

## Hickmon,Angelina

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**From:** Greno, Linda  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 12, 2010 9:53 AM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Hickmon,Angelina; Moreno,Elisa; Valdes,Ryan  
**Cc:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Defendant's Motions for Summary Judgment  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Just a reminder that Motions for Summary Judgment filed by **Defendant's** are to be scheduled on the Friday motion day and all **Plaintiff's** Motions for Summary Judgment are set on the Monday – Thursday docket. Any questions, please let me know.

## Hickmon,Angelina

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 31, 2010 10:40 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany; Sequeira, Maria; Valdes,Ryan  
**Cc:** Barton, James ; Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** FW: JAWS code deployment 08302010

**Importance:** High

FYI – The new upload requirement feature in JAWS has been deployed (see bullet point 2 below). Accordingly, I would request that the case managers monitor whether the new upload requirement cuts down on the number of final summary judgment and motion hearings from being scheduled and heard where not all pleadings and documentation were filed prior to the hearing being held.

Thank you.

**From:** Roberts, Julie [<mailto:jroberts@PRESIDIO.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 31, 2010 9:28 AM  
**To:** Sedita, Susan; Puig, Caryn; Greno, Linda; Hecksher, Sandra L.; Gutierrez, N. Sue; Fish, Mary; Openchowski, Sasha; D'Agresta, Robyn R.; Williams, Judy; Williamson, Linda; Gomez, Myra; Oakes, Jacquelyn; Stephens, Steven; Mynatt, Ann E.; Belliveau,Hillary; Smith, Lisa E. (JA); Davis, Linda; Flowers,Suzanne; Morgan, Jackie; Baker,Mona; Jones, Kortina; Gillen, Anita; Scollin,Laurie; Burt, Cynthia; Lauderdale, Carmen E.; Martinez, Alicia; Stone, Denise; Meehan, Lynn; Wills, Anissa; Harris, Cheryl; Thomas, Teresa; Gilbert, Adrienne; Lapierre, Valerie; Reeves, Vicki L.; Casper, Joy; Schoonover, Selena; Browning, Diana; Julian, Donna M.  
**Cc:** Bellan, Steve; Drake, Patricia; Schemenauer, Jayson; Tonya Grimes - Contact; Melendi, Rick; Noll, Sharon; Stafford, Becki; Gant, Kimberly; Snell,Janell; Lemmons, Michael; DEMELJR; Carlton, David; Flores,Roberto; Ktaylor; Lee, Bekida; John Betancourt  
**Subject:** JAWS code deployment 08302010  
**Importance:** High

All –

New code was deployed last night for JAWS. The new changes include:

- Only scheduling attorney (or JA/Judge) can cancel a hearing
- If the check box for file upload is checked, then when an attorney schedules a hearing it will force them to upload a file. Please note we do not validate what file is uploaded therefore it is up to the internal judicial staff to review the uploaded file to make sure it is what is requested/needed.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks  
Julie

Julie Roberts | Network Architect | South | Presidio Networked Solutions  
5622 HillView Ct, Lakeland, FL 33810 | [jroberts@PRESIDIO.com](mailto:jroberts@PRESIDIO.com)  
D: | M: 863.398.4959 | [www.presidio.com](http://www.presidio.com)  
CCNP, PMP # 55412



## Valdes,Ryan

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**From:** Valdes,Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 3:05 PM  
**To:** Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** RE: Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

Ok I will. Thank you

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 3:04 PM  
**To:** Valdes,Ryan  
**Subject:** FW: Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

Ryan, please print and give this email to Judge Steinberg today. Thanks.

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**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 1:55 PM  
**To:** 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'Donald Evans'; 'Perry Little'; 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Sandra Taylor'  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

A meeting for the Senior Judges covering the Foreclosure project has been scheduled for next Thursday, August 26 @ 12 noon in Hearing Room 512- Edgcomb Cths. Please confirm your attendance with me. Thanks.

P.S. Judge Taylor, you may participate via phone.

## Schatzberg, Beth

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 21, 2010 5:06 PM  
**To:** 'emartinez@defaultlawfl.com'  
**Subject:** RE: Request from Hills. Cty Mortgage Foreclosure Unit

Yes, sir. The final summary judgment packets that we receive at the time of hearing have been falling apart & creating a mess because of the packets not being stapled.

Beth

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**From:** [emartinez@defaultlawfl.com](mailto:emartinez@defaultlawfl.com) [<mailto:emartinez@defaultlawfl.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 21, 2010 4:45 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg, Beth  
**Subject:** RE: Request from Hills. Cty Mortgage Foreclosure Unit

just a quick clarification. You are referring to the final summary judgment packages that we deliver to you for the final hearing and not the motion for summary judgment that we file with the clerk? Is that correct?

Elvin L. Martinez Jr. 1  
Judicial Liaison  
Florida Default Law Group & Affiliates  
4301 Anchor Plaza Parkway  
Tampa, FL 33634  
Phone: 813-342-2200 ext 3954  
Fax: 813-251-1541  
email: [emartinez@defaultlawfl.com](mailto:emartinez@defaultlawfl.com)  
Judge's and Judicial Assistant's Toll Free Line: 1-888-422-2022 extension 3954

*Mailing Address:*

9119 Corporate Lake Drive  
Suite 300  
Tampa, FL 33634

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

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

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**From:** Schatzberg, Beth [<mailto:schatzbm@fljud13.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 21, 2010 3:05 PM

**To:** Hearings Box; Hearings Box

**Subject:** Request from Hills. Cty Mortgage Foreclosure Unit

Can we bother you to staple all of your MSJ packets together? We are getting a lot of them with not stapled and some with paperclips. We are getting pages scattered and have to reassemble them, or at least try to assemble them back together. The paperclips are more of a hindrance with being bulky and time consuming to work with.

Thanks for helping us move them through!

Beth

**Beth M. Schatzberg**

Case Manager

Sect. II Mortgage Foreclosures

Hillsborough County Courthouse

800 E. Twiggs St., Ste. 425

(813) 272-8578

## Moreno,Elisa

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 25, 2010 9:21 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Subject:** RE: DAILY DOCKETS - FYI

Ok, thank you. I will get with Alina.

Please note that Alina is in the directory under Cuervo-Young, Alina.

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 25, 2010 9:13 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Cc:** Hickmon,Angelina; Gammage,Trillany; Schatzberg,Beth; Valdes,Ryan; Sequeira, Maria  
**Subject:** FW: DAILY DOCKETS - FYI

Good morning Rick,

I just handed my docket to Alina but she seems unaware that she is the designated recipient. I noticed she was excluded from the email below so I offered to forward the message to her; however, I cannot find her in the directory....Alina Young?

Thanks,

Elisa

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

**ALERT!**

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

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

Thank you.

## Moreno,Elisa

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

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

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

**Wells, Tracy**

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**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 07, 2010 4:23 PM  
**To:** Gammage, Trillany  
**Subject:** RE: Media

Thank you Trillany. Have a good evening.

T.

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**From:** Gammage, Trillany  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 07, 2010 4:17 PM  
**To:** Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** Media

Hi Tracy. I just wanted to let you know, in case you didn't already, that a reporter from the New York Times was in our courtroom today during the 1:30 hearing block.

Thanks,  
Trillany



**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Cohen, Harry [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2010 4:20 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Allocations

I have not received anything but I will check with CCOC staff and find out if an allocation/formula is forthcoming... HC

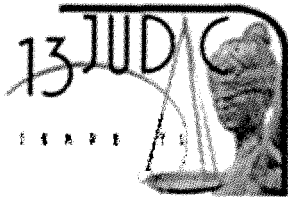
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**From:** Bridenback, Mike [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2010 12:28 PM  
**To:** Cohen, Harry  
**Subject:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Allocations

Have you received notice of the \$ allocation you will receive assuming the Governor does not veto the budget? The court's proposed allocation is \$427,504.

\*\*\*\*\*

*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)



**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2010 1:45 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Information

ok

\*\*\*\*\*

*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)



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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2010 1:44 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Information

I'm going to send her the two days of cancellation numbers we provided to the Tribune.

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 19, 2010 1:28 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure Information

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

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



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

Chief Judges/Trial Court Administrators – As a follow up to the JAC conference call yesterday, we would like to request any information you can provide on the cancellations of hearings or suspension of foreclosure cases by the plaintiff. You

can either send summary information by email, case specific information in a spreadsheet or you can provide information in the comment section of the existing Foreclosure Case Tracking application. Please note, in order to determine the magnitude of the cancellation, we need to know total number of hearing scheduled. We will compile the data and attempt to quantify a statewide estimate of the impact. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you. Kris

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

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Monday, November 01, 2010 9:06 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Initiative

right

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, November 01, 2010 8:55 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure Initiative

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*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)

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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

## Announcements:

Effective July 1, 2010, all matters in Residential Mortgage Foreclosure actions will be scheduled in either Section I or Section II of the JAWS scheduling application. General Civil, Divisions A, B, C, D, & F are designated Section I; General Civil, Divisions G, H, I, J, & K are designated Section II. (insert JAWS link)

## General Civil Division - Judge Page Section I

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

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

## JAWS Scheduling Application Page

### **Section I and Section II – Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings/JAWS Scheduling**

Scheduling of all matters pertaining to a Residential Mortgage Foreclosure action in General Civil Divisions – A, B, C, D & F will be scheduled in Section I and General Civil Divisions – G, H, I, J & K will be scheduled in Section II of the JAWS scheduling application.

### **Section I - Non-Telephonic Hearing Location, Telephonic Hearing Phone Number and Contact Information**

Section I - Non-Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be held in Judicial Office, Suite 513; Office Phone Number: (813) 272-8572; Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be conducted by phoning (813) 272-8575; Email Address: [www.sectionIrmf@fljud13.org](mailto:www.sectionIrmf@fljud13.org)

### **Section II - Non-Telephonic Hearing Location, Telephonic Hearing Phone Number and Contact Information**

Section II - Non-Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be held in Courtroom 409; Office Phone Number: (813) 272-5121; Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be conducted by phoning: (813) 272-8581; Email Address: [www.sectionIIrmf@fljud13.org](mailto:www.sectionIIrmf@fljud13.org)

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, July 26, 2010 8:48 AM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Subject:** FW: Cir13: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System  
**Attachments:** 13\_29Hillsborough\_FERCTS.xls; FERCTS\_Installation\_Guide.pdf; FERCTS\_Users\_Guide.pdf

Here is the spreadsheet with the list of pending mortgage foreclosure cases. We have made one paper copy since this is so large. If you prefer to review it, I will provide it to you when you return.

\*\*\*\*\*

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



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**From:** P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 10:33 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Cir13: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System

Mike,

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

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

Please do not hesitate to contact Court Services, Kris Slayden [REDACTED], or PJ Stockdale [REDACTED] have any questions or if we can be of any assistance.

Thanks  
PJ

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

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2010 11:01 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure questions

Do you know the answers to these questions or should I ask Carla?

\*\*\*\*\*

*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)



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**From:** Barbara Dawicke [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2010 10:52 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Administrators  
**Subject:** Foreclosure questions

Dear All:

If possible, please help me out with the following questions by responding by this Wednesday or Thursday (August 25<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>):

1. When a summary judgment is entered by the Court, it takes approximately how long before the information is docketed by the clerk?
2. In your circuit, is there a delay with the clerk holding the sales of the foreclosed properties? If so, what is that lag time?
3. In your circuit, what is the time of sale to issuance of certificate of title?
4. In your circuit, is there a lag time with the docketing of other foreclosure documents (other than summary judgments) and if so, approximately how long does it take the docket to reflect the filing?
5. What is the standard docket time for a newly filed foreclosure filing?

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



**Melendi, Rick**

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 01, 2010 2:35 PM  
**To:** Drake, Patricia  
**Cc:** Sequeria, Maria; Hickmon, Angelina  
**Subject:** Banner Training

Pat,

Please get with the new foreclosure OPS staff and coordinate a training date on Banner with them.

Thank you.

## **Melendi, Rick**

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**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 20, 2010 12:12 PM  
**To:** Greno, Linda; Wells, Tracy; Sequeira, Maria  
**Cc:** Helpdesk, Helpdesk; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Calendar Aug-Dec 2010  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure Calendar-Aug-Dec 2010.pdf

Attached is the Senior Judge assignments for Foreclosure Sections 1 & 2 from August through December 2010.

### Senior Judge Full Names

Donald C. Evans  
Frank A. Gomez  
Perry A. Little  
J. Rogers Padgett, Sr.  
Ralph Steinberg  
Sandra Taylor

# August 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

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

# September 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

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

# October 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

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

# November 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

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

# December 2010

## SENIOR JUDGE FORECLOSURE CALENDAR

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

## Hickmon,Angelina

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

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

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



## Hickmon,Angelina

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

Angelina,

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

---

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

Good afternoon,

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

## Nauman, Chris

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 27, 2010 11:41 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure AO  
**Attachments:** Residential Foreclosure Procedures3.docx

ACLU PRR

---

**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 22, 2010 12:56 PM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Cc:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Subject:** Foreclosure AO

The proposed supplemental Foreclosure AO has been reviewed, and the Chief Judge has added additional language in paragraph #1 which is included in the attachment. The AO should now be ready for signature.

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

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

**RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURE PROCEDURES – CASE MANAGEMENT**

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

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

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

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

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

**2. Previous Administrative Orders Supplemented**

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

**3. Effective Date**

This administrative order is effective October 1, 2010.

It is ORDERED in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manuel Menendez, Jr., Chief Judge

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

## Bridenback, Mike

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 11:42 AM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Barton, James ; Fernandez, Gaston  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program Allocations  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program.pdf;  
ForeclosureandEconomicRecovery\_Distribution.xls;  
EconomicDefaultRecoveryEffort\_Distribution13.xls

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

---

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

Good morning,

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

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

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

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


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

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

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

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

Thanks,  
Heather

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


## Economic Default Recovery Effort

Circuit 13

General Magistrates				
OPS	Contracted Services	Expense	Senior Judge Days @ \$350 a day	Total
	0	13,576	292,500	\$306,076.00

Case Managers			
OPS	Contracted Services	Expense	Total
273,882		25,036	\$298,918.00

General Magistrate Admin Support			
OPS	Contracted Services	Expense	Total
80,270		2,000	\$82,270.00

Mediation Admin Support			
OPS	Contractual Services	Expense	Total

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Monday, May 24, 2010 9:44 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Non-recurring Funding FY 2010/11

Great. Can you come to our noon June 3 circuit civil meeting at Mis en Place?

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, May 24, 2010 9:35 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Non-recurring Funding FY 2010/11

We are

\*\*\*\*\*

*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:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Monday, May 24, 2010 9:11 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Non-recurring Funding FY 2010/11

Shouldn't we start lining up the senior judges now? I'm ready to start using them July 1.

---

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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---

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

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

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

### **Issue 1: FY 2010/11 Funding Allocations Approved**

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

### **Issue 2: Types of Cases and Disposition Goals Approved**

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

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

### **Issue 3: Budget Policy Considerations Approved**

- a) In order to comply with legislative intent, any expenditure of any type utilizing this funding is strictly limited to direct support of the backlog reduction of the approved case types listed in Issue 2.
- b) In order to ensure that senior judges who are assigned to the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery initiative are paid with the appropriate funds, the current senior judge application will be modified to allow circuits to specify from which funding source the senior judge should be paid. The Trial Court Administrators are responsible for ensuring that the information is reported properly.
- c) Expenditures from the Expense category are limited to intra-circuit travel for staff, intra- and inter-circuit travel for Senior Judges, consumable office supplies, postage, copying, printing and reproduction. To maximize the Expense allotment, circuits are encouraged to use existing resources or surplus furnishings for any office furniture needs for OPS staff and/or Senior Judges. Subscriptions and the like are not allowable expenditures for



this funding, neither are computers or other communication devices as those items are a county funding responsibility.

- d) A contingency for the Expense category was approved in the original proposal and factored into the appropriated amount. In order to access these contingency funds, a circuit must have exhausted its Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Expense allotment. Requests for additional Expense are to be made in writing to the TCBC Chair, with a copy to the TCBC Budget Management Committee Chair, and to the State Courts Administrator. The request must provide a complete, detailed explanation of how Expense funding came to be exhausted, what steps were taken to alleviate the impending shortfall, the amount requested and how that amount was calculated.

**Issue 4: Funding/Plan Monitoring Approved**

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

**Issue 5: Clerk Assistance Approved**

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

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

**Directions:**

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

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

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

Admin. Support:	Senior Secretary	\$11.89 hourly
	Senior Secretary	\$12.10 hourly w/ CAD – Hillsborough and Pinellas
Palm Beach	Senior Secretary	\$12.48 hourly w/ CAD – Broward, Dade, Monroe,

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

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

Please let me know if you have any questions. Kris

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

## **Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Hickmon,Angelina  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 3:33 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Bridenback, Mike; Noll, Sharon  
**Cc:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure Hearing - Cancellations Today

Good afternoon,

Here is the requested information:

- 1) 38 a.m. hearings and 12 p.m. hearings and
- 2) 61 total cancellations from today's docket

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

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 11:40 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Hickmon,Angelina; Schatzberg,Beth; Gammage,Trillany  
**Cc:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Hearing - Cancellations Today

Good Morning,

Please provide Mike Bridenback and myself via email the information requested below in 1) and 2) immediately following the conclusion of all hearings for today or at the latest 3:45 for both Section I and II.

- 1) The total number of hearings scheduled for today - a.m. /Pam. through JAWS; and,
- 2) The total number of hearings -cancelled prior to today's hearings including, those hearings cancelled at the time of the hearing.

Thank you.

## Bridenback, Mike

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Friday, October 08, 2010 3:26 PM  
**To:** Barton, James ; Melendi, Rick; Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** FW: Clarification of Foreclosure Reporting Requirements

fyi

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
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---

**From:** P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, October 08, 2010 3:22 PM  
**To:** Trial Court Administrators  
**Cc:** Kristine Slayden; Arlene Johnson  
**Subject:** Clarification of Foreclosure Reporting Requirements

Trial Court Administrators,

Thank you for your participation in yesterday's phone call. We appreciate your patience and insight into these projects.

I would like to summarize the issues discussed yesterday concerning the reporting requirements for the Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Case Tracking System (FERCTS) workbooks.

In the interest of keeping the project manageable while still satisfying the essential reporting requirements:

+ The importance of the 62% target numbers have been clarified to better reflect the goals of the initiative and the mission of the courts. The target numbers provide a goal to shoot for but should not be emphasized to the detriment of a fair and meaningful adjudicatory process.

+ In order to reduce the workload impact of the reporting component, circuits do not need to report the dates of reopen or reopen closed events. If a case that was disposed prior to July 1, 2010 that does not already appear in your application workbook is reopened, this case does not need to be added to the workbook.

+ It is still important that we track the number of cases achieving final disposition. Therefore, new cases that are opened after July 1, 2010 will need to be added to the application as appropriate.

Existing cases achieving final disposition should also be updated and reported.

+ As discussed, several mortgage companies within the state are enacting a voluntary moratorium on their foreclosure proceedings while they review their internal procedures. In many parts of the state, this will affect a significant number of cases currently being processed by initiative staff. While some concrete statistics on the

number of cases affected would be useful, the additional workload required to report this circumstance does not justify the result. Active cases affected for more than thirty days by these voluntary stoppages should be reported in the “Inactive – Other” status category in the FERCTS workbook. Initiative staff are encouraged to identify cases affected by a moratorium in the comments field but this is not required.

We are open to suggestions from the circuits as to how we might obtain some hard numbers to help us better understand the impact of these moratoria.

Many jurisdictions report that they have enough cases not affected by the moratoria to keep initiative staff busy.

Thanks again for your input. Please contact myself or Kris if you have any questions or comments.

PJ

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

## **Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 5:14 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Rowland, Dave; Nauman, Chris; Barton, James  
**Cc:** Cash, Kim  
**Subject:** RE:  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure Letter to Chief Justice Canady.docx

See my suggested changes attached.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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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  
**Subject:**  
**Importance:** High

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

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

Letter to Chief Justice Canady

Copy to Lisa Goodner, State Court Administrator

Dear Chief Justice Canady:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

A possible source of the allegation that foreclosure proceedings are not open to the public might be from an internet blog published by attorney Matt Weidner ([mattweidnerlaw.com](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 Bloomberg News visited our courthouse, observed foreclosure proceedings, interviewed a judge, and wrote an article ("Florida's 30-Second Foreclosure Dash Hits Wall of Fraud Claims, By David McLaughlin – Bloomberg News, Oct 13, 2010). All with no apparent problems, and with no mention of having been denied access.

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

Please advise if there is any additional information you desire.

## Hickmon,Angelina

---

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

Good Morning,

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

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

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

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

FTA – by whom? Reason:?

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

Annotations – to be used:

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Hickmon,Angelina

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

Good Afternoon, Ladies:

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

Thanks.

## Hickmon, Angelina

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Friday, August 20, 2010 4:26 PM  
**To:** Valdes, Ryan; Sequeira, Maria  
**Cc:** Davis, Sandra; Potts, Blanca; Arguelles, Yasmin; Romero, Yvonne; Melendi, Rick; Hickmon, Angelina; Schatzberg, Beth; Gammage, Trillany; Moreno, Elisa  
**Subject:** FINAL JUDGEMENT PACKETS & EXTRA COPIES

### ATTENTION:

We just came out of a meeting with the Clerk's Office and they have requested a **few changes** from the Administrative Side.

Please make sure all Final Judgment Packets are **stapled** before sending them to the Clerk's Office. If you have to unstaple them to conform that is fine, be sure to put a staple back in them before they are shipped off to the Clerk's Office.

In addition, the cover letter (stating what is enclosed) can be recycled along with all copies of other motions and/or documents which are included that are not originals. If you have any doubt as to what is a copy or an original, please send it on to the Clerk's Office to let them determine.

The clerks have informed us that they are swarmed with paperwork and do not wish to have additional paper to deal with. On Monday, I will be at both stations to assist you in determining the difference.

As always, the original documents go back to the Clerk's Office.

Thank you for all of your help on this project. You got a good report card 😊.

Tracy Wells

**Wells, Tracy**

---

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

You are welcome.

T.

---

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

Thank you very much Tracy.

Ryan.

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 29, 2010 10:07 AM  
**To:** Sequelra, 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.

## **Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Fernandez, Gaston  
**Sent:** Friday, May 07, 2010 3:32 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Bridenback, Mike; Barton, James  
**Cc:** Cash, Kim  
**Subject:** RE: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program Allocations

I am available at 11:30 am or 4:00 pm.

---

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

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

---

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

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

---

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

Good morning,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks,  
Heather

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




**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 06, 2010 2:14 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** foreclosure mail

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

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 28, 2010 2:28 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Barton, James ; Wells, Tracy  
**Cc:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Subject:** Mortgage Foreclosure Backlog Project

For what it is worth, I got around to calculating the age distribution of the pending cases on the spreadsheet provided by the clerk.

<u>Pending by Age Groups</u>	<u>Number of cases</u>
Over 2000 days	16
1500 – 1999 days	27
1000 – 1499 days	677
900 – 999 days	717
800 – 899 days	1439
700 – 799 days	1940
600 – 699 days	4728
500 – 599 days	3174
400 – 499 days	3802
300 – 399 days	4482
200 – 299 days	4442
100 – 199 days	4990
Under 100 days	<u>3293</u>
Total	33702
Reopened Cases	1667

\*\*\*\*\*

*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)

## **Albury, Janice**

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**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 20, 2010 5:16 PM  
**To:** 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Donald Evans'; 'Perry Little'; 'Sandra Taylor'; 'Frank Gomez'  
**Cc:** Gomez, Myra; Melendi, Rick; Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Senior Judge Foreclosure Project Meeting

Judge Barton and Rick have scheduled a conference call with the Senior Judges working on the Foreclosure Project for Monday, October 25 @ 12 noon. Judge Taylor and Judge Evans can attend the meeting in Judge Barton's hearing room #512 on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Edgecomb Courthouse, since they are already scheduled to be here. The phone number for the conference call is (813) 272-6781.

## Albury, Janice

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**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 14, 2010 1:48 PM  
**To:** 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'Sandra Taylor'; 'Perry Little'; 'Donald Evans'; Gomez, Myra  
**Subject:** New Publication Announcement from Judge Mark King Leban, Chair, FCEC Publication Committee  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure Bench Book.pdf

Court Administrator Mike Bridenback asked that our office forward the attached Foreclosure Bench Book to the senior judges working on the foreclosure project.

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The Publications Committee of the Florida Court Education Council is pleased to announce the posting of the Residential Foreclosure Bench Book in the Court Education Resource Library on the Florida State Courts intranet. The Residential Foreclosure Bench Book was written by the Eleventh Circuit's Judge Jennifer Bailey and Assistant General Counsel Doris Bermudez-Goodrich. Used for a recent judicial education course for judges assigned to hear foreclosure cases, this bench book presents readers with the nuts and bolts of current foreclosure law and procedures.

In addition to this bench book, the Court Education Resource Library, developed by OSCA's Court Education Section and Publications Unit, contains a plethora of judicial education materials, among them, court publications (benchguides, bench books, toolkits, and case summaries); court education program materials; and other useful resources (a catalog of books, manuals, and other publications, including materials by state and national organizations).

A PDF of the bench book is attached, but you can also access it from the Court Education Resource Library, at [https://intranet.flcourts.org/osca/Judicial\\_Education/Library/librarymain.shtml](https://intranet.flcourts.org/osca/Judicial_Education/Library/librarymain.shtml) (As the bench book will be periodically updated to reflect changes in foreclosure law and procedure, please visit the site for update notifications.)

Please share this information with judges and court staff who are handling residential mortgage foreclosure cases.

If you have any questions, contact Susan Leseman, OSCA Publications Attorney, at (850) 922-5085 or [lesemans@flcourts.org](mailto:lesemans@flcourts.org)

## Albury, Janice

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Friday, August 20, 2010 11:09 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Sr. Judge Meeting - Foreclosure Project

They have all six confirmed. Judge Taylor will call in to the number provided by Linda.

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 3:26 PM  
**To:** Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Meeting - Foreclosure Project

Janice,

Please contact all of the sr. judges providing coverage in Section I & Section II of the foreclosure project and advise them that a meeting of the foreclosure sr. judges' has been scheduled for Thursday, August 26, 2010 @ 12:00, Hearing Room 512, Edgecomb.

Thank you.

## **Albury, Janice**

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Friday, August 20, 2010 8:11 AM  
**To:** Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Judge Taylor

Linda, which phone number should Judge Taylor call in order to attend the Senior Judge Foreclosure meeting on Thursday?

## **Albury, Janice**

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 3:04 PM  
**To:** Valdes,Ryan  
**Subject:** FW: Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

Ryan, please print and give this email to Judge Steinberg today. Thanks.

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 1:55 PM  
**To:** 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'Donald Evans'; 'Perry Little'; 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Sandra Taylor'  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

A meeting for the Senior Judges covering the Foreclosure project has been scheduled for next Thursday, August 26 @ 12 noon in Hearing Room 512- Edgecomb Cths. Please confirm your attendance with me. Thanks.

P.S. Judge Taylor, you may participate via phone.

## **Albury, Janice**

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 3:00 PM  
**To:** Sequeira, Maria  
**Subject:** FW: Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

Maria, please print and give this email to Judge Gomez today. Thanks.

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 1:55 PM  
**To:** 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'Donald Evans'; 'Perry Little'; 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Sandra Taylor'  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

A meeting for the Senior Judges covering the Foreclosure project has been scheduled for next Thursday, August 26 @ 12 noon in Hearing Room 512- Edgecomb Cths. Please confirm your attendance with me. Thanks.

P.S. Judge Taylor, you may participate via phone.



## **Albury, Janice**

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 1:55 PM  
**To:** 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'Donald Evans'; 'Perry Little'; 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Sandra Taylor'  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Foreclosure Meeting

A meeting for the Senior Judges covering the Foreclosure project has been scheduled for next Thursday, August 26 @ 12 noon in Hearing Room 512- Edgecomb Cths. Please confirm your attendance with me. Thanks.

P.S. Judge Taylor, you may participate via phone.

## Albury, Janice

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 3:43 PM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** RE: Sr. Judge Meeting - Foreclosure Project

Judge Taylor is here that following week. Would you rather schedule the meeting during that week or is her presence not required?

---

**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 3:26 PM  
**To:** Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** Sr. Judge Meeting - Foreclosure Project

Janice,

Please contact all of the sr. judges providing coverage in Section I & Section II of the foreclosure project and advise them that a meeting of the foreclosure sr. judges' has been scheduled for Thursday, August 26, 2010 @ 12:00, Hearing Room 512, Edgecomb.

Thank you.

**Valdes,Ryan**

---

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

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

Thank you.

**Moreno,Elisa**

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 22, 2010 1:07 PM  
**To:** Schatzberg,Beth; Hickmon,Angelina; Gammage,Trillany; Moreno,Elisa  
**Subject:** CLERK'S MEETING TOMORROW

REMINDER:

We have a meeting with the Clerk's Office tomorrow morning at **9:00 a.m. in Room 201** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Edgecomb Bldg.

See you at the meeting.

T.

## Moreno,Elisa

---

**From:** Wells, Tracy  
**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2010 9:27 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Subject:** RE: No Bailiff--

Great!

T.

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2010 9:14 AM  
**To:** Moreno,Elisa; Melendi, Rick; Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** RE: No Bailiff--

Ok, we have a bailiff now. I think he may have stepped out for a minute before 9am.

Thank you!

Elisa

**From:** Moreno,Elisa  
**Sent:** Friday, December 10, 2010 9:09 AM  
**To:** Melendi, Rick; Wells, Tracy  
**Subject:** No Bailiff  
**Importance:** High

Judge Padgett just informed me there is no bailiff and he is not starting without one, please help!

*Elisa M. Moreno  
Case Manager  
Residential Mortgage Foreclosures and Recovery  
13<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit Courts  
800 East Twiggs Street, Suite 513  
Tampa, FL 33602  
voice 813.272.8584  
fax 813.301.3805*

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 11, 2010 1:14 PM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel; Barton, James  
**Subject:** FW: Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Program

I did not know about this additional cost so I need to recalculate the two alternatives.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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f: 813.301.3800  
[REDACTED]  
[www.fljud13.org](http://www.fljud13.org)



---

**From:** Heather Thuotte-Pierson [mailto:[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:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:57 AM  
**To:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Cc:** Nauman, Chris; Rowland, Dave; Barton, James  
**Subject:** Re:

Ok by me

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 18, 2010, at 11:38 AM, "Menendez, Manuel" [REDACTED] wrote:

Please review and comment.

*Manuel Menendez, Jr.*

*Chief Judge, 13th Judicial Circuit of Florida*

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

*813-272-5022*

<Foreclosure Letter to Chief Justice Canady2.docx>

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 08, 2010 12:09 PM  
**To:** stockdap@flcourts.com  
**Cc:** Callanan, Richard  
**Subject:** Fwd: ECONRECOV: Prototype of Foreclosure Case Tracking System

PJ

I support Rick's suggestions and comments.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Melendi, Rick" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** July 8, 2010 12:05:38 PM EDT  
**To:** "Bridenback, Mike" <[REDACTED]>  
**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" <EFishbeck@COA.gov> "Kristine Slayden" <kslayden@COA.gov> "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

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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

20th Circuit - Integrity. Fairness. Service

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

Mike, Rick,

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

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

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

I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks

PJ

PJ Stockdale

Senior Court Statistics Consultant

OSCA - Court Services

Supreme Court Building Annex

500 S Duval St

Tallahassee FL 32301-1900

(ph) 850.410.1523

(fax) 850.414.1342

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

## Melendi, Rick

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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" <slaydenk@flcourts.org>  
**Date:** August 6, 2010 2:52:58 PM EDT  
**To:** "Trial Court Chief Judges" <TrialCourtChiefJudges@flcourts.org>, "Trial Court Administrators" <TrialCourtAdministrators@flcourts.org>  
**Cc:** "Lisa Goodner" <goodnerl@flcourts.org>, "Judge John Laurent"  
[REDACTED] "Judge Margaret O. Steinbeck" [REDACTED],  
"P.J. Stockdale" <stockdap@flcourts.org>, "Arlene Johnson" <johnsona@flcourts.org>,  
"Charlotte Jerrett" <jerrettc@flcourts.org>  
**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)



ENDING	12/5/10
	12/18/10

EMPLOYEE NAME Wes Cull

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL
REGULAR HOURS WORKED		8		8	8	8			8		8	8	8		64
COMP HOURS WORKED															
LEAVE USED HOURS/CODE			8(FH)							8(FH)					16
LEAVE USED HOURS/CODE															
TOTAL HOURS		8	8	8	8	8			8	8	8	8	8		80

I CERTIFY THAT THIS RECORD IS A CORRECT ACCOUNTING OF MY TIME DURING THIS PAY PERIOD 80

SUPERVISOR APPROVAL

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE

Administrative Leave	AD	Holiday	H
Annual Leave	AL	Floating Holiday	FH
Leave Without Pay	LWOP	Sick Leave	SL
Comp Time	C	Overtime	OT

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

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

## Albury, Janice

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2010 10:23 AM  
**To:** 'Rogers Padgett'; 'Winston Burrell'; 'Ralph Steinberg'; 'perrylittle7@aol.com'; Gomez, Myra; 'Donald Evans'  
**Cc:** Sequeira, Maria; Wells, Tracy; Greno, Linda  
**Subject:** Compensation Forms for Foreclosure Divisions

Yesterday, I dropped off a set of green compensation forms on Maria's desk and to Tracy for each judge covering the foreclosure divisions. The days you cover the foreclosure divisions should be reported on the green forms. You should continue to report any other senior judge days on the regular white form you have been using.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks.

**Albury, Janice**

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:14 PM  
**To:** Luke, Jessica; Santiago, Connie; Potts, Blanca  
**Subject:** FW: Tracy

FYI, in case you didn't receive it from your director.

---

**From:** Noll, Sharon  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:05 PM  
**To:** Yoakum, Carrie; Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** FW: Tracy

FYI.....

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Monday, July 12, 2010 3:00 PM  
**To:** ExecutiveTeam  
**Subject:** Tracy

For those of you who do not know, Tracy is temporarily assigned to assist with the mortgage foreclosure backlog project. She will not be in my office to handle routine matters for at least a month. In the meantime, please have your assistants deliver and pickup any documents you wish for me to see or sign to my in/out file directly outside of my office.

\*\*\*\*\*

*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)



## **Albury, Janice**

---

**From:** Albury, Janice  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2010 12:23 PM  
**To:** Drake, Patricia  
**Cc:** Noll, Sharon  
**Subject:** RE: Phones for Foreclosure Training  
**Attachments:** FY1011 Sr Judge Foreclosure Calendar.pub

Attached is the July schedule. The two-week rotation won't start until August, but I don't have the schedule yet for August or beyond. All of the senior judges on rotation will be here on Monday, June 28 @ noon for a meeting with Judge Barton and Judge Arnold if you prefer to train them on that day since they are pretty scattered during the month of July. But I'll leave that all up to you.

---

**From:** Drake, Patricia  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2010 12:16 PM  
**To:** Albury, Janice  
**Subject:** FW: Phones for Foreclosure Training

Do you have the foreclosure senior judge rotation list yet? If so, may I have a copy? If not, will you please send me a copy when ready? Thanks!!

---

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

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

## Nauman, Chris

---

**From:** Rowland, Dave  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 15, 2010 10:17 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris  
**Subject:** FW: December 7 Judicial Administration Committee Meeting  
**Attachments:** Agenda.doc; Lunch Order Form.pdf

---

**From:** Cash, Kim **On Behalf Of** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2010 3:20 PM  
**To:** Rowland, Dave  
**Subject:** FW: December 7 Judicial Administration Committee Meeting

---

**From:** Debbie Howells [<mailto:howellsd@flcourts.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 11:06 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Chief Judges; Trial Court Administrators; Judge Kevin M. Emas; Ficarrotta, Ron; Judge Wayne Miller; Judge John Laurent  
**Cc:** OSCA-MANAGERS; Kristine Slayden; Greg Smith; Sue Bruce; Debbie Howells  
**Subject:** December 7 Judicial Administration Committee Meeting

Chief Judge Haworth, Chair of the Judicial Administration Committee, asked us to provide you with the attached agenda for the upcoming meeting, which will start at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, in the Judicial Meeting Room at the Supreme Court Building in Tallahassee. Agenda packets will be provided at the meeting.

Arrangements have been made for the delivery of a box lunch. The brown bag lunch from Connie's Hams will consist of a sandwich or salad, chips, cookie, and drink, for \$10. If you would like to participate in the lunch, please complete the attached order form and return it to Sue Bruce (by email at [bruces@flcourts.org](mailto:bruces@flcourts.org) or by fax at 850-488-0156) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 3. We will collect the money on the morning of December 7, and ask that you please have cash available.

Also, legislators will be in Tallahassee the week of December 6-10 for interim committee hearings, in case you have an opportunity to visit with your delegations members while you are in town.

We look forward to seeing you next week.

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

# **AGENDA**

## **Judicial Administration Committee Meeting**

December 7, 2010; 12:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Judicial Meeting Room, Supreme Court Building, Tallahassee

- I. CALL TO ORDER – *Chief Judge Lee Haworth*
  
- II. MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE CASES
  - A. Operating Procedures for Special Foreclosure Dockets
  - B. Questionable Practices by Parties
  - C. Managed Mediation Program
  - D. Other Issues
  
- III. BUDGET, PAY, AND OTHER LEGISLATIVE MATTERS
  
- IV. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
  - A. Update on Electronic Filing and Paperless Courts
  - B. Judge Reporting Requirements – *Judge Judith Kreeger*
  
- V. FUTURE MEETINGS – *Chief Judge Lee Haworth*
  - A. Judicial Branch Joint Leadership Meeting, Friday, January 7, 2011, Hyatt Regency, Tampa
  - B. Chief Judges’ and Trial Court Administrators’ Annual Education Program, May 23-24, 2011, Ft. Myers (for chief judges-elect, as well as current chief judges)
  
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

Revised December 2, 2010

**Wells, Tracy**

---

From: Wells, Tracy  
Sent: Tuesday, July 06, 2010 5:26 PM  
To: Melendi, Rick  
Subject: RE: foreclosure mail

Ok.

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

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

Yes

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

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

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

Do you want me to handle this?


T.

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

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

Tracy

Sent from my iPhone

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

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



**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Walt Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 03, 2010 9:00 AM  
**To:** Trial Court Administrators; trialcourtchiefjudges@flcourts.org  
**Subject:** FW: two articles on foreclosures

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

FYI.

Posted on Sun, Oct. 03, 2010

## **Judges try to get grip on foreclosure chaos**

### **Manatee's backlog of cases has judges taking serious actions**

By DUANE MARSTELLER  
dmarsteller@bradenton.com

MANATEE — The fifth time was the final straw for Manatee County Circuit Court Judge Janette Dunnigan.

Four times in a 2007 foreclosure case, a Fort Lauderdale law firm representing a bank scheduled a hearing and either did not appear or canceled it at the last minute without telling others. So when it happened again April 13, Dunnigan called Smith, Hiatt and Diaz P.A. and issued a warning: Stop it or I'll hold you in contempt of court.

The threat didn't work: The firm subsequently set two more hearings and didn't show for either one. So Dunnigan found the firm in "deliberate, willful and flagrant" contempt after an Aug. 30 hearing and issued a \$49,000 fine, which the firm is contesting.

Legal observers said they believe Dunnigan's act is the first time a Florida judge has sanctioned a so-called 'foreclosure mill' for its practices. But they said it also illustrates a growing effort by judges to regain control of the foreclosure process after years of chaos.

"The system's overloaded and they've got to do something about it," said Dawn Bates-Buchanan, managing attorney for Gulfcoast Legal Services' Bradenton office. "The judges all are saying, 'No more. We've had enough.' "

That frustration stems from a foreclosure crisis of historic proportions.

Nearly 15,200 foreclosure suits have been filed in Manatee since 2008, according to court records. Mortgage lenders and servicers have initiated foreclosure proceedings against more than 1.33 million Florida homes and repossessed more than 197,300 during that time, according to RealtyTrac, a foreclosure tracking service.

The state courts administrator's office estimated in March that roughly 500,000 foreclosure cases in Florida were still unresolved. The office said it plans to release an updated estimate later this month.

The legal and financial systems were ill-prepared to handle the crush, resulting in massive court backlogs and delays. It also led to the rise of several law firms that file thousands of foreclosure cases a month, which critics have dubbed "foreclosure mills."

Local court officials have tried various measures to streamline the foreclosure process, including requiring law firms to file suits electronically; file all relevant documents when scheduling a hearing; designate a primary contact person; and appear in person at all foreclosure-related hearings.

Court officials also set up an automated system for scheduling court hearings and established “rocket dockets” to expedite uncontested cases. But they acknowledge those efforts have had limited success and that problems with incomplete or missing paperwork, missed hearings and non-compliance with court procedures still persist.

“We’ve been bugging these people to do it right and follow the rules for quite a while, but we’re still having issues,” said Chief Judge Lee Haworth, of the 12th Judicial Circuit, which encompasses Manatee, Sarasota and DeSoto counties.

For example, more than one out of every five expedited cases heard during a recent three-week period had some form of paperwork or procedural problem, he said.

That has judges taking a harder stance on those who aren’t following the rules.

On Sept. 17, Sarasota County Circuit Court Judge Harry Rapkin dismissed 61 of 258 cases on his docket because bank attorneys did not follow court procedures. Another 32 cases were continued because of similar but minor issues, Haworth said.

The dismissals mean plaintiffs who want to resurrect their cases will have to re-file and pay filing fees of up to \$1,900 for each case.

But Dunnigan’s contempt order and fine is the strongest rebuke thus far. Besides the missed hearings, she scolded Hiatt, Smith and Diaz for routinely not filing required paperwork.

“The law firm’s lack of consideration for the court’s calendars, their disobedience for this court’s local rules and orders, and their misconduct in handling mortgage foreclosure cases is deliberate, willful and flagrant in nature, and as such is evidence of contempt,” she wrote in her Sept. 2 ruling.

Besides the fine, she ordered the firm to pay \$450 to the homeowner for lost wages and interpreter costs and pay the Barrington Ridge Homeowners Association’s legal costs for the missed hearings. Scott Petersen, the association’s attorney, later said those costs amounted to \$840.

“The abusive practices that the judge attacked have been a serious impediment to the progress of community associations in maintaining financial stability without the benefit of maintenance fees from ‘underwater’ units that have been abandoned by owners,” he said.

Dunnigan also ordered Hiatt, Smith and Diaz to implement a system to assure its attorneys are adequately prepared for and attend scheduled hearings. The firm also was given a Thursday, Sept. 30, deadline to provide signed statements from its lawyers and support staff that they have read the local circuit’s rules of procedure or risk additional fines of \$7,000 a day.

The firm disputed her characterization, saying the missed hearings resulted from the local court circuit’s rules not being completely loaded into its database. Partner Roy A. Diaz also said the firm has made “extreme changes” in its internal policies and procedures to avoid more missed hearings.

He filed motions asking Dunnigan to recuse herself from the original case because of “prejudice and bias” and either rescind the order or hold another hearing, which Dunnigan denied Friday.

Consumer advocates and defense attorneys are hailing her contempt order and other actions against such large law firms, including judges in Miami-Dade County, Illinois and New York who wiped out homeowners’ mortgages because of misconduct.

Those firms’ assembly line tactics also have prompted at least three lenders — Bank of America, Ally Financial/GMAC and JP Morgan Chase — to temporarily suspend foreclosure proceedings in at least 23 states, including Florida.

"Crazy things have been happening and the judges are tired of hearing about it," Bates-Buchanan said. "They're holding plaintiff's counsel to the fire. They're trying to regain control of the process."

Dismissing cases, issuing contempt orders and issuing fines aren't the only tactics that local court officials are using, Haworth said.

They're also spending more time reviewing inactive foreclosure cases. For example, the last filing in a foreclosure suit involving companies owned by U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan and his brother was on May 19, 2009, records show.

In cases where nothing has been filed in at least 10 months, judges and clerks are telling lawyers to either get the case moving or it will be administratively dismissed.

"Our judges are saying enough's enough," Haworth said. "We've heard every excuse and promise (from bank attorneys) under the sun, and nothing's gotten better. We've had to take stronger measures."

# Sarasota judge simplifies foreclosure cases

## COURTROOM: A checklist of filing errors can bring a case to a halt

By Todd Ruger

Published: Sunday, October 3, 2010 at 1:00 a.m.

Criminal defense attorneys used to call Judge Harry Rapkin "Hang 'Em High Harry" for his tough prison sentences, and his latest crackdown in foreclosure court might have home lenders trying to come up with a similar nickname.

Rapkin unleashed a new order last week, aimed at attorneys for lenders who are still making the kind of simple errors that would be considered ridiculous in any courtroom. A lot is at stake; Rapkin sees hundreds of cases where the lender is minutes away from taking someone's property.

Rapkin's new order completely dismisses foreclosure cases when they do not follow the simplest of rules.

The judge's new order has nine check boxes listing the most common mistakes he sees in foreclosures. The most basic -- not showing up for a hearing -- is listed first. Then there is one for attorneys who filed a motion to win a case that they had previously dismissed, and one for attorneys who filed a motion to win a case they had already won. If one these boxes gets checked, the judge dismisses the case.

The obviousness of the errors is one outcome of the mass volume of foreclosures running through Florida courts and the desire by large legal firms to handle foreclosures en masse, resulting in shoddy practices.

"This isn't brain surgery," said Sarasota attorney Michael Belle, who reviews foreclosure filings for the judges as part of a court-sponsored program.

On Sept. 24, the day Rapkin debuted the order, a quarter of the 250 cases seeking his permission to retake property made one of the errors, 61 in all.

Rapkin's checkboxes give him a quick way to make rulings on the cases. But it also has a twinge of ridicule: as in, can you believe professional attorneys can get things this wrong?

Belle said it is a sad commentary about how a judge feels he must hold the hand of these attorneys just to meet elementary standards.

"Judge Rapkin is now finally saying I can't trust these guys anymore, so here's what I'm going to do," Belle said.

The most direct message gets sent right to the lenders' pocketbooks. The order dismisses the foreclosure, meaning the lender must pay a filing fee up to \$1,900 again if it wants to try to foreclose on the property again.

Attorneys in at least 15 of the 61 cases Rapkin dismissed with the new order have already tried to get a rehearing to try to save their case.

The foreclosure system is still overwhelmed by cases, with attorneys for some lenders each handling thousands of cases.

Foreclosure defense attorneys have decried the paperwork from lenders for years.

Now, problems with paperwork have led some lenders to halt foreclosures in up to 23 states, and the Florida Attorney General's Office is investigating possible fraudulent documents being used to retake homes.

**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Menendez, Manuel  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 11:38 AM  
**To:** Nauman, Chris; Rowland, Dave; Bridenback, Mike; Barton, James  
**Attachments:** Foreclosure Letter to Chief Justice Canady2.docx

Please review and comment.

*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:

Thank you for providing a copy of the letter you recently received from the Florida Press Association and other organizations. In that correspondence 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." I was, of course, aghast to read that such an allegation was being directed at this circuit! To the best of my knowledge, 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)(c), 390.01116, and Rule 8.820(e) of the Florida Rules of Juvenile Procedure, among others), all court proceedings in the Thirteenth circuit have been open to the public. In any event, I have taken certain steps to further inquire into the matter and to further assure that there is a clear understanding by all concerned that all non-confidential court proceedings are to be open to the public.

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, as well as 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 foreclosure cases, as with the hearings in most other civil cases, were held in hearing rooms adjacent to chambers. Courtrooms are generally not available for motions hearings in each of the divisions handling general civil matters. The courtrooms are shared by the judges and are generally reserved for jury trials.

As a result of the funding provided for the foreclosure project, we now have the equivalent of 2 full time judges handling all foreclosure cases (from a pool of 6 senior judges) with the additional assistance of case management support. Due to space constraints, the foreclosure proceedings have been conducted 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 and 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 experienced judges. I have no doubt they are reviewing each case on its merits and rendering judgments based on the facts and the law. Prior to the hearings our case managers review every case calendared to determine whether

all required documents are properly filed and ready for consideration by the court. Hundreds of cases have been pulled from the calendar due to insufficient documentation. The case managers attend the hearings and record all actions taken by the judge. The cases are set in 30 minute blocks of time with no more than 15 cases schedule per time block. We use an automated system where the attorneys schedule their cases on a web-based calendaring system. Before an attorney may calendar a foreclosure hearing through the court's automated calendaring system, the attorney is required to upload a copy of the motion or mortgage foreclosure packet which can then be accessed and review by a judge or case manager. Once this task is completed, the attorney receives a confirmation that the hearing is scheduled. Notice to all associated parties is provided through this automated calendaring system. Many of the hearings are conducted telephonically.

Summary Judgment hearings are held Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm. Cases are calendared on two dockets each handled simultaneously by a senior judge. 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 by the parties for summary judgment hearing. The purpose of these hearings is to determine the status of the cases and determine if it would be appropriate to schedule trial dates.

A possible source of the allegation that foreclosure proceedings are not open to the public might be from an internet blog published by foreclosure defense attorney Matt Weidner (mattweidnerlaw.com). I am told that in a blog on September 24, 2010, Mr. Weidner states that "across this state, oftentimes in secret courtrooms that are hidden from the public using evidence and information that is hidden from the scrutiny of press or public view, judges will be signing thousands of foreclosure judgments. I was in one of those secret Kafka-esque courtrooms in Tampa yesterday..." I do not share Mr. Weidner's opinion concerning his characterization of 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. Also, another foreclosure defense attorney, Randall Reder, was recently quoted in the Tampa Tribune that he has "repeatedly seen homeowners and attorneys turned away from hearings" by bailiffs. To my knowledge Mr. Reder never made these concerns know to the court or the sheriff's office.

I would note that in September a reporter from the New York Times visited the courthouse and wished to observe the foreclosure proceedings. The reporter was apparently advised by someone in the clerk's office that the proceedings were in the hearing room area and that entry into that area was controlled by the bailiffs. The reporter sought out our court administrator to discuss the issue of access. It was explained that access was not prohibited but that security screening procedures were in place. The reporter was allowed access to the hearing room, observed the proceedings, and conducted an interview with one of the judges. The reporter subsequently wrote an article which appeared in the New York Times , (*Flawed Foreclosure*



*Documents Thwart Home Sales*, by Andrew Martin and David Streitfeld, New York Times, October 8, 2010). No mention is made in that article of anyone not being allowed to observe foreclosure proceedings. Likewise, a reporter from Bloomberg News visited our courthouse, observed foreclosure proceedings, interviewed a judge, and wrote an article (*Florida's 30-Second Foreclosure Dash Hits Wall of Fraud Claims*, by David McLaughlin, Bloomberg News, Oct 13, 2010). The Bloomberg reporter had no apparent problems, and likewise made no mention of access issues.

In any event, we have now developed a schedule that will 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, and with space constraints. 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.

So as to remind everyone of the importance of providing public access to the public, a copy of this letter has been provided to our court administrator, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, supervisory personnel within the sheriff's office, our senior foreclosure judges, foreclosure case managers and support staff, as well as each of the judges in this circuit and their judicial assistances.

Please advise if there is any additional information you desire.

**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 01, 2010 9:57 AM  
**To:** Barton, James  
**Subject:** RE: Attachment A, Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Data Collection Plan

I agree and I communicated our position to PJ.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
Court Administrator  
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Tampa, FL 33602  
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**From:** Barton, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 4:26 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** RE: Attachment A, Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Data Collection Plan

I would not include a case that has been stayed because of an appeal.

---

**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 11:26 AM  
**To:** Barton, James ; Melendi, Rick  
**Subject:** FW: Attachment A, Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Data Collection Plan

Your thoughts on this question?

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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**From:** P.J. Stockdale [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 11:18 AM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Cc:** P.J. Stockdale; Arlene Johnson; Kristine Slayden  
**Subject:** RE: Attachment A, Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Data Collection Plan

Mike,

Sorry to bother you but we have a field type question for you. We are trying to nail down the cases to be sent in this June 30 upload. Monroe has asked whether they should include cases that are currently stayed on appeal. We aren't sure whether an appeal constitutes a reopen of the case or whether it is mixed. That is, if a case is disposed and on appeal, then we do not want the case sent to us. On the other hand, if the case has been reopened and is on appeal, then we would want the case.

We also aren't all that certain how often an appeal can occur. If the overwhelming majority of the appealed cases are in the disposition-appeal class then it probably won't be worth reporting them initially. What do you think?

Sorry to keep bugging you with the little details. 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:** P.J. Stockdale  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 8:57 AM  
**To:** Arlene Johnson; Kristine Slayden  
**Subject:** FW: Attachment A, Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Data Collection Plan

This is a good question. I'm thinking yes because even though these cases are currently deferred pending resolution of the appeal they won't always be in that status. We even have a status for that "Stayed - Appeal pending". On the other hand, I don't want to fill up the workbooks with a lot of extraneous cases ... What do you all think?

PJ

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**From:** Lance Guerry, [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2010 8:52 AM  
**To:** P.J. Stockdale  
**Subject:** Attachment A, Foreclosure and Economic Recovery Initiative Data Collection Plan

PJ,

Would you like Circuit Civil Foreclosure cases that have been appealed include in the file?

Thanks, Lance

## Announcements:

Effective July 1, 2010, all matters in Residential Mortgage Foreclosure actions will be scheduled in either Section I or Section II of the JAWS scheduling application. General Civil, Divisions A, B, C, D, & F are designated Section I; General Civil, Divisions G, H, I, J, & K are designated Section II. (insert JAWS link)

## General Civil Division - Judge Page Section I

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

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

## JAWS Scheduling Application Page

## **Section I and Section II – Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Hearings/JAWS Scheduling**

Scheduling of all matters pertaining to a Residential Mortgage Foreclosure action in **General Civil Divisions – A, B, C, D & F** will be scheduled in **Section I** and **General Civil Divisions – G, H, I, J & K** will be scheduled in **Section II** of the JAWS scheduling application.

## **Section I - Non-Telephonic Hearing Location, Telephonic Hearing Phone Number and Contact Information**

**Section I** - Non-Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be held in Judicial Office, Suite 513; Office Suite Phone Number: (813) 272-8572; Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be conducted by phoning (813) 272-8575; Mail Address: Edgecomb Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs St., Room 513, Tampa, FL 33602; Email Address: [www.sectionIrmf@fljud13.org](mailto:www.sectionIrmf@fljud13.org)

## **Section II - Non-Telephonic Hearing Location, Telephonic Hearing Phone Number and Contact Information**

**Section II** - Non-Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be held in Courtroom 409; Office Room 422 & Phone Number: (813) 272-5121; Telephonic foreclosure hearings will be conducted by phoning: (813) 272-8581; Mail Address: Edgecomb Courthouse, 800 E. Twiggs St., Room 422, Tampa, FL 33602; Email Address: [www.sectionIIrmf@fljud13.org](mailto:www.sectionIIrmf@fljud13.org)

## **Case Managers –**

### **Duties:**

Review and confirm that all residential mortgage foreclosure court files are pulled and delivered by the clerk's office in advance of all scheduled a.m. and p.m. hearing dockets.

Review all residential mortgage foreclosure court files prior to the final summary judgment hearing and confirm that each file has a corresponding foreclosure packet.

Review each and every foreclosure packet and corresponding court file in conjunction with the "Foreclosure Checklist" prior to the scheduled a.m. and p.m. dockets, and confirm that all court files/critical pleadings contained in the foreclosure packet and court file. Note: (If, it appears after reviewing the court file that pleadings are missing, contact the circuit court clerk's office and confirm that all pleadings in the file are up to date).

Review each and every court file prior to the scheduled hearing docket and "tab" all critical pleadings necessary for judicial consideration, review and signature.

Organize all court files scheduled for hearing in accordance with the printed docket order for both the a.m. and p.m. court sessions.

Attend and assist the senior judge in the hearing room/courtroom with all scheduled a.m. and p.m. residential mortgage foreclosure final summary judgment hearings and motion hearings.

Assist with conforming of all Judgments, Orders, and Motions.

Perform data/statistical collection as required by the State for purposes of report generation.

Perform data/statistical collection, tracking, entry and preparation of all data/statistical reporting required by the State.

Serve as the Section and court's liaison to the circuit civil court clerk's office, the general civil divisions, the circuit civil judicial assistants and court administrator's office

Work collaboratively with the circuit court clerk's office, the residential mortgage foreclosure counterpart Section, the general circuit civil divisions, judicial assistants, and court administrator.

## Senior Secretary –

### Duties:

Handle all incoming/return calls to the Section from clerk's office, attorneys, parties, litigants, pro se and individual callers re: residential mortgage foreclosure action.

Perform all routine clerical tasks such as date stamping all Motion for Final Summary Judgment packets.

Perform all routine clerical tasks such as stamping, reviewing, processing, distributing and responding to incoming mail.

Coordinate & maintain the JAWS calendar for the Section, and assist attorneys, parties, and litigants and pro se callers.

Coordinate & schedule all pro se residential mortgage foreclosure matters through the JAWS scheduling application.

Distribute by email the JAWS daily calendar/docket to the circuit civil clerk's office and case managers.

Review daily dockets and communicate with sr. judge prior to the start of the a.m. docket, the type of docket (telephonic/non-telephonic) scheduled for the a.m. and p.m. docket sessions.

Print daily a.m. & p.m. dockets for each scheduled hearing date from the JAWS scheduling application for the senior judge/court and make two (2) copies; one for the case manager and bailiff.

Handle the coordination and transfer of all telephonic foreclosure hearings into the hearing room/courtroom for the sr. judge.

Work collaboratively with the circuit court clerk's office, the residential mortgage foreclosure counterpart Section, the general circuit civil divisions, judicial assistants, and court administrator.

Assist with conforming of all Judgments, Orders, and Motions.

Case No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Date: \_\_\_\_\_

RF-Section: \_\_\_\_\_

**FORECLOSURE CHECK LIST**

\_\_\_\_\_ Approved form: Uniform Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit of Compliance w/ Foreclosure Procedures

\_\_\_\_\_ Original Note and Mortgage or Lost Note Affidavit

\_\_\_\_\_ Motion for Summary Judgment

\_\_\_\_\_ Pre-Summary Judgment filed Motions – e.g. Bankruptcy

\_\_\_\_\_ Stay Ordered or \_\_\_\_\_ Order of Dismissal

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit as to Costs

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit of Attorneys' Fees

\_\_\_\_\_ Affidavit of Indebtedness or Affidavit of Amounts due and Owing

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Military Affidavit – Department of Defense (DOD form)

\_\_\_\_\_ Default Entered: (against whom)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Answer filed: (by whom)  
(If, Answer filed; Non-Military Affidavit, not required)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Personal Service or Constructive Service (Proof of Publication) on Defendant(s)

\_\_\_\_\_ Verified Complaint

**Notes:**

## Melendi, Rick

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

Good Morning,

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

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

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

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

FTA – by whom? Reason:?

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

Annotations – to be used:

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

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

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

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

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

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



**Bridenback, Mike**

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**From:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 22, 2010 9:06 AM  
**To:** Charlotte Jerrett  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Project

Did the chairs make a final decision on how much funding for this project last night?

\*\*\*\*\*

*Michael L. Bridenback*  
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**Bridenback, Mike**

---

**From:** Charlotte Jerrett [redacted]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 25, 2010 6:56 PM  
**To:** Bridenback, Mike  
**Subject:** Re: RE:

6M for economic recovery

Clerks got 3.6M for economic recovery

No word on pay yet. We are closed out but they are still working on higher ed and healthcare. Will continue meeting through midnight tonight.

-- Sent from my Palm Pre

---

On Apr 25, 2010 2:19 PM, Bridenback, Mike [redacted] wrote:

Any updates?

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 23, 2010, at 5:13 PM, "Charlotte Jerrett"  
[redacted] wrote:

> Sure. I'll keep you posted. No news on pay issues.

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Bridenback, Mike [redacted]

> Sent: Friday, April 23, 2010 5:02 PM

> To: Charlotte Jerrett

> Subject: Re:

>

> Thanks for the update

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

> On Apr 23, 2010, at 5:01 PM, "Charlotte Jerrett"

> <[redacted]> wrote:

>

>> Hey -

>>

>>

>>

>> Still no movement on the economic recovery issue. Have a good

>> weekend,

>>

>> C.

>>

>>

>>

>> Charlotte Jerrett

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

**Melendi, Rick**

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**From:** Melendi, Rick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2010 11:07 AM  
**To:** Flores,Roberto  
**Cc:** Roberts Julie  
**Subject:** Foreclosure Project Data Entry

Roberto,

I need for you to get with Julie and demonstrate how you took the Excel spreadsheet master split into copies for purposes of data entry by at least two (2) individuals – one (1) per Section of the foreclosure project. Please make this a priority today.

Thanks