day; Admin Assts(Lee, Hendry, Collier) or Case Manager (Lee, Charlotte) will screen and manage foreclosure and civil backlog case management dockets. Clerks staff will be assigned to do central scheduling with lenders firms.

--Try or Dismiss/Case Management Dockets—Sr Judges and 1.5 Magistrates are scheduled to hear 80 cases per day/8 days per month in Lee- Any Foreclosure case over 12-18 months with no activity will be set for this docket and then moved directly to dismissal, default or trial within 30 days.

--All new Foreclosure filings (Charlotte and possibly other counties) will be set for a case management hearing date at 150 days from complaint and moved directly to default or trial dockets; All cases referred to homestead mediation as of 7/15/10 will be managed and have all motions heard by one Magistrate(Lee).

Hope this is helpful Sondra,

Rick

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

From: Sondra M. Lanier [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 09, 2010 9:47 AM
To: Trial Court Administrators
Subject: Foreclosure Case Management

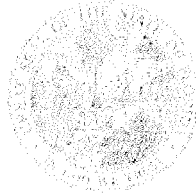
Good morning. I'm sure that my esteemed colleagues are ahead of me on this, so would someone please share your plan? We have a conference call with our clerks this afternoon and I am working on my proposal.

Sondra Lanier
Trial Court Administrator
Third Judicial Circuit
(386)758-2163 Lake City
(386)362-1017 Live Oak
(386)362-2658 Fax

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TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

LEE COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER

1700 MONROE STREET

FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33901

TEL. (239) 533-1700

FAX (239) 533-1701

G. KEITH CARY
CHIEF JUDGE

RICHARD CALLANAN
COURT ADMINISTRATOR

Memorandum

To: 20th Judicial Circuit Clerks of Court

From: G. Keith Cary, Chief Judge

Date: June 4, 2010

Re: Foreclosure Backlog Program Allotments to the Clerks of the 20th Circuit

Dear 20th Judicial Circuit Clerks of Courts,

As you will see in the attached letter, the Florida Clerk of Courts Operations Corporation (CCOC) has asked for my input as Chief Judge on the most appropriate county allocation of the \$263,028 Foreclosure Backlog Program allotment to the Clerks of the 20th Circuit.

A major impact on the Clerks will be the additional court time required by added Senior Judge days for expedited default dockets and contested foreclosure trial dockets. Backlogged foreclosure cases may also be set for trial/conference dockets with Senior Judges or Magistrates to expedite these cases and move them directly to trial or default dockets. A summary of the 20th Circuit Foreclosure Backlog staffing plan for the Circuit for July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011 is outlined below.

- Lee County is adding 180 Senior Judge days for expedited dockets; 20 Magistrate days per month in Lee will also handle foreclosure motions related to the new homestead mediation and handle foreclosure trial/conference dockets to expedite cases. Total new foreclosure hearing days approximately 420 per year/35 per month.
- Collier County is adding 162 Senior Judge days and 4 Magistrate days per month. Total foreclosure hearing time 210 per year/17.5 per month.
- Charlotte is adding 40 Senior Judge days and devoting 0.50 judge to foreclosures for a total foreclosure hearing time of 150 days/12/5 per month.

20th Judicial Clerks of Courts

Re: Foreclosure Backlog Program Allotments to the Clerks of the 20th Circuit

June 4, 2010

Page 2

- Hendry is adding 18 Senior Judge days and has approximately 0.10 judge FTE need for foreclosure volume for a total approximate foreclosure hearing time of 66 days per year/5.5 per month.
- Glades adding 38 Senior Judge Days and has approximately 0.05 judges assigned for total hearing time of 50 days per year/4.0 per month.

I would ask each of you to advise me on your opinion as to the best method to allocate the \$263,000 Clerk Foreclosure backlog reduction budget by county. Our county court allocations are based on the prorated percentage of foreclosure caseload for each county. If funded at this level, the prorated county allocations would be approximately:

Lee – 50%
Collier – 25%
Charlotte – 13%
Hendry – 6%
Glades – 6%

I would ask that you review the Foreclosure Backlog Plans, meet with your respective Circuit Administrative Judges and let me know your input on the best method of prorating the allocation of these Clerk funds by county. If the above prorated allocations look reasonable, I will forward those recommendations to the CCOC as requested. The CCOC has requested a response by June 10, 2010, so kindly let me know your input as soon as possible and no later than June 9, 2010.

Thank you for your assistance in this regard.

Attachment

cc: Honorable John S. Carlin, Administrative Judge
Honorable Cynthia A. Pivacek, Administrative Judge
Honorable Keith R. Kyle, Administrative Judge
Honorable James D. Sloan, Administrative Judge
Honorable Jack Lundy, Administrative Judge
Richard Callanan, Trial Court Administrator

13TH CIR 00666

FLORIDA CCOC

Clerks of Court
Operations Corporation



May 28, 2010

Honorable Howard Forman
Broward County
Chair

Honorable Harvey Ruvin
Dade County
Vice Chairman

Honorable Richard Weiss
Polk County
Secretary/Treasurer

Honorable John Crawford
Nassau County

Honorable Scott Ellis
Brevard County

Honorable Bob Inzer
Leon County

Honorable Buddy Irby
Alachua County

Honorable Tim Sanders
Madison County

Honorable
Margaret Steinbeck
Judge

Senate

Honorable Sharon Bock
Palm Beach Clerk

House
Vacant

Joe Boyd
General Counsel

John Dew
Executive Director

2560-102 Barrington Circle
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

The Honorable G. Keith Cary
Twentieth Judicial Circuit
1700 Monroe Street
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

Dear Chief Judge G. Keith Cary:

The Executive Council for the Clerks of Court Operations Corporation (CCOC) is requesting assistance in the allocation of the \$3.6 million nonrecurring appropriation dedicated to the Clerks of Court to assist in addressing the workload associated with the foreclosure and economic recovery initiative. This assistance will be invaluable to the success of the Clerks' ability to assist the courts in clearing the outstanding backlog of foreclosure cases in 10/11.

As already requested by the TCBC, the CCOC Executive Council also ask that you meet with each of the Clerks in your circuit to collaborate on a plan to provide resources to address the foreclosure backlog. While the CCOC has determined an amount to provide in total to Clerks in your circuit, we are still seeking additional information on how to distribute these dollars among the individual Clerks. Based on a methodology approved by the CCOC, the portion of the \$3.6 million appropriation dedicated to be distributed among the Clerks in your circuit is \$263,028.06.

After your collaboration with the Clerks in your circuit we would appreciate any information and/or suggestions you could provide to help the CCOC make a decision to allocate dollars among the Clerks in your circuit. Please provide this information/suggestion either as specific dollar amount dedicated to each county or as percentage of the circuit total.

This information can be emailed to John Dew, CCOC Executive Director at jdew@flccoc.org. Given the short timeframe to implement this initiative, please provide this information to Mr. Dew by close of business on June 5, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding this request, I have directed Mr. Dew to make himself available. In addition to the email address above, you can contact him at (850) 386-2223.

With appreciation,

Howard Forman
Chair of the CCOC Executive Council

CC: John Dew

13TH CIR 00667

Melendi, Rick

From: Lawless, Mike [mlawless@presidio.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2010 2:50 PM
To: Roberts Julie
Cc: Melendi, Rick; Schemenauer, Jayson
Subject: RE: New case management order for Foreclosures

ok - I'm on it.

Mike Lawless | Contractor | MidAtlantic
Presidio Networked Solutions | mlawless@presidio.com
www.presidio.com



From: Roberts, Julie
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2010 2:31 PM
To: Lawless, Mike
Cc: Melendi, Rick; Schemenauer, Jayson
Subject: New case management order for Foreclosures

Hey Mike –

Attached is an order that Judge Barton would like to use during next week's case management hearings. This is finalized ready to go. Can you please bump all your priorities and work on this? They would like the case style, case number and division to print from the database. The dates for the heard and signed should be the date when the case is scheduled. All orders will print all of the checkboxes. The Other is a checkbox with lines for the Judge to write instructions not TYPE instructions. All orders will be printed prior to next week's hearings and will be stacked according to date and am/pm session. Each order generated should have the original notice of hearing service list attached to the CMC order. The judge will pull off the order then physically checkmark the appropriate action and sign it. The orders will then be copied with a copy machine for the number of people on the service list.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if there are any delays in getting this done.

Thanks
Julie

Julie Roberts | Network Architect | South | Presidio Networked Solutions
jroberts@PRESIDIO.com
D: | M: 863.398.4959 | www.presidio.com
CCNP, PMP # 55412



Melendi, Rick

From: Roberts, Julie [jroberts@PRESIDIO.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 07, 2010 2:32 PM
To: Mike Lawless
Cc: Melendi, Rick; Schemenauer, Jayson
Subject: New case management order for Foreclosures
Attachments: Order on CMC.docx

Hey Mike –

Attached is an order that Judge Barton would like to use during next week's case management hearings. This is finalized ready to go. Can you please bump all your priorities and work on this? They would like the case style, case number and division to print from the database. The dates for the heard and signed should be the date when the case is scheduled. All orders will print all of the checkboxes. The Other is a checkbox with lines for the Judge to write instructions not TYPE instructions. All orders will be printed prior to next week's hearings and will be stacked according to date and am/pm session. Each order generated should have the original notice of hearing service list attached to the CMC order. The judge will pull off the order then physically checkmark the appropriate action and sign it. The orders will then be copied with a copy machine for the number of people on the service list.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if there are any delays in getting this done.

Thanks
Julie

Julie Roberts | Network Architect | South | Presidio Networked Solutions
jroberts@PRESIDIO.com
D: | M: 863.398.4959 | www.presidio.com
CCNP, PMP # 55412



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION

(Plaintiff)
vs.
(Defendant)

Case No.: (case number here)
Division: (division here)

ORDER ON CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Pursuant to a Case Management Order, this cause came on to be heard on the _____ day of December, 2010. It is therefore ORDERED AND ADJUDGED:

- Plaintiff's counsel and/or plaintiff having failed to appear, this action is DISMISSED without prejudice.
- Defendant having failed to appear, the pleadings filed therein are hereby STRICKEN and a default is hereby entered and Plaintiff shall schedule a Motion for Summary Judgment hearing within sixty (60) days of this Order.
- The Defendant has filed BANKRUPTCY. Therefore the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall REMOVE THIS CAUSE FROM ACTIVE PENDING.
- The Parties have agreed to a SETTLEMENT. Therefore the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall REMOVE THIS CASE FROM ACTIVE PENDING. If this cause goes into Default, the Plaintiff may reinstate the matter and move forward with their case.
- Plaintiff and Defendant having appeared, this case remains on the trial schedule beginning the week of January 24, 2011.
- Other

DONE AND ORDERED this _____ day of December, 2010.

Hon. Sandra Taylor
Senior Circuit Judge

copies to: (see attached service list)

- Need equipment
- Look @ OEO \$, now
- Look @ last yr. budget
- managers - requirements as to est. reporting

Managed Medication - ("Employment Model")
 - Medication Reg. Program
 - Maximalist web site
 - Homebased Swedlow

Quantitative up - require application
 this wk. process / recruitment
 - April 30th ^{appl.} deadline
 - May 10th interview

- Prepare Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")
- Template of MOU w/ OSEA.
- Request copy of template / model

- Evaluation data require to be reported by Medication Reg.
- OSEA wants data reconfigured into UDR.

Egan
 Stacey
 Lewis
 Padgett
 Palomino
 Stemberg

Taylor - starting @ \$95,000 ^{City. Level}
 HDA - Homebased Assoc.
 - Great One - "Falcatostraf"
 Curriculum - Sun / Docs / Food
 - man mortgage
 - 2: 50 Washington
 3. Plans for education
 - 4: 17

Albury, Janice

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Monday, November 08, 2010 10:45 AM
To: Albury, Janice
Subject: FW: Foreclosure Information
Attachments: cancellation stats 10-11 .pdf; ATT1617663.htm

In accordance with this email below, please prepare two (2) spreadsheets with the following columns:

Date, Total Hearings Scheduled, Hearings Cancelled (prior to hearing date), Hearings Cancelled (at time of hearing), Total Hearings Cancelled, Percentage of Hearings Cancelled v. Scheduled.

In the 1st spreadsheet list the following dates: 15 – 19 Nov. in the cells/rows.

In the 2nd spreadsheet list the following dates: 13 – 17 Dec. in the cells/rows.

Please send to me electronically for review. Thank you.

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Thursday, October 21, 2010 8:39 PM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: Fwd: Foreclosure Information

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kristine Slayden" <slaydenk@flcourts.org>
Date: October 21, 2010 3:54:44 PM EDT
To: "Kristine Slayden" <slaydenk@flcourts.org>, "Trial Court Administrators" <TrialCourtAdministrators@flcourts.org>, "Kim Miller" <kmiller@jud12.flcourts.org>, <janet.gilbert@flcourts.l.gov>
Cc: "Lisa Goodner" <goodnerl@flcourts.org>, "Laura Rush" <RushL@flcourts.org>, "P.J. Stockdale" <stockdap@flcourts.org>, "Arlene Johnson" <johnsona@flcourts.org>
Subject: RE: Foreclosure Information

TCA's: I received quite a few emails in response to the email below asking for clarification. At the risk of making Walt and Kim angry for singling them out (ha!), I have attached a spreadsheet that they sent us. We would love to have all the detail that they sent in this chart. However, at a minimum, if you have the ability to provide and it is not too burdensome, please email the total number of hearings scheduled and the number of hearings cancelled in a particular week. Please note the week period that the data applies to. We would prefer this data once a month, if possible, for the next couple of months. To keep the reporting requirements down, we are only asking for the data pertaining to one week out of the month, preferably the 2nd or 3rd week of the month. We will continue to evaluate the need for this data and let you know when to stop reporting to us.

If possible, please start with the week of October 18th, and provide it to us by Friday, October 29, 2010. Again, thank you so much for your voluntary help on this project.

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: Kristine Slayden
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)

Manatee County								
Date	MSJ Granted	MSJ denied	Dismissed	Hearing Cancelled prior to court date	Referred to contested docket	Continued for noncompliance	Total Hearings Scheduled	Percentage of cases resulting in SJ or dismissal
1-Jul	83	0	0	5	0	23	111	74.77%
8-Jul	74	0	0	12	2	28	116	63.79%
15-Jul	84	0	0	16	6	11	117	71.79%
22-Jul	61	0	0	36	5	5	107	57.01%
29-Jul	50	1	0	16	2	35	104	48.08%
5-Aug	64	3	0	21	5	34	127	50.39%
12-Aug	93	2	0	46	4	14	159	58.49%
19-Aug	47	1	0	18	3	15	84	55.95%
26-Aug	102	0	0	37	9	26	174	58.62%
16-Sep	21	0	1	29	2	0	53	41.51%
14-Oct	86	0	24	103	8	19	240	45.83%
21-Oct								
28-Oct								
							0	
TOTALS	765	7	25	339	46	210	1392	56.75%

Hickmon,Angelina

From: Hickmon,Angelina
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 7:51 AM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: RE: Keeping Track of Data!!

Okay, I was just making sure.

Thank you

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:09 PM
To: Hickmon,Angelina
Subject: Re: Keeping Track of Data!!

Angelina,

For now, just record the disposition of the case on the docket. At some point, the case managers will have to go back and enter the disposition data on an excel data tracking form. The uniform data tracking form is being developed at OSCA. I am told the circuits should have the form by July 16, 2010.

From: Hickmon,Angelina
To: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tue Jul 06 13:53:30 2010
Subject: Keeping Track of Data!!

Good afternoon,

How did you want the case managers to keep track of the final judgments? Should we make an excel spreadsheet or just keep it on the printout of the docket?

Wells, Tracy

From: Wells, Tracy
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2010 11:18 AM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: RE: Tentative Meeting w/ Clerk's office

Ok.

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Friday, August 20, 2010 11:02 AM
To: Wells, Tracy; Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth
Subject: FW: Tentative Meeting w/ Clerk's office

The meeting with the clerk's office today @ 3:30 has been confirmed. The meeting will take place in Judge Barton's hearing room (512).

See you then.

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Thursday, August 19, 2010 4:46 PM
To: Wells, Tracy; Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth
Subject: Tentative Meeting w/ Clerk's office

A tentative meeting with the clerk's office has been scheduled for tomorrow – 8/20/10 @ 3:30. Once I confirm the meeting in the a.m. tomorrow, I will send you an email confirming the time and location. The clerk wishes to discuss the issues that both our respective offices may have up to this point in the project.

Bridenback, Mike

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2010 3:43 PM
To: Kristine Slayden
Subject: RE: Media Request: Expedited hearings in Foreclosures

Kris,

Yes, we have consolidated all motions for summary judgment on two separate calendars per day where an assigned senior judge hears and rules on the motions. Not all of the motions are uncontested however.

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

From: Kristine Slayden [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 11, 2010 3:34 PM
To: Trial Court Administrators
Subject: Media Request: Expedited hearings in Foreclosures
Importance: High

TCA's: Could you please let me know if your court is using the expedited hearing process for uncontested foreclosure cases? A reporter wants to know if the majority of counties are using that process as part of the foreclosure initiative plan. Please provide a yes or no by county. 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)

Bridenback, Mike

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2010 11:23 AM
To: Snavelly Carla
Subject: Fwd: Cir13: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System
Attachments: 13_29Hillsborough_FERCTS.xls; ATT283618.htm; FERCTS_Installation_Guide.pdf; ATT283619.htm; FERCTS_Users_Guide.pdf; ATT283620.htm

Please review and let me know how you may be able help the court with this reporting requirements.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "P.J. Stockdale" <[REDACTED]>
To: "Bridenback, Mike" <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Cir13: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System

Mike,

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 ([REDACTED]@[REDACTED].org), or PJ Stockdale ([REDACTED]@[REDACTED].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

Bridenback, Mike

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 12:14 PM
To: Menendez, Manuel
Subject: Fwd: July 2010 status report
Attachments: Status Report as of July 31, 2010.pdf; ATT65761.htm

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kristine Slayden" [REDACTED]
Date: August 30, 2010 9:09:26 AM EDT
To: "Bridenback, Mike" <[REDACTED]>
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 date 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

Melendi, Rick

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2010 9:37 AM
To: Melendi, Rick
Subject: FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Non-recurring Funding FY 2010/11
Attachments: ForeclosureandEconomicRecovery_FundingPlans_Updated05212010.pdf; Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Responses from Circuits_May 2010_v2.pdf; 62% Estimated RPFM Backlog.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Rick,

I meant to say to begin lining up senior judges. I had a senior moment.

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
www.fjud13.org



From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 3:31 PM
To: Barton, James ; Melendi, Rick
Cc: Thullbery, Heather
Subject: FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Non-recurring Funding FY 2010/11

Our plan was approved. We can proceed with recruitment of the 4 court Program Specialist II's and 2 senior secretaries. Rick, you should not try to get commitments from senior judges. When we hear from the clerk about their resources, we will need to escalate our plans to get this program in place by July 1.

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
www.fjud13.org



From: Kristine Slayden [mailto:slaydenk@flcourts.org]
Sent: Friday, May 21, 2010 2:42 PM
To: Trial Court Chief Judges; Trial Court Administrators
Cc: Trial Court Budget Commission; Lisa Goodner; Charlotte Jerrett; Dorothy Wilson; Gary Phillips; Theresa Westerfield; Heather Thuotte-Pierson; Kristine Slayden; Sharon Bosley; Sharon Buckingham
Subject: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Non-recurring Funding FY 2010/11

Chief Judges/Trial Court Administrators – The Trial Court Budget Commission met yesterday and approved the following 5 issues for the implementation of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding for FY 2010/11. Any adjustments to your circuit’s plan based on these decisions need to be emailed to Dorothy Wilson at burked@frcourts.org by COB Tuesday, May 25th. Please refer to the bottom of this email for further submission instructions.

Please note that the allocations will be provided to the Chief Justice and the Legislature for final approval.

Issue 1: FY 2010/11 Funding Allocations Approved

- 1) Approved the FY 2010/11 circuit allocations for the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding, with an adjustment to the contracted services category for case management and administrative support for the 10th, 12th, and 15th circuits (due to restrictions with using contractual dollars). The revised allocation chart is attached.
- 2) Approved effective date for the implementation of the circuits’ plans so resources can be deployed on July 1, 2010, using existing FY 2009/10 funds for advertising if necessary.

Issue 2: Types of Cases and Disposition Goals Approved

- 1) Approved real property/mortgage foreclosure cases as the focus of this initiative. If a circuit has cleared all real property/mortgage foreclosure cases from backlog, the circuit may request in writing to the TCBC Chair, with a copy to the TCBC Budget Management Committee Chair, and to the State Courts Administrator, asking to use the funds to handle contracts and indebtedness cases, and county civil cases valued from \$5,001 to \$15,000.
- 2) Approved a targeted goal for the disposition of backlog cases of 62%, which corresponds to the reduction in funding (\$9.6 million proposal reduced down to \$6.0 million appropriation is a 38% reduction).

The attached chart indicates the targeted backlog reduction for the **estimated** Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure backlog cases for each circuit. The actual number of backlog cases will need to be produced at the beginning of the initiative for tracking purposes.

Issue 3: Budget Policy Considerations Approved

- a) In order to comply with legislative intent, any expenditure of any type utilizing this funding is strictly limited to direct support of the backlog reduction of the approved case types listed in Issue 2.
- b) In order to ensure that senior judges who are assigned to the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery initiative are paid with the appropriate funds, the current senior judge application will be modified to allow circuits to specify from which funding source the senior judge should be paid. The Trial Court Administrators are responsible for ensuring that the information is reported properly.
- c) Expenditures from the Expense category are limited to intra-circuit travel for staff, intra- and inter-circuit travel for Senior Judges, consumable office supplies, postage, copying, printing and reproduction. To maximize the Expense allotment, circuits are encouraged to use existing resources or surplus furnishings for any office furniture needs for OPS staff and/or Senior Judges. Subscriptions and the like are not allowable expenditures for this funding, neither are computers or other communication devices as those items are a county funding responsibility.
- d) A contingency for the Expense category was approved in the original proposal and factored into the appropriated amount. In order to access these contingency funds, a circuit must have exhausted its Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Expense allotment. Requests for additional Expense are to be made in writing to the TCBC Chair, with a copy to the TCBC Budget Management Committee Chair, and to the State Courts Administrator. The request must provide a complete, detailed explanation of how Expense funding came to be

exhausted, what steps were taken to alleviate the impending shortfall, the amount requested and how that amount was calculated.

Issue 4: Funding/Plan Monitoring Approved

- a. The Budget Management Committee (BMC) will monitor expenditures on a monthly basis to ensure that resources are only being used for the purpose of backlog reduction for the approved case types. In addition, the BMC will monitor case event data to ensure that expenditures correlate with the TCBC approved activities.
- b. The Supreme Court Inspector General will also be reviewing the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery initiative for potential inclusion in the branch’s FY 2010/11 audit plan.

Issue 5: Clerk Assistance Approved

Information on in-courtroom resources (general magistrates and senior judges) that will be assigned in each county and the maximum number of courtrooms that will be scheduled at any one time in each county will be shared with clerks once it has been finalized (see attached chart – please update this information, if needed). The chief judge in each circuit should work with their clerks to ensure the clerks appropriately support their plan. These plans need to be shared with the Office of the State Courts Administrator so that the legislature can be informed of the collaborative work on this issue. In addition, the TCBC approved the requirement that the clerks of court provide data support for this initiative.

Two other issues on performance measurement and FY 2011/12 Legislative Budget Request were postponed until the June 4th TCBC meeting.

Directions:

If the decisions above require you to modify your plan allocations, please make the adjustments and notify Dorothy Wilson of the specific changes to the allocation categories by email at burked@ficourts.org by COB, Tuesday, May 25, 2010. If no changes are needed, please indicate that in an email to Dorothy. In addition, if any changes in your allocations require a revision to the in courtroom resources, please provide that information also.

Listed below are the job classes and hourly rates for OPS positions that were used in the original proposal for the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding. The TCBC approved the circuit allocations with direction to the circuits that they hire within these guidelines.

<u>Element</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Maximum rate</u>
Magistrates:	Magistrate	\$35.48 hourly
Case Management:	Court Program Specialist II	\$17.36 hourly
	Court Program Specialist I	\$14.58 hourly
	Court Program Specialist I	\$15.40 hourly w/ CAD – Hillsborough and Pinellas
	Court Program Specialist I	\$15.40 hourly w/ CAD – Broward, Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach
Admin. Support:	Senior Secretary	\$11.89 hourly
	Senior Secretary	\$12.10 hourly w/ CAD – Hillsborough and Pinellas
	Senior Secretary	\$12.48 hourly w/ CAD – Broward, Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach

This amount does not include the 7.65% FICA that needs to be added to the hourly rate.

Lastly, some circuits have already developed plans and position descriptions for the implementation of this initiative. You may want to check with our colleagues if you need some assistance in developing your own plan.

Please let me know if you have any questions. 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)

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal FY 2010/11 Circuit Allocations

Circuit	General Magistrate/Senior Judge				Case Management			General Magistrate/Senior Judge Administrative Support			Mediation Administrative Support			Total	
	GM OPS	GM Contracted Services	GM/Senior Judge Expense	Senior Judge Days	OPS	Contracted Services	Expenses	OPS	Contracted Services	Expenses	OPS	Contracted Services	Expenses		
1			\$5,200	\$32,200	\$63,179		\$5,786							\$106,365	
2			\$2,426	\$21,180	\$40,142		\$4,800	\$34,217		\$3,600				\$106,365	
3					\$38,171			\$26,090						\$64,261	
4				\$172,729				\$40,000						\$212,729	
5				\$44,100				\$140,430		\$113	\$28,086			\$212,729	
6			\$6,514	\$82,950	\$117,378		\$3,000	\$104,360		\$3,550				\$317,752	
7			\$3,351	\$91,000	\$117,378		\$1,000							\$212,729	
8		\$37,035	\$2,500	\$17,500	\$39,126		\$5,204		\$5,000					\$106,365	
9				\$246,750	\$178,707									\$425,457	
10				\$18,200	\$42,119		\$8,980	\$28,086		\$8,980				\$106,365	
11	\$82,481		\$2,597	\$171,500	\$457,782		\$20,925	\$120,568		\$6,200				\$862,053	
12			\$1,411	\$94,500	\$114,000		\$2,818							\$212,729	
13			\$2,500	\$195,000	\$168,477		\$5,355	\$56,172						\$427,504	
14			\$5,000	\$32,430	\$36,115		\$2,500	\$27,820		\$2,500				\$106,365	
15			\$10,000	\$140,000	\$313,008		\$17,000	\$161,475		\$5,057				\$646,540	
16		\$14,400	\$12,725	\$49,700				\$27,989		\$1,551				\$106,365	
17				\$87,500	\$547,549		\$11,491							\$646,540	
18				\$260,643				\$58,451						\$319,094	
19			\$12,000	\$84,000	\$84,238		\$4,405	\$28,086						\$212,729	
20	\$135,470			\$153,300	\$39,126			\$71,472			\$26,090			\$425,458	
Sub Total	\$217,951	\$51,435	\$66,224	\$1,995,182	\$2,396,495	\$0	\$93,264	\$925,216	\$5,000	\$31,551	\$54,176	\$0	\$0	\$5,836,494	
														2% Expense Contingency	\$119,112
														Executive Direction	\$44,394
														Grand Total	\$6,000,000

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
1	Escambia						0.09	24	1
	Okaloosa						0.12	32	1
	Santa Rosa						0.05	12	1
	Walton						0.09	24	1
	Total	8,035	\$0	\$0	\$32,200	0.00	0.35	92	4
2	Franklin						0.04	10	1
	Gadsden						0.04	10	1
	Jefferson						0.04	10	1
	Leon						0.04	10	1
	Liberty						0.04	10	1
	Wakulla						0.04	10	1
	Total	2,719	\$0	\$0	\$21,180	0.00	0.24	60	6
3	Columbia								
	Dixie								
	Hamilton								
	Lafayette								
	Madison								
	Suwannee								
	Taylor								
	Total	822	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0	0
4	Clay						0.63	165	1
	Duval						0.84	218	2
	Nassau						0.42	110	1
	Total	13,344	\$0	\$0	\$172,729	0.00	1.89	493	4

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
5	Citrus						0.10	25	1
	Hernando						0.10	25	1
	Lake						0.19	51	1
	Marion						0.10	25	1
	Sumter						0.00	0	0
	Total		12,357	\$0	\$0	\$44,100	0.00	0.49	126
6	Pasco						0.46	118	2
	Pinellas						0.46	119	2
	Total		24,424	\$0	\$0	\$82,950	0.92	237	4
7	Flagler						0.25	65	1
	Putnam						0.25	65	1
	St. Johns						0.25	65	1
	Volusia						0.25	65	1
	Total		13,383	\$0	\$0	\$91,000	0.00	1.00	260
8	Alachua					0.00	0.19	50	1
	Baker					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Bradford					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Gilchrist					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Levy					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Union					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Total		1,597	\$0	\$37,035	\$17,500	0.50	0.19	50
9	Orange						2.00	470	2
	Osceola						1.00	235	1
	Total		31,372	\$0	\$0	\$246,750	0.00	3.00	705

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
10	Hardee						0.00	0	0
	Highlands						0.00	0	0
	Polk						0.20	52	1
	Total	8,047	\$0	\$0	\$18,200	0.00	0.20	52	1
11	Dade	54,532	\$82,481	\$0	\$171,500	1.00	2.00	490	3.5
12	Desoto						0.00	0	0
	Manatee						0.52	135	2
	Sarasota						0.52	135	2
	Total	15,845	\$0	\$0	\$94,500	0.00	1.04	270	4
13	Hillsborough	23,672	\$0	\$0	\$195,000	0.00	2.14	557	2
14	Bay						0.36	92	1
	Calhoun						0.00	0	0
	Gulf						0.00	0	0
	Holmes						0.00	0	0
	Jackson						0.00	0	0
	Washington						0.00	0	0
	Total	2,873	\$0	\$0	\$32,430	0.00	0.36	92	1
15	Palm Beach	39,309	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	0.00	1.54	400	2
16	Monroe	1,656	\$0	\$14,400	\$49,700	0.18	0.55	142	3
17	Broward	35,659	\$0	\$0	\$87,500	0.00	0.96	250	2
18	Brevard						1.91	496	2
	Seminole						0.95	248	1
	Total	19,252	\$0	\$0	\$260,643	0.00	2.86	744	3

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
19	Indian River						0.18	48	1
	Martin						0.18	48	1
	Okeechobee						0.00	0	0
	St. Lucie						0.55	144	1
	Total		12,844	\$0	\$0	\$84,000	0.00	0.91	240
20	Charlotte					0.00	0.15	40	1
	Collier					0.20	0.62	162	1
	Glades					0.00	0.15	38	1
	Hendry					0.00	0.07	18	1
	Lee					1.50	0.69	180	2
	Total		25,423	\$135,470	\$0	\$153,300	1.70	1.68	438
State Total		347,165	\$217,951	\$51,435	\$1,995,182	3.38	22.33	5,698	66

Note: Information provided for Maximum Courtrooms in circuits 13 and 14 represent Hearing Rooms. All totals may not be exact due to rounding.

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
1	Escambia						0.09	24	1
	Okaloosa						0.12	32	1
	Santa Rosa						0.05	12	1
	Walton						0.09	24	1
	Total	8,035	\$0	\$0	\$32,200	0.00	0.35	92	4
2	Franklin						0.04	10	1
	Gadsden						0.04	10	1
	Jefferson						0.04	10	1
	Leon						0.04	10	1
	Liberty						0.04	10	1
	Wakulla						0.04	10	1
	Total	2,719	\$0	\$0	\$21,180	0.00	0.24	60	6
3	Columbia								
	Dixie								
	Hamilton								
	Lafayette								
	Madison								
	Suwannee								
	Taylor								
	Total	822	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00	0.00	0	0
4	Clay						0.63	165	1
	Duval						0.84	218	2
	Nassau						0.42	110	1
	Total	13,344	\$0	\$0	\$172,729	0.00	1.89	493	4

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
5	Citrus						0.10	25	1
	Hernando						0.10	25	1
	Lake						0.19	51	1
	Marion						0.10	25	1
	Sumter						0.00	0	0
	Total		12,357	\$0	\$0	\$44,100	0.00	0.49	126
6	Pasco						0.46	118	2
	Pinellas						0.46	119	2
	Total		\$0	\$0	\$82,950	0.00	0.92	237	4
7	Flagler						0.25	65	1
	Putnam						0.25	65	1
	St. Johns						0.25	65	1
	Volusia						0.25	65	1
	Total		13,383	\$0	\$0	\$91,000	0.00	1.00	260
8	Alachua					0.00	0.19	50	1
	Baker					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Bradford					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Gilchrist					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Levy					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Union					0.10	0.00	0	1
	Total		1,597	\$0	\$37,035	\$17,500	0.50	0.19	50
9	Orange						2.00	470	2
	Osceola						1.00	235	1
	Total		\$0	\$0	\$246,750	0.00	3.00	705	3

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
10	Hardee						0.00	0	0
	Highlands						0.00	0	0
	Polk						0.20	52	1
	Total	8,047	\$0	\$0	\$18,200	0.00	0.20	52	1
11	Dade	54,532	\$82,481	\$0	\$171,500	1.00	2.00	490	3.5
12	Desoto						0.00	0	0
	Manatee						0.52	135	2
	Sarasota						0.52	135	2
	Total	15,845	\$0	\$0	\$94,500	0.00	1.04	270	4
13	Hillsborough	23,672	\$0	\$0	\$195,000	0.00	2.14	557	2
14	Bay						0.36	92	1
	Calhoun						0.00	0	0
	Gulf						0.00	0	0
	Holmes						0.00	0	0
	Jackson						0.00	0	0
	Washington						0.00	0	0
	Total	2,873	\$0	\$0	\$32,430	0.00	0.36	92	1
15	Palm Beach	39,309	\$0	\$0	\$140,000	0.00	1.54	400	2
16	Monroe	1,656	\$0	\$14,400	\$49,700	0.18	0.55	142	3
17	Broward	35,659	\$0	\$0	\$87,500	0.00	0.96	250	2
18	Brevard						1.91	496	2
	Seminole						0.95	248	1
	Total	19,252	\$0	\$0	\$260,643	0.00	2.86	744	3

Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Proposal In-Courtroom Resources Only

Circuit	County	Target Backlog Reduction	General Magistrate OPS	General Magistrate Contracted Services	Senior Judge Days	Estimated General Magistrate FTE	Senior Judge		Maximum Courtrooms
							Estimated FTE	Estimated Days	
19	Indian River						0.18	48	1
	Martin						0.18	48	1
	Okeechobee						0.00	0	0
	St. Lucie						0.55	144	1
	Total	12,844	\$0	\$0	\$84,000	0.00	0.91	240	3
20	Charlotte					0.00	0.15	40	1
	Collier					0.20	0.62	162	1
	Glades					0.00	0.15	38	1
	Hendry					0.00	0.07	18	1
	Lee					1.50	0.69	180	2
	Total	25,423	\$135,470	\$0	\$153,300	1.70	1.68	438	6
State Total		347,165	\$217,951	\$51,435	\$1,995,182	3.38	22.33	5,698	66

Note: Information provided for Maximum Courtrooms in circuits 13 and 14 represent Hearing Rooms. All totals may not be exact due to rounding.

Target Backlog Reduction
Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding
Backlog Cases
FY 2006/07 through Estimated FY 2010/11

Circuit	Estimated Real Property/ Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases	62% of Estimated Real Property/ Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Cases
1	12,960	8,035
2	4,385	2,719
3	1,325	822
4	21,523	13,344
5	19,931	12,357
6	39,394	24,424
7	21,585	13,383
8	2,575	1,597
9	50,600	31,372
10	12,979	8,047
11	87,955	54,532
12	25,557	15,845
13	38,180	23,672
14	4,634	2,873
15	63,402	39,309
16	2,671	1,656
17	57,514	35,659
18	31,052	19,252
19	20,717	12,844
20	41,005	25,423
Total	559,945	347,165

Melendi, Rick

From: Bridenback, Mike
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 11:20 AM
To: Barton, James ; Melendi, Rick
Subject: FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding - Reporting Issues

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
www.fjud13.org



From: Kristine Slayden [<mailto:slaydenk@ficcourts.org>]
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 10:42 AM
To: Trial Court Administrators
Cc: Lisa Goodner; P.J. Stockdale; Arlene Johnson; Randy Long; 'John Dew'
Subject: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding - Reporting Issues

Trial Court Administrators - On June 4, 2010, the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC) discussed the monitoring of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Initiative. As reported in an earlier email from me, the TCBC voted at their May meeting that the focus for this project will be on Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure cases and adopted as the primary goal of the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Initiative:

- ❖ 62% of all Real Property/Mortgage Foreclosure cases pending (non-disposed and reopened) will be disposed in FY2010-11

In order to monitor the success of this initiative, the following statistics will be calculated:

- Clearance rates
- The number of cases disposed
- The percent of backlogged cases
- The average age of target cases

To calculate the above statistics, you will need to track the foreclosure cases throughout the year. As a starting point, you will need information on the cases pending in your circuit at the beginning of this initiative. The following information will need to be requested from the clerks of court:

1. Circuit,
2. County,
3. Uniform Case Number,
4. The date the case was initiated,
5. The applicable SRS case type of the case

6. The date the case was reopened, if applicable
7. The date the case was originally disposed (for reopened cases only)
8. The SRS disposition category (for reopened cases only)

We met with the FACC yesterday and are planning to send out a letter to all 67 clerks of court asking them to send this data to the OSCA. **Please allow us to contact the clerks for this data so that the request can be uniform across the state and the timeframe will be consistent.** Once we get the data from the clerks (we are hoping to get it by July 9, 2010), we will format it in a reporting worksheet and send it out to you to track the cases, along with detailed instructions.

One issue that came up during the meeting yesterday was the issue of reopened cases not being reported as closed due to the SRS reporting requirements. We believe that the list of open cases that the clerks will provide may include some cases that are actually closed. Our instructions will request that you review the list to identify those cases that need to be removed due to the fact that they are already closed. Information from the JIS should allow your case manager to determine the status of the cases. Please let us know if the staff person that will be tracking the cases doesn't have access to JIS and we will make sure they get it.

In addition, the OSCA will include in its audit schedule additional time to audit this data to ensure that the data reported is accurate. The Court Statistics and Workload Committee of the Trial Court Performance and Accountability Commission will oversee the data collection instruments and reporting elements.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about this reporting. 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)

Gammage, Trillany

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Friday, November 19, 2010 12:22 PM
To: Hickmon, Angelina; Moreno, Elisa; Valdes, Ryan; caranant@hillsclerk.com; healy@hillsclerk.com; Causey, Michael
Cc: Wells, Tracy; Bridenback, Mike; Snavely Carla; Greno, Linda; Barton, James ; Albury, Janice; Schatzberg, Beth; Gammage, Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Roberts, Julie; Drake, Patricia; Stafford, Becki; Gant, Kimberly; Taylor, Kenneth
Subject: Section I - Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings - week of November 29, 2010

Dear All,

Please be advised that starting the week of November 29, 2010 to June 30, 2011, Section I – Mortgage Foreclosure hearings will be conducted in CR 500. The only exception to the above are the weeks of January 31, 2011 and March 7, 2011 and March 14, 2011. During those three (3) weeks only, Section I will conduct its hearings in CR 501 (Arnold).

If any of you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Schatzberg, Beth

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 4:37 PM
To: Schatzberg, Beth; Gammage, Trillany; Moreno, Elisa
Subject: FW: Keeping Track of Data!!

fyi

From: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:09 PM
To: Hickmon, Angelina
Subject: Re: Keeping Track of Data!!

Angelina,

For now, just record the disposition of the case on the docket. At some point, the case managers will have to go back and enter the disposition data on an excel data tracking form. The uniform data tracking form is being developed at OSCA. I am told the circuits should have the form by July 16, 2010.

From: Hickmon, Angelina
To: Melendi, Rick
Sent: Tue Jul 06 13:53:30 2010
Subject: Keeping Track of Data!!

Good afternoon,

How did you want the case managers to keep track of the final judgments? Should we make an excel spreadsheet or just keep it on the printout of the docket?