

## Hickmon,Angelina

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2010 5:09 PM  
**To:** Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy; Greno, Linda; Cash, Kim  
**Subject:** CMC Docket Annotations

Below is a copy of the Order on Case Management Conference that will be signed by the Judge. Depending on what section of the Order the Judge checks off below, in "red" is the corresponding annotation entry that needs to be noted on the docket in each case for purposes of data entry. At the end of each a.m./p.m. docket session, please deliver the annotated docket to Tracy Wells.

### ORDER ON CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Plaintiff's counsel and/or plaintiff having failed to appear, this action is DISMISSED without prejudice. Dism'd = Dismissed

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. A = Active

The Defendant has filed BANKRUPTCY. Therefore the Clerk of the Circuit Court shall REMOVE THIS CAUSE FROM ACTIVE PENDING. B = Bankruptcy

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. S = Settlement

Plaintiff and Defendant having appeared, this case remains on the trial schedule beginning the week of January 24, 2011. T = Trial

Other: If the Judge checks this section and Orders something other than the above, please note on the docket in narrative form what the judge ordered.

## Schatzberg, Beth

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2010 2:56 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure checklist

Yes, it needs to stay with the file & I'm sure there would be no problem, if so, let me know.

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 13, 2010 1:36 PM  
**To:** Pride, Lisa  
**Cc:** Hickmon, Angelina; Moreno, Elisa; Gammage, Trillany; Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Foreclosure checklist

Lisa-

We are filling out forms for each file that is on the docket. Some of them are being re-scheduled for a variety of reasons. Would the clerk's office be okay with us leaving the foreclosure checklist attached to the file so that when it comes back, we do not have to redo it, just update it?

Your input /suggestions are welcomed-

Beth

## Schatzberg, Beth

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:56 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: motions to be signed

Make sure he signs the one from yesterday setting aside the FJ that was entered in error - thanks

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:53 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: motions to be signed

He's cranking them out now

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:51 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: motions to be signed

He should be on his way downstairs now.

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:48 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: motions to be signed

We have given them to him – he left yesterday without signing & will be heading upstairs @ 2:00 for the Pendino docket.

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:47 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: motions to be signed

If you have a senior judge here, the orders are to be given to that judge to sign.

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:43 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Cc:** Gammage, Trillany  
**Subject:** motions to be signed

Linda-

All went well today – we heard a total of 49 cases with a couple continued. I have a suggestion – can we have the 10 judges still sign their motions that are not for summary judgments? Today, we have 72 to sign (half from yesterday & half today). They are the ones that are more time-consuming with the stuffing of the envelopes & sealing when there are many of the foreclosures to conform & get out.

What are your thoughts/ ideas on it?

Beth

**Moreno,Elisa**

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

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

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

Rick,

24 total cancelled for today

Breakdown:

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

Thanks!

Elisa

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

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

Sorry for not being clear.

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

Rick,

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

Thanks,

Elisa

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

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

Thank you.

## Bridenback, Mike

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2010 11:19 AM  
**To:** Snavey Carla  
**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  
[REDACTED]  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



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**From:** Kristine Slayden, [REDACTED]  
**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)



## Bridenback, Mike

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

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

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

The other decisions we need are:

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

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## **Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 4:28 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Rowland, Dave; Nauman, Chris; Barton, James  
**Cc:** Cash, Kim  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure Letter to Chief Justice Canady.docx  
**Importance:** High

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

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

Letter to Chief Justice Canady

Copy to Lisa Goodner, State Court Administrator

Dear Chief Justice Canady:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

blocks of time with no more than 15 cases scheduled per time block. We use an automated system where the attorneys schedule their cases on a web-based calendaring system. An attorney must certify that the case is ready for final resolution before it can be calendared. Notice to all parties is provided through this automated calendaring system. Many of the hearings are conducted telephonically.

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

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

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

In any event, we are now in the process of developing a rotation schedule that will hopefully free up courtroom space so that all the foreclosure proceedings may be held in that type of setting,

rather than in a hearing room. As you know, we are struggling to handle an extraordinary amount of work with limited resources. We have put in place procedures which we feel are efficient and which allow for due process to all who have business before the court. We are of course always open to suggestions as to how to improve the system and would welcome an independent review of our process.

Please advise if there is any additional information you desire.

**Bridenback, Mike**

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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## Bridenback, Mike

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 1:51 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Sr. Judge Web-Based System

**Importance:** High

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
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f: 813.301.3800  
[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



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**From:** Charlotte Jerrett [redacted]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 1:28 PM  
**To:** Trial Court Administrators  
**Cc:** Gary Phillips; Mandy Couch; Don Lubbers; Denise Overstreet; 'Michelle Oh'; Delcynth Schloss  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Web-Based System  
**Importance:** High

Hi All,

In follow-up to our discussion during Monday's conference call, the regular sr. judge circuit allotments will be posted and available for payment requests tomorrow morning, July 1, 2010.

The economic recovery sr. judge circuit allotments will be available sometime on or after July 15, 2010. The system is still in testing and we hope to have it finished for your use around that time. As such, I am asking that you not submit payment requests for sr. judges performing work on foreclosure cases until you hear back from me that the system is ready for use.

Please keep in mind that it is critical that these resources be accounted for separately. If you have any questions please give me a call.

Thanks for your help and have a safe and restful holiday weekend.  
C.

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



**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 3:18 PM  
**To:** Callanan, Richard; Aloia, Nancy K  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Trial List Notice/Case Management Conf

Rick/Nancy,

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

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
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Tampa, FL 33602  
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f: 813.301.3800  
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[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



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

Hi Nancy

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

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

Thanks Nancy.

Rick

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

## Albury, Janice

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 26, 2010 1:43 PM  
**To:** Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** FW: Trial weeks

fyi

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**From:** Yanez, Nancy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 26, 2010 12:41 PM  
**To:** Noll, Sharon; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Trial weeks

For the foreclosure hearings we are going to use the following courtrooms, in priority order, as available:

501  
502 (only if 501 isn't available)  
500 (only if 501 and 502 aren't available)

Is there an easy way to combine what is on the web with the info below so we can keep a running schedule of what is open?

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 26, 2010 12:34 PM  
**To:** Yanez, Nancy  
**Subject:** FW: Trial weeks

Below is J. Silver's trial (courtroom) schedule through April of next year. J. Arnold's and J. Levens' schedules are on our website.

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 26, 2010 11:49 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** FW: Trial weeks

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**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  
Week of 1/10/11  
Week of 1/31/11  
Week of 3/7/11 and 3/14/11  
Week of 4/11/11 and 4/18/11

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

## **Albury, Janice**

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**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 01, 2010 2:33 PM  
**To:** Guerra, Carmen  
**Subject:** FW: Office/Courtroom Location & Phone Numbers / Foreclosure Sections I & II

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:15 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Wells, Tracy; Albury, Janice; Noll, Sharon  
**Subject:** FW: Office/Courtroom Location & Phone Numbers / Foreclosure Sections I & II

fyi

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

Judge,

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

rtm

### **Section I**

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

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

Office - Phone No.: (813) 272-8572  
Hearing Room - Phone No.: (813) 272-8575  
Senior Judge - Phone No.: (813) 272-8571

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

Case Mgr. - Phone No.: (813) 272-8583  
Case Mgr. - Phone No.: (813) 272-8584

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### **Section II**

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

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

Office Phone No.: (813) 272-5121  
Courtroom - Phone No.: (813) 272-8581

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

**Room 425**

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

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

**Valdes,Ryan**

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

For your information,

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

Thank you.

Tracy.

## Schatzberg, Beth

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:34 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

Only if the Motion was not the correct form

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:31 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

Do you recall the instance that Judge Gomez is talking about that you told him about the writ that would make him think not to sign one?

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:30 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

The form does not have to be notarized. If you look at the form it provides for either it to be either notarized by just a signed statement by the attorney. So, it is an either/or ---

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:20 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

They both are verified but not notarized and he said that you said they needed to be notarized. So verified is enough?

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:18 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

They need to be "verified" the form motion is on the web site under forms

---

**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:17 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

Sorry that I didn't make myself more clear when I asked it the first time – the rule of thumb for the motion. Does it need to be notarized? We have 2 Writs & Judge Gomez said that he wasn't signing them and referred to a similar case that you informed him of the need for it to be notarized.

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2010 8:10 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: writ of possessions

The judge only signs the Order Directing the Clerk to Issue the Writ. The writ is then issued by clerk & sent to Sheriff for service.

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**From:** Schatzberg,Beth

**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2010 4:14 PM

**To:** Greno, Linda

**Subject:** writ of possessions

Linda-

What is the rule with the Judge signing a Writ – what is required for him to sign?

Thanks!

Beth



**Nauman, Chris**

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 2010 10:13 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Attachments:** Letter to Lisa Goodner.docx

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**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010 3:12 PM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** FW:

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010 2:24 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Cc:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** RE:

Attached is a rough draft for your review.

\*\*\*\*\*

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



---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 16, 2010 10:28 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Barton, James  
**Subject:**

I would like to reply to OSCA today, before this gets out of control! Did you see Judge Barton's email? It's a good start.

**St. Petersburg Times**  
**tampabay.com**

# ACLU: Keep foreclosure hearings open in Florida courts

Times staff

The American Civil Liberties Union is urging judges to ensure that foreclosure proceedings in Florida's courts are open to the public and the media. In letters sent to Chief Justice Charles Canady of the Florida Supreme Court and Chief Judge Donald Moran of Florida's Fourth Judicial Circuit, the ACLU cites a "troubling pattern of foreclosure courts operating behind closed doors." The ACLU says court observers who called two courts to ask about rules governing foreclosure proceedings were told they were closed to the public. Also, the ACLU says an attorney (a reference to April Charney, an attorney with Jacksonville Area Legal Aid) reportedly was "castigated" by a judge for attending a proceeding with *Rolling Stone* magazine reporter Matt Taibbi. His story, critical of the Jacksonville's "rocket docket" court for expediting home foreclosures, hit the newsstands Friday. Florida Chief Justice Canady told the AP on Monday that he is "deeply concerned" about the allegations.

*Manuel Menendez, Jr.*

*Chief Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida*

*800 E. Twiggs St., Suite 602, Tampa, FL 33602*

*813-272-5022*

Letter to Lisa Goodner

Dear Lisa:

In response to the reference in the letter to the Chief Justice from the Florida Press Association that "...[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", I directed Judge James Barton, Administrative Judge of the Circuit Civil Division and Mike Bridenback, the court administrator, to conduct an inquiry to determine the validity of this allegation. It is difficult to investigate such an allegation that does not provide any specifics as to who the "court observer" is that made the call or who the person talked to that he or she references as the "court".

There are multiple entities that a person may call. These include a judicial assistant for a judge, a judge, the court administrator and its various departments, the clerk of court and its various departments or the sheriff's court security and operations unit. Judge Barton contacted each of the judicial assistants and judges who routinely handle mortgage foreclosure cases and did not find one person who recalls accepting a call where the question was are the foreclosure proceedings open to the public. The individuals questioned by Judge Barton about this issue confirm that they understand that foreclosure hearings are open to the public and indicated that they would not have told anyone that the hearings are closed.

Mr. Bridenback contacted the clerk of court's chief deputy for court operations who oversees the departments that support the handling of mortgage foreclosure cases and requested that she inquire with her staff to determine if anyone received a call requesting information about whether the foreclosure proceedings are open to the public. The chief deputy reported back to Mr. Bridenback that no one remembers fielding such a call. She also confirmed that staff acknowledged an understanding that foreclosure proceedings are open to the public and would not indicate otherwise to any individual who may ask such a question.

Now, there was an incident where a reporter for the New York Times came to the front desk of the clerk's circuit civil department and asked where the foreclosure dockets were being held. The clerk who responded did indicate that the hearing room was attached to judges' chambers which entry is restricted. This means that in order to get to the hearing room, the bailiff or the judicial assistant must permit entry. This procedure has been in place since the Edgecomb Courthouse was opened in 2003. Most of the hearings in the circuit civil division occur in hearing rooms not courtrooms. These hearing rooms are attached to judges' chambers. For obvious security reasons, any

attorney, litigant or even court staff must request entry. No one has unfettered access to the area where judges are located in this courthouse. But, all who request entry who have business before the court or who may just wish to observe are granted access.

It is my understanding that the reporter may have interpreted this restrictive process as a barrier to observe the proceedings. The reporter expressed concern about this to Mr. Bridenback who attempted to explain the procedures and that they were not intended to deny access to a public court proceeding. The result was that the reporter was given access and was able to observe the proceedings.

Mr. Bridenback also talked with each of the court staff who supports the mortgage foreclosure project. This included the chief of court operations, chief administrative assistant to the court administrator, the central receptionist who handles all calls coming into the court administrator's office, the case managers and secretaries assigned to the foreclosure project. Again, no one recalls receiving a call regarding whether the foreclosure proceedings are open or not. All confirmed that they understood that these proceedings are open and stated that they would not have ever said otherwise to anyone who may inquire either in person or on the telephone.

The case managers and secretaries are on the front lines of this project. They have a lot of contact with attorneys and litigants. Some did indicate that they have heard complaints about the security restrictions for entry into the hearing room from attorneys and litigants. Also, the hearing room is small and because of the volume of cases, there are occasions when not all individuals can actually get into the hearing room. Chairs are lined up along the hallway leading into the hearing room where the overflow sometimes has to sit awaiting their hearing. This is a practical reality that does exist particularly on Fridays when all motions are heard. We are in the process of relocating the hearings to a larger courtroom that permit easier access and accommodate more people. We hope to have this new courtroom operational by the end of the year.

The bailiffs who support the foreclosure proceedings were also contacted. They fully understand the policy of foreclosure proceedings being open to the public. The sheriff has a comprehensive education and training program that addresses proper protocols for officers to address issues such as this. They too do not recall receiving a call concerning whether the proceedings are public or not. They also have the responsibility for the security of judges, court staff, attorney, litigants and the public. The exercise of this responsibility sometimes requires the officer to be forceful in carrying out this important task. The bailiffs did report that they have met resistance on occasion from attorneys and litigants when they are exercising their discretion to maintain security for all who enter the courthouse and could understand where their actions could be misconstrued.

The possible source for this allegation may be Matt Weidner, attorney who publishes a Blog on the internet ([mattweidnerlaw.com](http://mattweidnerlaw.com)). In a recent blog on September 24, 2010, Mr. Weidner states that “across this state, oftentimes in secret courtrooms that are hidden from the public using evidence and information that is hidden from the scrutiny of press or public view, judges will be signing thousands of foreclosure judgments. I was in one of those secret Kafka-esque courtrooms in Tampa yesterday...”

Of course, like any other Blog, this is Mr. Weidner’s opinion. He may believe this to be true but I do not share his opinion and a reasonable analysis of the foreclosure process in place in the 13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit would reveal nothing could be further from the truth. We would welcome an independent review of our process.

Once again, due to the lack of access to a traditional courtroom, foreclosure proceedings in one of the two foreclosure sections in our circuit are being held in a hearing room that is located adjacent to judges’ chambers in an area where entry is screened for security reasons. I acknowledge that it is not a courtroom that someone can access through a public lobby. Because of the volume of cases, there may be situations where bailiffs in carrying out their prescribed duties, find it necessary to delay access for safety or security reasons. No one has ever been denied access to these proceedings. I can also assure you that the judges hearing these cases are very experience judges who are reviewing each case on its merits and making a judgment based on the facts and law in the case. The real difference between how these cases were handled prior to the project and now are that we had 10 judges conducting foreclosure dockets with no case management support prior to the implementation of this project. We now have 2 judges handling all foreclosure cases with case management support.

Our case managers review every case calendared to determine whether all required documents are properly filed and ready for consideration by the court. Hundreds of cases have been pulled from the calendar due to lack of insufficient pleadings. The case managers are in the hearing and record all actions taken by the judge. The cases are set in 30 minute blocks of time with no more than 15 cases schedule per time block. We use an automated system where the attorneys schedule their cases on a web-based calendaring system. An attorney must certify that the case is ready for final resolution before it can be calendared. Notice to all parties is provided through this automated calendaring system.

Most of the hearings are conducted telephonically. Summary Judgment hearings are held Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm. Cases are calendared on two dockets each handled simultaneously by a senior judge. We have a pool of 6 senior judges who are assigned for a two week period. On Fridays of each week, non-dispositive motion hearings are held between 9 am and 5 pm. Beginning in December,

we are also conducting case management conferences for those cases that have not been calendared for summary judgment hearing. The purpose of these hearings is to determine why the case is not moving toward disposition and to set these cases for trial.

Please do not hesitate for you have questions or need additional information.

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Callanan, Richard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 10:16 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Re: Foreclosure Trial List Notice/Case Management Conf

Sorry for delay Mike, she is really slammed right now on this project

20th Judicial Circuit > Integrity, Fairness, Service

On Sep 1, 2010, at 3:18 PM, "Bridenback, Mike" [REDACTED] wrote:

Rick/Nancy,

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

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator

800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604

Tampa, FL 33602

p: 813.272.5894

<image001.jpg>

f: 813.301.3800

[REDACTED]

[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)

---

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

Hi Nancy

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

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

Thanks Nancy.

Rick

*Richard Callanan, Trial Court Administrator*

*20th Judicial Circuit*

*1700 Monroe Street*

*Fort Myers, FL. 33901*

*239 533-1712*

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**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2010 12:47 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Re: Mortgage Foreclosure Monthly Data Reporting - To Date

What's are target? 33,000?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 24, 2010, at 11:44 AM, "Bridenback, Mike" [REDACTED] wrote:

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator

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Tampa, FL 33602

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f: 813.301.3800



[REDACTED]

[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2010 11:36 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Mortgage Foreclosure Monthly Data Reporting - To Date

Mike,

Roberto was able to sort the disposals by month and the numbers of disposals for the period July 1, 2010 to September 23, 2010, are as follows:

**Total Disposed** : 3552 (July 1, 2010 - to date)

**Number Cases Disposed by Month** -

1,013 – for the period September 1, 2010 – September 23, 2010

1,839 – August, 2010

700 – for the period July 1, 2010 – July 26, 2010

Let me know if you should need any additional information.

## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 08, 2010 12:06 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

An Residential Mortgage Foreclosure - Target Backlog Reduction goal has been set for each circuit. As such, I would submit that if the objective of the project is to reduce (i.e., dispose) the backlog, why would so much emphasis be placed on capturing status codes/activity reporting. A pending case is a pending case. Do we really have to concern ourselves with the status codes as to why the case is pending. Unless, I am missing something, I believe the Legislature and Financial Institutions are only going to concern themselves with the number of dispositions of backlogged foreclosure actions.

Accordingly, I would suggest the status codes be reduced to two (2) categories – Disposed/Closed (Summary Judgment/Final Judgment, Trial, or Dismissed) and Pending. Anything outside of those two categories will bog the circuits/case managers down in the minutia. Not to mention, that not all circuits will have clerks in the courtroom capturing the activity data during the foreclosure hearings which will put more on the case managers.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 07, 2010 6:35 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Fwd: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Your thoughts?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Callanan, Richard" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** July 7, 2010 6:05:21 PM EDT  
**To:** "P.J. Stockdale" <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** "Fishbeck, Eric" <[REDACTED]>, "Kristine Slayden" <[REDACTED]>, "Arlene Johnson" <[REDACTED]>, "Bridenback, Mike" <[REDACTED]>  
**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

20th Circuit - Integrity, Fairness, Service

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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

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**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 3:17 PM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** RE: 20th Circuit

I have asked but not yet received. I try again.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604  
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[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 3:16 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: 20th Circuit

Can we get their form?

---

**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 20<sup>th</sup> 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  
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## **Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2010 3:54 PM  
**To:** Kirby, David; Ibell, Jill; Ellababidy, Anita S.; Jones, Kortina; Gant, Kimberly  
**Subject:** Research Team - Foreclosure Project

Each of you probably know this, but it does hurt to mention it. When you are in Banner and you are researching where you see the docket filter on the banner screen make sure you check entire case box and not the party only box. I have noticed on a couple dockets that I received back already that I needed more information to determine what actually occurred at the time of the hearing.

Thanks.

## Melendi, Rick

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2010 9:32 AM  
**To:** Drake, Patricia  
**Subject:** RE: Phones for Foreclosure Training

See Janice.

---

**From:** Drake, Patricia  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2010 9:14 AM  
**To:** Noll, Sharon  
**Cc:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Phones for Foreclosure Training

Ok. That sounds like a good idea.

Rick, do I get that schedule from Janice, or can you provide it? Thank you!

---

**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!

**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Nauman, Chris  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2010 9:14 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Updated ACLU Requests

F.Y.I.

Below are the ALCU's requests as they stand after the clarifications:

---

**Number 1**

---

"All records of the judicial branch relating to the establishment of any division, section, or case management unit within the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit created to manage, adjudicate, or dispose of proceedings related to foreclosure cases, including but not limited to administrative orders, memoranda, correspondences, and minutes of meetings."

---

**Number 2**

---

"All records of the judicial branch that discuss, propose, assess, recommend, or require any rule, procedure, or practice to be used by any division, section, or case management unit created to manage, adjudicate, or dispose of foreclosure cases. To the extent this request encompasses records of the judicial branch also requested by Request #4, we do not seek duplicates of those records in response to this request."

---

**Number 3**

---

"All records of the judicial branch indicating the names, job titles, and responsibilities of all judges, senior judges, magistrates, and clerks assigned to preside in any division, section, or case management unit within the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit created to manage, adjudicate or dispose of foreclosure cases."

---

**Number 4**

---

"All records of the judicial branch that concern planning, proposing, creating, reviewing, approving, revising or distributing training for general magistrates or senior judges to preside over foreclosure cases. This request includes, but is not limited to, any manuals or other training materials provided to general magistrates or senior judges assigned to preside over foreclosure cases.

This request is not intended to encompass logistical e-mail, e.g., committee meeting notices, but is intended to encompass records preceding final work products."

---

**Number 5**

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"All records of the judicial branch relating to the rules governing public access to civil proceedings in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, including but not limited to public access to proceedings in foreclosure cases."

“All records of the judicial branch containing data maintained in the Case Tracking System for submission to the Office of State Court Administration, as provided in the State Courts System FY 2010-2011 Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Funding Plan. This data includes, but is not limited to, clearance rates, the number of cases disposed, the percent of backlogged cases, and the average age of target cases. This request encompasses each tracking workbook provided to the Office of State Court Administration from June 30, 2010 until the present.”

Note - Laura Rush additional general clarifications taken from her e-mails:

- ACLU’s interest in pre-July 1, 2010, records is narrowly focused on those records specifically relating to any specialized foreclosure divisions or special foreclosure courts that were established prior to the \$6 million appropriation becoming available this past July to process the foreclosure case backlog. ACLU is not interested in any records relating to non-specialized foreclosure courts.
- Therefore, ACLU is looking for pre-July 1, 2010, records only as to those circuits that had specialized foreclosure divisions or special foreclosure courts before July 1, 2010. If a circuit had a specialized foreclosure division or special foreclosure court prior to July 1, 2010, ACLU’s request encompasses those records relating to the planning and establishment of the specialized division or court. If a circuit did not have a specialized foreclosure division or foreclosure court prior to July 1, 2010, it need not produce records prior to July 1, 2010, in response to any of the six requests listed in the Oct. 19 letter.
- ACLU is not interested in records relating to the task force or managed mediation programs. Their request is directed strictly to records relating to the adjudicatory process.
- **Circuit Request #2:** The issue we discussed regarding this request was the concern that, as written, it would require an extremely labor-intensive review of all case files. Our intent is not to request records specific to individual cases, but rather the records relating to the rules, procedures, and practices governing all foreclosure cases within a particular circuit.

---

K. Christopher Nauman  
Assistant Court Counsel, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
800 East Twiggs Street, Suite 603  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
Telephone: (813) 272-5501  
[naumankc@fljud13.org](mailto:naumankc@fljud13.org)

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Heather Thuotte-Pierson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2010 1:01 PM  
**To:** Trial Court Administrators  
**Subject:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program

Just as a reminder, when you are calculating how much of your funds you plan to allocate to the OPS category, you will need to factor in the 7.65% for FICA.

Thanks,  
Heather

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

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2010 4:07 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: 2nd Floor Training Room

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

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



---

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

Good Afternoon,

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

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

Thank you,

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

[REDACTED]

---

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

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

---

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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



[www.fjud13.org](http://www.fjud13.org)



**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 30, 2010 5:36 PM  
**To:** wweaver@ [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Cancellation of Judicial Sale  
**Attachments:** 2009-098-S.PDF; 2010-052-S.PDF

Mr. Weaver:

In the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, we still allow same day cancellation of judicial sale dates.

Section six of Administrative Order S-2009-098 (*Foreclosure Procedures*) - <http://www.fljud13.org/DotNetNuke/Portals/0/AO/DOCS/2009-098.pdf> and section 8 of Administrative Order S-2010-052 (*Residential Foreclosure Procedures*) <http://www.fljud13.org/DotNetNuke/Portals/0/AO/DOCS/S-2010-052.pdf> address the cancellation of a judicial sale date. You may access these administrative orders at the links above. I have also attached a PDF version of both administrative orders.

Please let me know if you need anything further.

*David A. Rowland*

General Counsel, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
800 East Twiggs Street, Suite 603  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
Telephone: (813) 272-5905  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 30, 2010 5:20 PM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** Fwd: A question

Can you respond to this question?

Sent from my iPhone


Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Weaver, William" [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 30, 2010 2:55:38 PM EDT  
**To:** "Bridenback, Mike" [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** A question

Good afternoon Mike. How are you doing? Hope that everything is well with you. I'm doing some research for Judge Bailey.

In mortgage foreclosures cases, do you have an Administrative Order, Administrative Memorandum or local rule that addresses cancellations of sales dates? A five day notice, 3 day notice? No cancellations of sales on the same day as the sale date, notice must be a certain days in advance. (Same day cancellations are clogging up our foreclosure master calendar.) Please advise.

Thank you,  
Bill Weaver

William J. Weaver, Director of Civil Operations  
Administrative Office of the Courts  
73 West Flagler Street, Suite 911  
Miami, Florida 33130  
305-349-7172 Phone  
305-416-0906 Fax  


## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 07, 2010 6:35 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Fwd: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Your thoughts?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Callanan, Richard" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** July 7, 2010 6:05:21 PM EDT  
**To:** "P.J. Stockdale" <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** "Fishbeck, Eric" <[REDACTED]>, "Kristine Slayden" <[REDACTED]>, "Arlene Johnson" <[REDACTED]>, "Bridenback, Mike" <[REDACTED]>  
**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 [mailto:pstockdale@courts.ca.gov]  
**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

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**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

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

PJ

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

As I mentioned to you, I understand the need for case status tracking to identify delayed cases and we have local MIS pending case reports from most clerks already to help track and move cases. I don't think having a case manager data enter this manually for 59000 cases is the best way to do this on case by case basis.

That said we are looking at ways to pull the majority of these status codes from clerk database and will

---

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

Mike, Rick,

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

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

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

I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks

PJ

PJ Stockdale

Senior Court Statistics Consultant

OSCA - Court Services

Supreme Court Building Annex

500 S Duval St

Tallahassee FL 32301-1900

(ph) 850.410.1523

(fax) 850.414.1342

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

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**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, August 06, 2010 3:11 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Wells, Tracy; Barton, James  
**Subject:** Fwd: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative  
**Attachments:** 62% Estimated RPFM Backlog.pdf; ATT496342.htm

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Kristine Slayden" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** August 6, 2010 2:52:58 PM EDT  
**To:** "Trial Court Chief Judges" <[REDACTED]> "Trial Court Administrators" <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** "Lisa Goodner" <[REDACTED]> Judge John Laurent" <[REDACTED]>, Judge Margaret O. Steinbeck" <[REDACTED]>, "P.J. Stockdale" <[REDACTED]>, "Arlene Johnson" <[REDACTED]>, "Charlotte Jerrett" <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative

Chief Judges and Trial Court Administrators – As mentioned at the JAC meeting in Marco Island, the OSCA plans to provide you with monthly feedback on your progress in achieving the 62% backlog reduction goal. As a reminder, I have attached the target backlog reduction statistics for the foreclosure and economic recovery initiative. We have received a number of inquiries from judges requesting these statistics. You may want to forward the attachment to those judges who are directly working on the initiative.

We plan to send you the following two reports monthly so that you can monitor the statistics that we get in Tallahassee:

- 1) As data comes in from the clerks of court on their SRS reports of filings and dispositions, we will provide you with your circuit's progress in reducing the backlog by 62%. We will send the first report out to you on August 30<sup>th</sup> and then monthly from then on.
- 2) As data comes in from court administration on the status of the cases from the tracking system, we will provide you with analysis of the status and age of cases currently being handled as part of the initiative. We will send the first report out to you on September 30<sup>th</sup>, and then monthly from then on.

These monthly statistics will be provided to you only for internal use and will not be released externally without prior approval. Please let me know 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)

**Melendi, Rick**

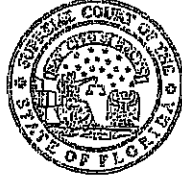
---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:04 PM  
**To:** caranant@hillsclerk.com; Snavely Carla  
**Subject:** Chief Justice Memo to Chief Judges re: Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings  
**Attachments:** Memo to Chief Judges re Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings.pdf

Dana & Carla,

Please forward for review the attached Memo to all clerk staff involved in the mortgage foreclosure proceedings.

Thank you.



# Supreme Court of Florida

500 South Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

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

THOMAS D. HALL  
CLERK OF COURT

KEVIN WHITE  
ACTING MARSHAL

## MEMORANDUM

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

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

**DATE:** November 17, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Mortgage Foreclosure Proceedings

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

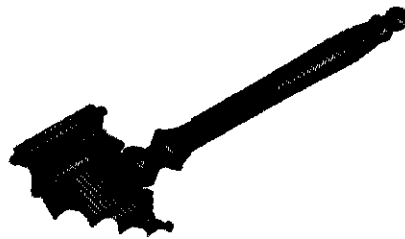
Thank you for your ongoing efforts to appropriately administer and resolve the avalanche of mortgage foreclosure cases that have been overwhelming the court system during the past few years. I recognize that the challenge you face in assuring that these cases are resolved properly is unprecedented. I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

CTC/LG/dgh

Enclosures

cc: Trial Court Administrators

Judicial Automated Workflow System  
(JAWS)  
Court Calendar  
User Documentation for External Users



JAWS

Judicial Automated Workflow System

Revision Date: March 16, 2010

13TH CIR 01262

## **Table of Contents**

Court Calendar Introduction .....	3
JAWS basis for External Users.....	3
• Available Time.....	5
• Associated Parties .....	8
• My Cases.....	9
• View/Upload Files .....	10
• Case Search.....	11
• My Profile .....	12

# JAWS Court Calendar

## Court Calendar Introduction

JAWS, Judicial Automated Workflow System, is going to be the primary interface between the court, the people and organizations that have business before it. The current release will serve attorneys with the following primary function of scheduling – support of scheduling hearings and other events by parties, counsel or the court, serving copies of event notices via email.

**What it will require of you.** Attorneys will be required to register to JAWS. This will result in issuance of a username and password. You will not need any locally installed software other than Internet Explorer. The supported browser is IE7. If you are using IE8, you will need to run this in compatibility mode. There are no other hardware or software requirements. Once you register it is a necessity for you to associate yourself with your assigned cases **immediately**. This will ensure proper email notifications to be received by you.

**How the scheduling function works.** JAWS is a general purpose scheduling engine designed to accommodate various different scheduling models. The Court can (1) set matters on its schedule on its own initiative, with or without consulting the parties or counsel; (2) expose available times to the public, allowing the parties to coordinate the scheduling and place the matter on the Judge's calendar, or (3) allow the public to view available times, and request that the Judicial Assistant reserve a specific mutually agreeable time, with the final confirmation being communicated by email. The Judge's office will be able to limit available time to specific purposes or impose specific sets of rules on what may be heard at the time.

Parties will file their documents in paper with the Clerk. However the Court may require you to upload the pleading, motion, or response to same at the time it is set for hearing or input specific data elements pertaining to a specified event.

Should you require technical assistance at any time during this process or if you want to offer feedback regarding your experience with JAWS, please contact the Administrative Office of the Courts' Help Desk at 813-272-6513 or via email at [helpdesk@fljud13.org](mailto:helpdesk@fljud13.org). Thank you.

## JAWS basis for External Users

To access JAWS, you may go to the Court's website at [www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org) and click the link for JAWS or you may type in <http://jaws.fljud13.org> on your IE7 browser. If you are running IE8 then you will need to run in compatibility mode.

You will be prompted for your login.



**Log In**

User Name:

Password:

Remember me next time.

[New user? Click here to register](#)

If you are a new user and need to register then click the link “New user? Click here to register”. You will be required to enter in account information.

**Sign Up for Your New Account**

Upon becoming an authorized user of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit’s Judicial Automated Workflow System (“JAWS”), I acknowledge that my user name and password will enable me access to the JAWS calendaring function. I further acknowledge and agree that I am responsible for anyone accessing the JAWS calendaring function with the use of my user name and password. Any misuse of the JAWS calendaring function associated with my user name and password may cause my access to JAWS to be rescinded.

Account Type:

First Name	<input type="text"/>	FL Bar Number	<input type="text"/>
Last Name	<input type="text"/>	Firm Name	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
Password	<input type="password"/>	Street Address	<input type="text"/>
Confirm Password	<input type="password"/>	City	<input type="text"/>
Security Question	<input type="text"/>	State	<input type="text"/>
Security Answer	<input type="text"/>	Zip	<input type="text"/>

You must acknowledge and accept the responsibilities of becoming an authorized user of JAWS by clicking in the checkbox next to the acknowledgement. Next you must fill in all of the fields.

The security question and answer is used in resetting your username or password. Enter a question that you can remember in the security question text box. Then type in the answer to that question in the security answer text box. Example: Security Question - The name of my favorite pet? Security Answer – Max

When finished, click the Request Account button and you will receive a message that your account request has been received.

### Account Request Received

Thanks for the account request! Registration is almost complete.

An email has been sent to the email address that you signed up with. Once you confirm the email by clicking the link, you will be redirected to login.

Check the inbox for the email address that you provided and select the email from [JAWSADMIN@fljud13.org](mailto:JAWSADMIN@fljud13.org). This email contains your account information. Click the confirm link to finish the registration process. This link will then take you to the JAWS Log In screen where you will type your user name and password.

At the very top of the screen you see a tab named Court Calendar. Underneath this you will see a list of menu options: Available Time, My Cases, Case Search, and My Profile. This document will provide explanations for each of these options.

#### Court Calendar

**Available Time** | My Cases | Case Search | My Profile

- **Available Time**

- Below the list of menu options, you will see the drop down selection boxes for the division information. If you are assigned to more than one division then you can use the drop down arrows to select the desired division.
- Once you select the desired division then the list of available events and time slots will appear.

General Civil | Div C: General Civil | All Event Types

Available Time for Div C: General Civil - All Event Types

	Event Type	Description	Date	Start Time	End Time
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	UMC	UMC	3/24/2010	9:00 AM	9:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	UMC	UMC	3/25/2010	9:00 AM	9:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	DISCOVERY DOCKET	DISCOVERY DOCKET	3/25/2010	4:00 PM	4:30 PM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	Pretrial	Pre-Trial Conference for August	3/28/2010	8:00 AM	8:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	UMC	UMC	3/30/2010	9:00 AM	9:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	DISCOVERY DOCKET	DISCOVERY DOCKET	3/30/2010	4:00 PM	4:30 PM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	UMC	UMC	3/31/2010	9:00 AM	9:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	FORECLOSURE RELATED MOTIONS	FORECLOSURE RELATED MOTIONS - ONLY	3/31/2010	11:00 AM	11:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	UMC	UMC	4/1/2010	9:00 AM	9:30 AM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	DISCOVERY DOCKET	DISCOVERY DOCKET	4/1/2010	4:00 PM	4:30 PM
<a href="#">View Detail/Schedule Case</a>	Mortgage Foreclosure - Telephonic ONLY	Butler & Bosch - ONLY	4/26/2010	1:30 PM	1:45 PM

- Click View Detail/Schedule Case by the desired event and timeslot. This will provide you with the details about this event and time slot.

3/25/2010 - DISCOVERY DOCKET | 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Hearing Description:

- I will be appearing by phone
- I understand file uploading is required

I am associated with:

Discovery related matters ONLY Atts appearing by phone must indicate on Notice of Hearing that they will be appearing telephonically by calling (813) 272-6781 at time of hearing. Copy of motion & notice to be sent to JA. Attorney scheduling hearing to bring court file For hearings longer than 30 minutes, please contact JA

Additional Notes:

I agree with the text above and certify this requested date and time has been agreed upon with opposing party

Case Number:  Scheduler User:

- The court division may require specific information from you when scheduling an event. This may be in the form of free form text boxes, drop down boxes, or check mark boxes. This collection of information may include:
  - a hearing description to be entered – for example Motion to Dismiss
  - the Mortgage Foreclosure checklist – see below for the information that must be completed.

**Mortgage Foreclosure Checklist**

Please complete all of the information below.

Date Affidavit of Compliance was filed:

Has Service been completed or an answer filed on all defendants?  Yes

Has a Non-Military Affidavit been filed for each defaulted defendant?  Yes

Date Motion for Final Summary Judgment was filed:

Date Affidavit in Support of Motion for SJ was filed:

Date Affidavit of Fees by Attorney of Record was filed:

Date Affidavit as to Reasonable Attorneys Fees was filed:

Date of Original Note and Mortgage or Affidavit of Lost Instrument:

- a file to be uploaded – see View/Upload Files section for further details
- if appearing by phone
- trial requirements – for example trial type, trial duration, pre-trial date

Trial Type  Jury  NonJury

Est. Trial Duration

Pretrial Date

- additional notes

Additional Notes

- party association – use the drop down selection to identify who you represent
  - case number – must use the full 12 character case number including the dashes
  - certification that you have contacted the opposing party and the requested date and time has been agreed upon
  - NOTE: You must select the certification check box in order to schedule a case
- The court division will also include instructions to be followed for the specified event type. Please read these carefully and comply with all instructions.
  - Click Schedule Case

The system will take you to a screen in which you are required to add/confirm the Associate Parties of a case. The people listed in this screen will receive email notifications.

• **Associated Parties**

**Scheduling case: 10-CF-001000 for 4/20/2010 - 1:30 PM - 1:36 PM**

The following parties have been associated with this specific case. Click below to associate additional parties. Case association will allow parties to receive email communication for scheduled hearings and cancellations related to this case.

Associated Parties

First Name	Last Name	Association	Phone	Email
Jay	Scheme	Petitioner	888-111-6666	jayson.schemenauer@gmail.com
Ju	Rob	Respondent	813-555-5555	jules_roberts@hotmail.com

Search Parties

Enter Name or Firm Name: JU

First Name	Last Name	Firm Name	
Ju	Rob	J&S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Affiliated with: Defendant/Respondent

Party Associated

Current Case Schedule

Date	Start	End	Hearing
4-08-2010	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	UMC

- This is important to make sure all parties associated with a case are defined and email addresses are captured so emails go out to the right people.
- Any known associated parties will be presented on the left hand side of the screen titled Associated Parties.
- The right hand side of the screen allows you to search for external parties that need to be associated with the case.
- You can enter a letter, name or partial name and press the search icon. The system searches last name and firm name files with a like command. For Example – you can enter Bri and the system will display all external users that have a last name or firm name containing the letters 'Bri'. (not case sensitive)
- If you find the person that you want to associate to this case, then check the box next to their name and press add, make sure you select the party affiliation and it will move that person to the associated parties list.
- The affiliated with drop down box allows you to associate what person with defendant/respondent, plaintiff/petitioner, or neither.
- If the system cannot find a match in JAWS then a message will display letting you know that no matching users were found. You can call the party and ask them to register to JAWs.

- Click Schedule Case when finished. The system will return to the Available Time screen and a red message at the bottom right hand side will appear. Example:  
Your appointment has been scheduled or requested.  
Your confirmation number is **123-34946**
- If you have selected a time slot in which the court division requires you to request a time slot and then wait for their decision to approve or not, you will get an email confirming or denying this event once the court division makes a decision.
- Underneath this information you will see the case scheduled in the time slot selected.

• **My Cases**

This option allows you to see a list of all of your cases.

**My Cases**

Case Number	Description	Type	Filed Date
10-CF-001000	PETIT-FRERE,SOUVENI	OTHER	1/20/2010

If you select the case then you will be provided with case style and current case schedule at the bottom of the screen.

<b>Case Number:</b> 10-CF-001000
PETIT-FRERE,SOUVENI OTHER

[Associated Parties](#) [View/Upload Files](#)

Current Case Schedule					
	Division	Date	Start	End	Event
<a href="#">Cancel</a>	Div B: Criminal Justice & Trial	4-08-2010	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	UMC
<a href="#">Cancel</a>	Div B: Criminal Justice & Trial	4-20-2010	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	Discovery

If you need to cancel a scheduled event, you can select Cancel. A pop-up window will appear for you to enter the Cancel Reason, when finished typing click the Cancel Hearing button. Notice the cancelled event now shows cancelled.

Current Case Schedule						
	Division	Date	Start	End	Event	
<u>Cancel</u>	Div B: Criminal Justice & Trial	4-08-2010	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	UMC	
	Cancelled Div B: Criminal Justice & Trial	4-20-2010	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	Discovery	

You can also access the Associate Parties menu option from this screen. In addition you can View/Upload Files.

- **View/Upload Files**

Upload Document

Select Division for File Upload:

**General Civil** (selected)

Div A: General Civil

Files must be word documents or pdfs (.doc,.docx,.pdf)

Document Type:

Document Title:

Public

---

**Uploaded Documents for Case # 08-CA-000025**

No files have been uploaded for this case.

**Documents Recorded with the Clerk of Courts**

Document Type	Description	Date	Status
NOT PRODUCTION NONPTY SUB ATCH	X'S 2/COS DATE DECEMBER 22, 2008	12-31-2008	**
RTN'D NOT FOUND BY POST OFFICE		12-23-2008	**
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING		12-16-2008	**
CERTIFICATE OF DISBURSEMENTS		12-16-2008	**
NOT PRODUCTION NONPTY SUB ATCH	X1	12-08-2008	**
RTN'D NOT FOUND BY POST OFFICE		12-08-2008	**
CERTIFICATE OF TITLE		12-02-2008	**
RECEIPT	19-NOV-2008,\$89693.75, User Id = CARDINEZA, Receipt No = 1445256	11-19-2008	**

\*\* These files are currently not available for download and can be accessed through the Clerk of Courts.

- This screen shows any .doc or .pdf documents that have been uploaded that pertain to the associated case.
- Both internal and external users have the ability to upload files
- In order to upload a file, make sure the correct division is selected, put a description in the Document Type, a file name in the Document Title field and then click browse to select the appropriate file on your hard drive. The file size must be smaller than 10 MB.

- When you have entered the appropriate information for the desired document then select Upload File.
- Once uploaded the file will display in the top section of the screen under the Uploaded Documents for Case #XX-XX-XXXXXX.
- Once a file has been uploaded, any user that has privilege to see the file can click on download to open or save the file to their machine. By default, internal users (Judges and Judicial Assistants) can see all uploaded files for a given case. External users can only see their own uploaded documents and any document that has been shared.
- Under the section named Documents Recorded with the Clerk of Courts are filings that have been filed with the Clerk. This information comes from the Clerk's database and since these files are not retrievable electronically, this is only displayed as a list.
- When finished select Close.


• **Case Search**

If you have a case number, you can go to Case Search.

- Case Search – You can enter a case number or a confirmation number and the case details and the current case schedule displays. If a case number is not found in the system then you will receive a message indicating the case was not found. From this screen you have the option to cancel an event or utilize the associated parties and view/upload files options as described above.

Available Time | My Cases | **Case Search** | My Profile

**Case Search**

Enter Case Number or Confirmation Number:  

**Case Number:** 10-CF-001000  
 OTHER PETIT-FRERE,SOUVENI

Associated Parties [View/Upload Files](#)

Current Case Schedule						
		Division	Date	Start	End	Event
<a href="#">Cancel</a>		Div B: Criminal Justice & Trial	4-08-2010	8:30 AM	9:45 AM	UMC
	Cancelled	Div B: Criminal Justice & Trial	4-20-2010	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	Discovery



## • My Profile

To edit your account settings or to change your security settings, you would use the My Profile option.

Available Time | My Cases | Case Search | **My Profile**

---

**Account Management**

User updated.

Account Type: Attorney

First Name	<input type="text" value="Ju"/>	FL Bar Number	<input type="text" value="0311"/>
Last Name	<input type="text" value="Rob"/>	Firm Name	<input type="text" value="J&amp;B"/>
Email	<input type="text" value="jules_roberts@hotmail.com"/>	Phone	<input type="text" value="813-555-5555"/>
		Street Address	<input type="text" value="5566 Sunnyside"/>
			<input type="text"/>
		City	<input type="text" value="Tampa"/>
		State	<input type="text" value="FL"/>
		Zip	<input type="text" value="33602"/>

- Once you have changed the desired fields, click the Update Account button.
- If you want to change your security settings, click the Change Security Settings button. You will be prompted to type in your current password, new password, confirmed password, security question, and security answer. Once finished click Update Account.

---

**Account Security Management**

Current Password:	<input type="text"/>
New Password:	<input type="text"/>
Confirm Password:	<input type="text"/>
Security Question:	<input type="text" value="Company?"/>
Security Answer:	<input type="text"/>

## Hickmon,Angelina

---

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

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

Thank you.

## Schatzberg,Beth

---

**From:** Schatzberg,Beth  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 07, 2010 9:29 AM  
**To:** 'Gonzalez, Ronald'  
**Cc:** Gammage,Trillany  
**Subject:** RE: File Request

We have hit a snag – Judge Evans is putting off signing FSJ if the notice of hearings are not in the file to confirm the Def has been on the mailing list. IS there a way to update the files that we have on the docket any sooner?

---

**From:** Gonzalez, Ronald [<mailto:ronald.gonzalez@hillsclerk.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 3:57 PM  
**To:** Sequeira, Maria; Section2  
**Cc:** Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Subject:** RE: File Request

Maria,

I have an urgent request. File 10-CA-003343 was heard on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, a Final Judgment for Foreclosure was signed but without the legal description. An amended Final Judgment was brought over, dated but never signed on August 30<sup>th</sup> and never returned to us. The sale is on 9/7/10 at 2pm. Can you please look to see if you still have it? We are looking for it on our side as well.

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

---

**From:** Sequeira, Maria [<mailto:sequeime@fljud13.org>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 8:38 AM  
**To:** Section2  
**Cc:** Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Subject:** File Request

Would you be kind enough to bring the following file to Room 422 Immediately:

10-CA-010335

## Nauman, Chris

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 2010 9:46 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: PUBLICATION NOTICE: In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, SC09-1460 In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure -- Form 1.996 (Final Judgment of Foreclosure), SC09-1579  
**Attachments:** 09-1460 09-1579\_021610\_PublicationLtr.pdf; 09-1460\_09-1579\_021610\_PublicationNotice.pdf

---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010 2:49 PM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** FW: PUBLICATION NOTICE: In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, SC09-1460 In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure -- Form 1.996 (Final Judgment of Foreclosure), SC09-1579

---

**From:** Victoria Milton [<mailto:miltonv@flcourts.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2010 2:59 PM  
**To:** Judge Jennifer Bailey; Laura Rush; 'Jesse H. Diner'; 'John F. Harkness, Jr.'; 'Mayanne Downs'; 'mromance@richmangreer.com'; 'Madelon Horwich'; Alan Bookman; 'kcoffey@coffeyburlington.com'; 'jcrockett@coffeyburlington.com'; 'Marc Ben-Ezra'; 'mcyphen@sfgmi.org'; 'Carolina Lombardi'; 'jmcl@mmlawmiami.com'; 'Randall Berg'; 'JGlickman@FloridaJusticeInstitute.org'; Kent Spuhler; 'Tom Bateman'; 'ferrisj2009@gmail.com'; 'Lisa Epstein'; 'Henry Trawick'; 'Virginia Townes'; 'Alejandro M. Sanchez'; 'New, Elaine'; 'lynn.drysdale@jaxlegalaid.org'; 'jhearne@sfgmi.org'; 'Alice Vickers'; 'james.carr@frls.org'; 'rwolfe@defaultlawfl.com'; 'egrunewald@nfcfej.org'; William D. Palmer; Cal Goodlett; Belvin Perry, Jr.; Judge Charles A. Francis; Daniel Merritt Sr.; Judge Donald R. Moran, Jr.; Keith Cary; Hentz McCellan; David Langford; J. David Walsh; Lee E. Haworth; Judge Luis Garcia; Menendez, Manuel; Judge Paul Hawkes; Judge Robert M. Gross, Chief; Tobin Victor; Judge Darryl Casanueva, Chief; Judge David A. Monaco; Judge David Fina; Judge J. Preston Silvernail; Judge J. Thomas McGrady; Judge Joel Brown; Judge Juan Ramirez Jr., Chief; Judge Martha A. Lott; Judge Peter Blanc; Judge Steven Levin; Judge Terry Terrell; Randy Long; Rules Opins-DCA Clerks; Rules Opins-Trial Court Clerks  
**Subject:** PUBLICATION NOTICE: In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure, SC09-1460 In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure -- Form 1.996 (Final Judgment of Foreclosure), SC09-1579

Pursuant to Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.140, attached are publication notices for the above cases. Any comments must be filed on or before April 12, 2010.

*Victoria Milton*

Deputy Clerk  
Florida Supreme Court  
(850) 488-0125



# Supreme Court of Florida

Office of the Clerk  
500 South Duval Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1925

THOMAS D. HALL  
CLERK  
TANYA CARROLL  
CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK  
GREGORY J. PHILO  
STAFF ATTORNEY

PHONE NUMBER: (850) 488-0125  
[www.flcourts.org/clerk.html](http://www.flcourts.org/clerk.html)

February 16, 2010

Ms. Cheryle Dodd, Editor  
The Florida Bar  
651 East Jefferson Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2300

Re: In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure  
Case No. SC09-1460  
In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure -- Form  
1.996 (Final Judgment of Foreclosure)  
Case No. SC09-1579

Dear Ms. Dodd:

I have provided you with a copy of the proposed Rules in the above case. Please publish said Rules in the March 15, 2010, Bar News. Please publish a statement that the Court has placed the proposed Rules on the Internet at location:  
<http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/proposed.shtml>.

Any comments should be filed with the Supreme Court on or before April 12, 2010. The committee must file a response on or before May 3, 2010, to all comments filed. All comments must be filed in paper format and an electronic copy provided to the Court in accordance with AOSC04-84. An original and nine copies must be filed.

13TH CIR 01277

Ms. Cheryle Dodd, Editor  
February 16, 2010  
Page Two

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Most cordially,

By:   
Deputy Clerk

Thomas D. Hall

TDH/vm  
Enclosure

cc: Mark A. Romance, Chair, Civil Procedure Rules Committee  
Honorable James E. C. Perry, Supreme Court Justice Liaison  
Honorable Jesse H. Diner, President, The Florida Bar  
Honorable Mayanne Downs, President-elect, The Florida Bar  
John F. Harkness, Jr., Executive Director, The Florida Bar  
Madelon Horwich, Bar Staff Liaison  
Chief Judges of the District Court of Appeal  
Clerks of the District Court of Appeal  
Chief Judges of the Judicial Circuits  
Clerks of the Judicial Circuits  
Deborah J. Meyer, Central Staff Director  
Kendall Coffey, Esquire  
Jeffrey B. Crockett, Esquire  
Marcia K. Cypen, Esquire  
Carolina A. Lombardi, Esquire  
John W. McLuskey, Esquire  
Randall C. Berg, Jr., Esquire  
Joshua A. Glickman, Esquire  
Kent R. Spuhler, Esquire  
Thomas H. Bateman, III. , Esquire  
Honorable William D. Palmer  
Edward J. Grunewald, Esquire  
Henry P. Trawick, Jr., Esquire  
Janice M. Fleischer, Esquire  
Honorable Jennifer D. Bailey  
B. Elaine New, Esquire  
Marc A. Ben-Ezra, Esquire  
Lynn Drysdale, Esquire  
Jeffrey Hearne, Esquire  
Alice M. Vickers, Esquire  
James R. Carr, Esquire  
Ronald R. Wolfe, Esquire  
Scott Manion, Esquire  
Mr. Alejandro M. Sanchez  
Janet E. Ferris, Esquire  
Ms. Lisa Epstein  
Virginia B. Townes, Esquire  
Laura Rush, Esquire  
Alan B. Bookman, Esquire

The Florida Supreme Court has adopted amendments to Florida Rule of Civil Procedure Form 1.996 (Final Judgment of Foreclosure). The amendments were proposed by the Civil Procedure Rules Committee in order to bring the form into conformity with current statutory provisions and requirements.

The Court invites all interested persons to comment on the amendments, which are reproduced in full below, as well as online at <http://www.floridasupremecourt.org/decisions/proposed.shtml>. An original and nine paper copies of all comments must be filed with the Court on or before April 12, 2010, with a certificate of service verifying that a copy has been served on the Committee Chair, Mark A. Romance, 201 S. Biscayne Blvd, Suite 1000, Miami, FL 33131-4327, as well as separate request for oral argument if the person filing the comment wishes to participate in oral argument, which may be scheduled in this case. The Committee Chair has until May 3, 2010, to file a response to any comments filed with the Court. Electronic copies of all comments and responses also must be filed in accordance with the Court's administrative order in In re Mandatory Submission of Electronic Copies of Documents, Fla. Admin. Order No. AOSC04-84 (Sept. 13, 2004).

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE,  
SC09-1460 & IN RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA RULES OF CIVIL  
PROCEDURE – FORM 1.996 (FINAL JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE),  
SC09-1579

**FORM 1.996(a). FINAL JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE**

### FINAL JUDGMENT

This action was tried before the court. On the evidence presented

IT IS ADJUDGED that:

1. Plaintiff, .....(name and address)....., is due ..... as principal, \$..... as interest to date of this judgment, \$..... for title search expense, \$..... for taxes, \$..... for insurance premiums, \$..... for attorneys' fees, with \$..... for court costs now taxed, less \$..... for undisbursed escrow funds and less \$..... for unearned insurance premiums, under the note and mortgage sued on in this action, making a total sum of \$....., that shall bear interest at the rate of .....% a year.

Principal \_\_\_\_\_ \$.....

Interest to date of this judgment .....

Title search expense .....

Taxes .....

Attorneys' fees  
 Finding as to reasonable number of hours: .....  
 Finding as to reasonable hourly rate: .....  
 Attorneys' fees total .....

Court costs, now taxed .....

Other: ..... .....

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_ \$.....

LESS: Escrow balance .....

LESS: Other ..... .....

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_ \$.....

that shall bear interest at the rate of ....% a year.

2. Plaintiff holds a lien for the total sum superior to ~~anyall~~ claims or estates of defendant(s), ~~.....(name and address, and social security number if known).....~~, on the following described property in ..... County, Florida:

(describe property)

3. If the total sum with interest at the rate described in paragraph 1 and all costs accrued subsequent to this judgment are not paid, the clerk of this court shall sell the property at public sale on ....(date)....., ~~between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.~~ to the highest bidder for cash, except as prescribed in paragraph 4~~5~~, at the ~~..... door of the courthouse in~~ located at ....(street address of courthouse)..... in ..... County in ~~.....(name of city).....~~, Florida, in accordance with section 45.031, Florida Statutes, using the following method (CHECK ONE):

At ....(location of sale at courthouse; e.g., north door)....., beginning at ....(time of sale)..... on the prescribed date.

By electronic sale beginning at ....(time of sale)..... on the prescribed date at ....(website).....



4. Plaintiff shall advance all subsequent costs of this action and shall be reimbursed for them by the clerk if plaintiff is not the purchaser of the property for sale, provided, however, that the purchaser of the property for sale shall be responsible for the documentary stamps payable on the certificate of title. If plaintiff is the purchaser, the clerk shall credit plaintiff's bid with the total sum with interest and costs accruing subsequent to this judgment, or such part of it, as is necessary to pay the bid in full.

5. On filing the certificate of title the clerk shall distribute the proceeds of the sale, so far as they are sufficient, by paying: first, all of plaintiff's costs; second, documentary stamps affixed to the certificate; third, plaintiff's attorneys' fees; fourth, the total sum due to plaintiff, less the items paid, plus interest at the rate prescribed in paragraph 1 from this date to the date of the sale; and by retaining any remaining amount pending the further order of this court.

6. On filing the certificate of ~~title~~sale, defendant(s) and all persons claiming under or against defendant(s) since the filing of the notice of lis pendens shall be foreclosed of all estate or claim in the property ~~and the purchaser at the sale~~, except as to claims or rights under chapter 718 or chapter 720, Florida Statutes, if any. Upon the filing of the certificate of title, the person named on the certificate of title shall be let into possession of the property. If any defendant remains in possession of the property, the clerk shall without further order of the court issue forthwith a writ of possession upon request of the person named on the certificate of title.

7. Jurisdiction of this action is retained to enter further orders that are proper including, without limitation, ~~writs of possession and a~~ deficiency judgment.

**IF THIS PROPERTY IS SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL MONEY FROM THE SALE AFTER PAYMENT OF PERSONS WHO ARE ENTITLED TO BE PAID FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS PURSUANT TO THE FINAL JUDGMENT.**

**IF YOU ARE A SUBORDINATE LIENHOLDER CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS.**

[If the property being foreclosed on has qualified for the homestead tax exemption in the most recent approved tax roll, the final judgment shall additionally contain the following statement in conspicuous type:]

**IF YOU ARE THE PROPERTY OWNER, YOU MAY CLAIM THESE FUNDS YOURSELF. YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE A LAWYER OR ANY OTHER REPRESENTATION AND YOU DO NOT HAVE TO ASSIGN YOUR RIGHTS TO ANYONE ELSE IN ORDER FOR YOU TO CLAIM ANY MONEY TO WHICH YOU ARE ENTITLED. PLEASE CHECK WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT, (INSERT INFORMATION FOR APPLICABLE COURT) WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER THE SALE TO SEE IF THERE IS ADDITIONAL MONEY FROM THE FORECLOSURE SALE THAT THE CLERK HAS IN THE REGISTRY OF THE COURT.**

**IF YOU DECIDE TO SELL YOUR HOME OR HIRE SOMEONE TO HELP YOU CLAIM THE ADDITIONAL MONEY, YOU SHOULD READ VERY CAREFULLY ALL PAPERS YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN, ASK SOMEONE ELSE, PREFERABLY AN ATTORNEY WHO IS NOT RELATED TO THE PERSON OFFERING TO HELP YOU, TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU ARE SIGNING AND THAT YOU ARE NOT TRANSFERRING YOUR PROPERTY OR THE EQUITY IN YOUR PROPERTY WITHOUT THE PROPER INFORMATION. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY AN ATTORNEY, YOU MAY CONTACT (INSERT LOCAL OR NEAREST LEGAL AID OFFICE AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FINANCIALLY FOR THEIR SERVICES. IF THEY CANNOT ASSIST YOU, THEY MAY BE ABLE TO REFER YOU TO A LOCAL BAR REFERRAL AGENCY OR SUGGEST OTHER OPTIONS. IF YOU CHOOSE TO CONTACT (NAME OF LOCAL OR NEAREST LEGAL AID OFFICE AND TELEPHONE NUMBER) FOR ASSISTANCE, YOU SHOULD DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE.**

ORDERED at ....., Florida, on .....(date).....

Judge \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Paragraph 1 must be varied in accordance with the items unpaid, claimed, and proven. The form does not provide for an adjudication of junior lienors' claims nor for redemption by the United States of America if it is a defendant. The address of the person who claims a lien as a result of the judgment must be included in the judgment in order for the judgment to become a lien on real estate when a certified copy of the judgment is recorded. Alternatively, an affidavit with this information may be simultaneously recorded. For the specific requirements, see section 55.10(1), Florida Statutes; *Hott Interiors, Inc. v. Fostock*, 721 So. 2d 1236 (Fla. 4th DCA 1998). ~~The address and social security number (if known) of each person against whom the judgment is rendered must be included in the judgment, pursuant to section 55.01(2), Florida Statutes.~~

#### **Committee Notes**

**1980 Amendment.** The reference to writs of assistance in paragraph 7 is changed to writs of possession to comply with the consolidation of the 2 writs.

**2010 Amendment.** Mandatory statements of the mortgagee/property owner's rights are included as required by the 2006 amendment to section 45.031, Florida Statutes. Changes are also made based on 2008 amendments to section 45.031, Florida Statutes, permitting courts to order sale by electronic means.

Additional changes were made to bring the form into compliance with chapters 718 and 720 and section 45.0315, Florida Statutes, and to better align the form with existing practices of clerks and practitioners. The breakdown of the amounts due is now set out in column format to simplify calculations. The requirement that the form include the address and social security number of all defendants was eliminated to protect the privacy interests of those defendants and

in recognition of the fact that this form of judgment does not create a personal final money judgment against the defendant borrower, but rather an in rem judgment against the property. The address and social security number of the defendant borrower should be included in any deficiency judgment later obtained against the defendant borrower.

## Nauman, Chris

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 27, 2010 2:48 PM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: today

ACLU PRR

---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Monday, June 28, 2010 11:07 AM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** FW: today

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Monday, June 28, 2010 10:59 AM  
**To:** CIRCCIVJUD  
**Subject:** today

I'll be meeting today at noon in my hearing room to discuss the new system with the senior judges who will be handling our residential foreclosure cases as of July 1. Please feel free to join us.

**Nauman, Chris**

---

**From:** Nauman, Chris  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 28, 2010 2:10 PM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: Additional Language on General Civil Judges Webpage & Link to AO S-2010-052

ACLU PRR

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Monday, July 19, 2010 8:28 AM  
**To:** Web,Requests; Nauman, Chris  
**Cc:** Greno, Linda; Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** RE: Additional Language on General Civil Judges Webpage & Link to AO S-2010-052

We need to remove from each circuit civil judge's procedure page any reference to residential foreclosures, except for the language contained in the below e-mail. Let me know if you need any help in the editing process.

---

**From:** Kirby, David **On Behalf Of** Web,Requests  
**Sent:** Friday, July 16, 2010 4:23 PM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris; Web,Requests  
**Cc:** Barton, James ; Greno, Linda; Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** RE: Additional Language on General Civil Judges Webpage & Link to AO S-2010-052

The directions for scheduling foreclosure hearings in General Civil, Div. A – K now reads as follows:


General Civil, Division ? – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application. See Administrative Order S-2010-052 establishing Residential Foreclosure Procedures.

The question mark above stands in for the appropriate division letter designation.

Please note that this is now found in each division's "Schedule" page, rather than on the "Foreclosure" pages as it was on the old website.

David Kirby

\*\*\*\*\*

<p>David Kirby Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Office of Public Information 800 E. Twiggs Street, Room 605H Tampa, FL 33602 p: 813.272.6452 f: 813.301.3719 <a href="mailto:kirbydv@fljud13.org">kirbydv@fljud13.org</a> <a href="http://www.fljud13.org">www.fljud13.org</a></p>	
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**From:** Nauman, Chris  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 1:29 PM  
**To:** Web,Requests  
**Cc:** Barton, James ; Greno, Linda; Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** Additional Language on General Civil Judges Webpage & Link to AO S-2010-052

Hello,

Currently, the individual general civil judges' webpages for Divisions A, B, C, D, F, G, H, I, J, K, and each of those divisions "mortgage foreclosure" pages contain the following language:

*"General Civil, Division ? – All residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in Section ? of the JAWS scheduling application." [\*\*\* note, I just put the question marks in the language quoted because each division page would have a different letter and division A-F would be section I and G-K section II).*

Judge Barton would like the sentence in red below added to the language on each of these judges' individual pages and on their mortgage foreclosure page. In addition, he would like the Administrative Order number in this sentence to link to the pdf. of this administrative order.

**General Civil, Division ? – All residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in Section ? of the JAWS scheduling application. See Administrative Order S-2010-052 establishing Residential Foreclosure Procedures.**

If you have any questions, please let Linda Greno or myself know.

Thanks,  
Chris

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 12:24 PM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** RE: AO

Yes, if they could link to the AO that would be perfect. Thanks

---

**From:** Nauman, Chris  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 11:36 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Cc:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** RE: AO

Yes. The public information office via the webrequests e-mail address ([request@fljud13.org](mailto:request@fljud13.org)) will post whatever Judge Barton wants.

Currently, it appears the following information is on each individual judges page and also on their mortgage foreclosure page (obviously I changed the letter division and section number in the language below to question marks temporarily):

**General Civil, Division ? – all residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in Section ? of the JAWS scheduling application.**

Perhaps the administrative order can be mentioned and a link to the AO be created on each individual circuit civil judges' page and their mortgage foreclosure page by adding the language in red below to the current language on each page:

**General Civil, Division 2 – All residential mortgage foreclosure hearings are to be scheduled in Section 2 of the JAWS scheduling application. See Administrative Order S-2010-052 establishing Residential Foreclosure Procedures.**

---

**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 11:05 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** RE: AO

Is it possible to have it also posted on each individual circuit civil judges page & also on their "mortgage foreclosure" page?

---

**From:** Nauman, Chris  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 10:19 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** AO

Linda, I just looked and it appears the AO has been placed on the website now.

---

K. Christopher Nauman  
Assistant Court Counsel, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit  
800 East Twiggs Street, Suite 603  
Tampa, Florida 33602  
Telephone: (813) 272-5501  
[naumankc@fljud13.org](mailto:naumankc@fljud13.org)

## Wells, Tracy

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 12:22 PM  
**To:** Hickmon, Angelina; Moreno, Elisa; Valdes, Ryan; caranant, [REDACTED]; healy, [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:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2010 12:48 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Subject:** Re: Mortgage Foreclosure Monthly Data Reporting - To Date

62 percent of 33,000

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 24, 2010, at 12:46 PM, "Menendez, Manuel" [REDACTED] wrote:

What's are target? 33,000?

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 24, 2010, at 11:44 AM, "Bridenback, Mike" [REDACTED] wrote:

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*

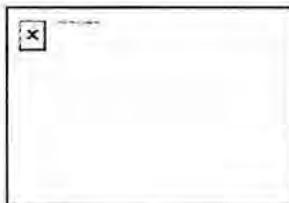
Court Administrator

800 E. Twiggs Street, Suite 604

Tampa, FL 33602

p: 813.272.5894

f: 813.301.3800



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

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Friday, September 24, 2010 11:36 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Mortgage Foreclosure Monthly Data Reporting - To Date

Mike,

Roberto was able to sort the disposals by month and the numbers of disposals for the period July 1, 2010 to September 23, 2010, are as follows:

**Total Disposed** : 3552 (July 1, 2010 - to date)

**Number Cases Disposed by Month** -

1,013 – for the period September 1, 2010 – September 23, 2010

1,839 – August, 2010

700 – for the period July 1, 2010 – July 26, 2010

Let me know if you should need any additional information.

## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 1:46 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: foreclosures

This number can't be right.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 1:42 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike; Barton, James  
**Subject:** foreclosures

[Court disparities highlight flaws](#)  
11/17/2010 © Palm Beach Post

Before a Miami-Dade County foreclosure hits a judge's dais, it has already been reviewed by a case manager who decides whether the paperwork is acceptable. About 30 percent of the time, it's not, and the case is kicked back to the banks for a do-over.

The circuit court's chief judge, Jennifer Bailey, credits the review with Miami-Dade's low rate of summary judgments - quickie foreclosure hearings, sometimes called "rocket dockets," that are held in lieu of a traditional trial.

Just 28 percent of Miami-Dade's foreclosures were decided by summary judgment between July 1 and Sept. 30, according to a report Florida's State Courts Administration released this month.

The state average for summary judgments, as well as Palm Beach County's, is 71 percent. In Florida's 13th Circuit Court, which includes Hillsborough County, 93 percent of foreclosures were decided in summary judgment, while the 4th Circuit, which includes Duval County, had 60 percent of its cases end that way.

So why the large disparity in how foreclosures are handled?

Palm Beach County Chief Judge Peter Blanc, who said 80 percent of the county's foreclosures are not contested, pointed to the fact that the state court report is new.

While he agrees with the data for Palm Beach County, where 10 summary judgment hearings are scheduled every half hour in foreclosure court, he said information may have been collected differently in each circuit.

Still, concern over how the courts are funneling cases through the system is enough that the House Judiciary Committee, at the urging of U.S. Rep. Ted Deutch, D-Boca Raton, will conduct a hearing in Washington to discuss the role of the magistrate in the foreclosure crisis. The hearing was scheduled for today but was postponed. It is expected to be rescheduled soon.

"An accelerated court for foreclosure cases means that fewer of the traditional safeguards are in place to protect homeowners from abuse or even clerical errors," said Deutch in an October letter to House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers, D-Mich. "Too many families are learning what it means for the American dream of homeownership to become a nightmare; and, when they face foreclosure, they deserve to have all the protections of the law."

Florida lawmakers gave the state's court system a onetime check this year for \$9.6 million to hire judges, case

managers and clerk employees to clear a backlog of 508,755 foreclosure cases. From July 1 to Sept. 30, 63,344 cases, about 12 percent of the backlog, were cleared.

That leaves 344,353 backlogged cases, 70,400 of which are in Miami-Dade.

"We think it's more important to get it right than do it fast," Bailey said. "Having said that, we are dedicated to attacking the backlog as quickly and efficiently as we can so long as we don't sacrifice any integrity."

Bailey said case managers have a checklist of what kind of documents are required for a summary judgment, such as proof of note ownership. But the managers also are given the authority to question document details.

For example, if a foreclosure has high costs for process serving, it could get kicked back. It generally costs about \$45 for a sheriff's office to serve a summons, Bailey said, but prices have risen as private companies move in to meet the demand.

The Wall Street Journal reported last week that Judge Susan Gardner of Florida's 6th Circuit ordered three lawyers to appear in her courtroom to defend foreclosure fees. In one case, an affidavit included a \$1,630 bill for process service.

Case managers also review foreclosures in Palm Beach County, putting a note in a file if paperwork isn't complete. The case still goes to summary judgment, where the judge decides how to proceed.

Foreclosure defense attorneys say judges' scrutiny of files has increased this fall as some banks paused to withdraw and resubmit flawed or fraudulent paperwork.

"Yes, there have been too many summary judgments, there is no question about that," said Deerfield Beach-based attorney Peter Ticktin. "But that's because it's so hard to believe how massive the fraud is."

Ticktin is being investigated by the Florida Bar for his billing practices but maintains there has been no wrongdoing at his firm.

But even if judges are faced with questionable foreclosures, there is debate over how far they can go to play homeowner advocate if no argument is raised on the homeowner's behalf.

"There is friction between what some people see as common sense versus what a judge's true role should be in a court proceeding," Blanc said.

Imported: Nov 17 2010 2:25AM Indexed: Nov 17 2010 2:33AM

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

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, November 01, 2010 8:55 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure Initiative  
**Attachments:** 10.27.10.laurent.memo.docx

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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**From:** Sue Bruce [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 28, 2010 11:51 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Chief Judges  
**Cc:** Trial Court Budget Commission  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Initiative

Please see the attached memorandum from Judge John Laurent. Thanks!

*Sue Bruce*

Personal Secretary II  
Office of the State Courts Administrator  
500 S. Duval Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399  
Phone: 850/922-5081  
Fax: 850/488-0156



## 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

**Melendi, Rick**

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 1:07 PM  
**To:** CIRCCIVJUD; Wolfe, Mark  
**Cc:** CIRCCIVJA; Julian, Donna M.; Bridenback, Mike; Melendi, Rick; Snavely Carla  
**Subject:** Foreclosure plan  
**Attachments:** Mortgage Foreclosure Schedule Team A.docx; Mortgage Foreclosure Schedule Team b.docx

As a result of our recent circuit civil meeting, we are on schedule to implement our residential foreclosure plan, commencing July 1. Please assist by:

- 1.Reviewing the attached draft of the two team approach which was e-mailed earlier this week and handed out at Thursday's meeting, and sending any suggested changes or thoughts to me by Wednesday, June 9.
  
- 2.E-mailing or delivering your July foreclosure hearing dockets to Linda Greno so that we can schedule the July foreclosure hearings with the senior judges. Please don't remove the July foreclosure hearings from your calendars until the July senior judge docket has been developed and published.

As of Monday, August 2, the residential foreclosure cases should be heard exclusively by the assigned senior judges, according to the finalized new plan. Let me know if you have any comments or questions.

TEAM B: Divisions G, H, I, J, K

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Telephonic	Non-Telephonic	Telephonic	Non-Telephonic	Telephonic
9:00	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch
9:30	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch
10:00	Shapiro & Fishman	Albertelli	Shapiro & Fishman	Albertelli	All Others
10:30	Shapiro & Fishman	Kass Shuler	Shapiro & Fishman	Kass Shuler	Motions (All)
11:00	Ben Ezra & Katz	All Others	Ben Ezra & Katz	All Others	Motions (All)
	Telephonic	Telephonic	Telephonic	Telephonic	
1:30	David Stern	Marshall Watson	David Stern	Marshall Watson	Motions (All)
2:00	David Stern	Marshall Watson	David Stern	Marshall Watson	Motions (All)
2:30	David Stern	Marshall Watson	David Stern	Marshall Watson	Motions (All)
3:00	Kahane & Asso.	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	All Others	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	
3:30	Kahane & Asso.	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	All Others	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	
	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total:120



TEAM A: Divisions A,B,C,D,F

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Telephonic	Non-Telephonic	Telephonic	Non-Telephonic	Telephonic
9:00	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch
9:30	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch	Fla. Default	Butler & Hosch
10:00	Shapiro & Fishman	Albertelli	Shapiro & Fishman	Albertelli	All Others
10:30	Shapiro & Fishman	Kass Shuler	Shapiro & Fishman	Kass Shuler	Motions (All)
11:00	Ben Ezra & Katz	All Others	Ben Ezra & Katz	All Others	Motions (All)
	Telephonic	Telephonic	Telephonic	Telephonic	
1:30	David Stern	Marshall Watson	David Stern	Marshall Watson	Motions (All)
2:00	David Stern	Marshall Watson	David Stern	Marshall Watson	Motions (All)
2:30	David Stern	Marshall Watson	David Stern	Marshall Watson	Motions (All)
3:00	Kahane & Asso.	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	All Others	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	
3:30	Kahane & Asso.	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	All Others	Smith Hyatt & Diaz	
	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 150	15 cases per block Total: 120

## Bridenback, Mike

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**From:** P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 08, 2010 12:58 PM  
**To:** Callanan, Richard; Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** Fishbeck, Eric; Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

Thanks Rick,

I appreciate the input. We suspected as much about the cases in "reopen" status. I would imagine this is true in many jurisdictions. We will include your comments to the CSWC. Workload has always been an issue that concerns them. I agree with your assessment that a good review will likely be a necessary first step in this process. Getting some solid factual data statewide on the actual status of these cases will be an important result of this initiative, I think.

It was good to talk with Eric today. It is good to see the project begin to gel. It is clear that you folks have put a lot of thought into this process. Please feel free to email me if you have more insights into the project.

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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**From:** Callanan, Richard [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 08, 2010 10:36 AM  
**To:** P.J. Stockdale; Mike Bridenback  
**Cc:** Fishbeck, Eric; Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

PJ

We think your definition of "reopened" cases is right on the money. It should only include cases reopened and pending final "judicial" action.

We pulled a sample of case marked "reopened" in Clerk systems in Lee and Charlotte and manually went through a sample—as you know, it is complicated by the fact that the clerks:

(1) Mark foreclosure cases as "reopened" for many reasons, i.e. postponement of sale (online sales are often cancelled) after default judgment by the court, etc. For our purposes, and under your definition, these cases are in fact "closed". A very small percentage of cases marked "reopened" by the clerk (less than 5% from our sample) are actually reopened pending further judicial action, e.g. motion to vacate dismissal and reopen, motion to vacate mediation settlement due to failure to carry out terms of settlement etc.

We intend to obtain separate pending case extract report list for "reopened" cases, with a listing of last event/date and work through those to note as "closed" where we can determine the case is simply pending clerk action. This will be time consuming, but I think necessary.

(2) We are told by Lee and Charlotte clerks, that once a case is marked as reopened, they have no way to capture the second "closed" date. As such, the clerk system will not report date closed on reopened cases. That means this will often require manual search of the case file. In Charlotte county alone, they have about 10% of the entire pending caseload in "reopened" status, so this will be very labor intensive on the circuits. We are trying to get funding to hire 2 additional interns (on county payroll) to go through all of the reopened cases as of 6/30/10. That way we will at least start with a clean count. Keeping this up to date is going to be very labor intensive for the circuits.

Rick

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**From:** P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 08, 2010 10:04 AM  
**To:** Callanan, Richard; Mike Bridenback  
**Cc:** Fishbeck, Eric; Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

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

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OSCA - Court Services  
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(fax) 850.414.1342

---

**From:** Callanan, Richard [mailto:RCallanan@CA.CJIS20.ORG]  
**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

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**From:** P.J. Stockdale [mailto:pstockdale@courts.org]  
**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.