

IN THE COURTS OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN AND FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2016-12

IN RE: FIRST CIRCUIT PRO BONO COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Florida Supreme Court has issued an opinion that adopts Rules 4-6.1, 4-6.2 and 4-6.5, *Rules Regulating the Florida Bar* and which effectively aspire to provide pro bono legal services to the poor; and

WHEREAS, Rule 4-6.5(c) requires the Chief Judge of the Circuit, or the Chief Judge's designee, to appoint and convene the initial Circuit Pro Bono Committee which shall appoint the Chair of the committee; and

WHEREAS, Rule 4-6.5(1) mandates the composition of the Circuit Pro Bono Committee; and

WHEREAS, the First Judicial Circuit previously established its Pro Bono Committee consisting of a member of the judiciary, voluntary Bar associations, and legal assistance providers in the Circuit; and

WHEREAS, while the committee has implemented various pro bono projects through the efforts of its members, it is necessary to formalize the committee's structure; and

WHEREAS, there is also a need to identify additional and new members to represent certain entities on the Pro Bono Committee; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to enhance the Committee's effectiveness with more clearly defined goals and objectives set forth in a pro bono plan; it is, therefore,

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that:

1. There is hereby established a Pro Bono Committee of the First Judicial Circuit (Circuit Pro Bono Committee).
2. The Honorable Circuit Judge Gary L. Bergosh shall serve as the Chief Judge's designee until further order of this court and shall serve as chair until a chair is formally selected by the committee.

3. **PRO BONO COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Unless otherwise designated by the respective entities represented on the Pro Bono Committee within 15 days of the effective date of this Administrative Order, the individuals who are listed on the Pro Bono Committee roster, attached hereto, shall continue to serve as members of this Circuit's Pro Bono Committee. Henceforth, membership on the Pro Bono Committee may be revised without the necessity of amending this Administrative Order. A current membership roster shall be maintained by the Judge serving as Chair to the Committee.

4. The governance and terms of service shall be determined by the Circuit Pro Bono Committee in accordance with Rule 4-6.5, *Rules Regulating the Florida Bar*.
5. The responsibilities of the Circuit Pro Bono Committee shall be to:
 - a. prepare in written form a circuit pro bono plan after evaluating the needs of the circuit and making a determination of present available pro bono services;
 - b. implement the plan and monitor its results;
 - c. submit an annual report to the Florida Bar standing committee;
 - d. utilize current legal assistance and pro bono programs in the circuit to the extent possible and operate the circuit pro bono plan and provide the necessary coordination and administrative support for the Circuit Pro Bono Committee; and
 - e. encourage more lawyers to participate in pro bono activities by providing various support and educational services for participating pro bono attorneys, which to the extent possible, include:
 - i. providing intake, screening, and referral of prospective clients;
 - ii. matching cases with individual attorney expertise, including the establishment of specialized panels;
 - iii. providing information regarding resources for litigation and out-of-pocket expenses for pro bono cases;

- iv. providing legal education and training for pro bono attorneys in specialized areas of law useful in providing pro bono legal services;
 - v. providing the availability of consultation with attorneys who have expertise in areas of law with respect to which a volunteer lawyer is providing pro bono service;
 - vi. providing information regarding malpractice insurance for volunteer pro bono lawyers with respect to their pro bono legal service;
 - vii. establishing procedures to ensure adequate monitoring and follow-up for assigned cases and to measure client satisfaction; and
 - viii. recognition of pro bono legal service by lawyers.
6. The Circuit Pro Bono Committee shall also consider in its plan the pro bono service opportunities listed in Rule 4-6.5 (d), *Rules Governing the Florida Bar*.
7. The Circuit Pro Bono Committee, in coordination and administration of the First Judicial Circuit's Pro Bono Plan, may develop any policy necessary to implement and maintain the Plan. Any policy developed by the Committee must receive final approval by the Chief Judge before implementation.

DONE AND ORDERD in chambers in Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida this 28th day of April, 2016.

/S/ LINDA L. NOBLES

LINDA L. NOBLES
CHIEF JUDGE

Copies furnished to:
Honorable Gary Bergosh, Circuit Judge
All Judges, First Judicial Circuit
Robin Wright, Trial Court Administrator
First Judicial Circuit Pro Bono Committee (*see attached*)

FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT PRO BONO COMMITTEE

ORGANIZATION	CONTACT			
	First Name	Last Name	Tel. No.	Email
First Judicial Circuit	Judge Gary	Bergosh		Krista.Adams@FLCourts1.gov
Inns of Court				
Okaloosa County Bar Association	Scott	Work		swork@destinlaw.com
Legal Services of North Florida	Christine	Kelly		Christine@LSNF.org
Walton County Bar Association	Scott	Critzer		Scott@critzerlaw.com
North Florida Bankruptcy Bar	Sarah	Walton		swalton@philipbates.net
Northwest Florida Legal Services	Doug	White		whited@nwfls.org
UWF Legal Studies Program	Susan	Harrell		sharrell@uwf.edu
Young Lawyers Division	Bo	Harper		boharper@borowski-traylor.com
Northwest Florida Paralegal Association				president@nwfpa.com
First Circuit Guardian Ad Program	Kathy	Errington		Kathy.Errington@gal.fl.gov
Escambia Santa Rosa Bar Association	Michael	Doubek		mike@esrba.com
Criminal Defense Bar	Clinton	Couch		clint@clintcouch.com
Pensacola Legal Support Specialists Association	Lorrie	Wilkinson		lorriewilk@cox.net
NW Florida Association of Women Lawyers				
Bench and Bar Professionalism Committee				
American Board of Trial Advocates				