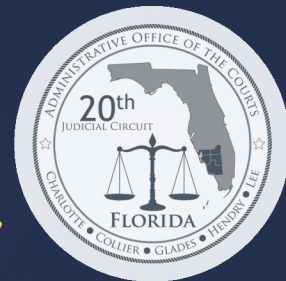


CIRCUIT TIMES

Newsletter



Vol. 2 2025

NEWSLETTER OF THE 20TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



ALL RISE FOR OUR NEW JUDGES
CELEBRATING THE FIRST INVESTITURES

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INVESTITURE OF JUDGE WILLIAM DORMAN

The 20th Judicial Circuit welcomed Judge William Dorman to the bench during his formal investiture ceremony held at the historic Glades County Courthouse on April 4, 2025. Chief Judge J. Frank Porter presided over the ceremony, which was attended by family, friends, colleagues, and members of the community.

Speakers included Judge Dorman's former boss, State Attorney Amira Fox, his father, and Glades County Lieutenant Gary Johnson. Lt. Johnson worked closely with Judge Dorman on several major investigations during his tenure as Felony Chief Assistant State Attorney for Hendry and Glades Counties.

"We wish you the very best of luck as judge, but I don't think you really need any luck because all you have to do is be yourself and conduct yourself as the incredibly hardworking, fair, just, and awesome person that you are. We are so fortunate to have you as our Glades County Judge," said State Attorney Amira Fox.

Judge Dorman took the Oath of Office administered by Circuit Judge Darrell Hill, with his son Blake holding the Bible.



Judge Dorman and Judge Hill shake hands following the oath of office



Judge Dorman speaks at his Investiture

Judge Hill was chosen for the honor because of his mentorship and trusted friendship. Judge Dorman's brother, Justin, assisted with the official enrobing.

In his opening remarks Chief Judge Porter said, "Glades County is in capable and dedicated hands. From what I have seen of Judge Dorman so far, the best is yet to come and he is already providing outstanding service to this community."

In true Glades County fashion, the ceremony concluded with a BBQ reception where guests gathered to celebrate his new chapter in public service. The 20th Judicial Circuit is proud to welcome Judge Dorman to the judiciary and looks forward to his continued dedication to the community.



Judge Domran and his father hug after his speech

INVESTITURE OF JUDGE TRACEY REDD



Judge Redd speaks at her Investiture

On May 2, 2025, the Lee County Justice Center hosted the Investiture of Circuit Judge Tracey L. Redd. The ceremony highlighted the personal and professional journey that brought Judge Redd to the bench.

Chief Judge J. Frank Porter presided over the ceremony. Three close friends and family members spoke in her honor. Her sister, Gena Newman, described her as someone who is hard-working, faithful, and determined. "Tracey is all these things and so much more, she can do it all on her own. Everything and anything," she said. "This circuit is lucky to have you sitting on the bench. Congratulations, Your Honor!"



Judge Redd hugs her husband following her enrobing

Beth Schell, a longtime friend, reflected on Judge Redd's dedication to fairness throughout her legal career. "If you ever watched her practice law, as I had the pleasure of doing on several occasions, you know she displayed courtroom confidence and fought hard to ensure those she represented were treated fairly and justly," she said. Attorney and former Naval Aviator Christopher Cosden also shared his admiration for Judge Redd and her professional accomplishments.

The oath of office was administered by Circuit Judge Gil Perez. She specifically chose him for this moment because of his mentorship and willingness to assist her on the bench. Judge Perez, who shares the juvenile docket with Judge Redd, was joined by her parents during the oath. Her husband, Dustin Redd, performed the enrobing, and her two sons led the Pledge of Allegiance. Representatives from local bar associations also offered presentations.

Judge Redd began her legal career in the Broward County Public Defender's Office, handling juvenile, misdemeanor, and felony cases. In 2000, she moved to Lee County and joined the felony division of the Public Defender's Office. For more than 20 years before her appointment to the bench, she practiced criminal defense as a solo trial attorney.

In her own remarks, Judge Redd expressed her gratitude for the support she has received. "There really aren't enough words in the dictionary to express how I feel toward so many of you and I give you my sincerest thank you," she said. "To say it's been a long journey would be an understatement. I could not have made this journey without the support of my family and friends, especially my husband and children. My biggest fans."

Judge Redd currently presides over half of the juvenile delinquency and dependency docket with Judge Perez in Lee County.



Judge Redd is sworn in by Judge Perez with her parents holding the bible

INVESTITURE OF JUDGE SEAN LUX

Judge Lux was honored at his investiture ceremony on Friday, June 27, 2025, surrounded by family, colleagues, and community leaders at the Charlotte County Justice Center. A veteran of the United States Air Force and a former trial attorney, Judge Lux brings years of dedicated public service and legal experience to his new role.

"This moment is a result of so many years of hard work, perseverance and dedication to a life of service to our country, to our community and now on the bench," said his wife, Debi Lux, who was one of the speakers at the ceremony.

Other speakers at the ceremony included State Attorney Amira Fox, who was Judge Lux's former boss and Attorney Richard Ruhl, his law partner of nearly four years. Circuit Judge Shannon McFee administered the oath of office. Judge Lux credits Judge McFee as playing an instrumental role in his path to the judiciary. Judge Lux's father, Wayne Lux, assisted with the enrobing. The ceremony was presided over by Chief Judge J. Frank Porter. Representatives from local bar associations also offered presentations.

Attorney Ruhl praised his dedication to the law. "The moment he came into the office you could tell he had a passion for what he did," Ruhl said. "He understood what he had to do and he worked as hard as he could."



Judge Lux speaks at his Investiture



Judge Lux is sworn in by Judge McFee while his sister, Erin, holds the bible

Throughout his career, Judge Lux has also been a dedicated community volunteer, founding and directing the Collier-Lee Honor Flight to honor local veterans with visits to Washington, D.C. He has been recognized for his service with numerous awards and continues to be involved in veteran and civic organizations.

During his remarks, Judge Lux said he will continue to serve the community. "I will give everything of my life, everything of myself to you as a Judge to serve with honor and with fairness, with a deep respect of the law and a deep respect for the community that I love here," said Judge Lux.

Judge Lux currently presides over half of the county civil division docket, as well as the drug court and mental health court docket. We look forward to his continued service to the people of Charlotte County.



Chief Judge J. Frank Porter presides over the ceremony in Courtroom 4A in Charlotte County

Investiture Ceremony

SAVE THE DATE



Judge Michael
Powell

AUGUST 8, 2025

Charlotte County Courthouse
Courtroom 4A
3:00pm



Judge James
Stewart

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

Collier County Courthouse
Courtroom 2A
3:00pm



Judge Amanda
Levy-Reis

NOVEMBER 7, 2025

Collier County Courthouse
Courtroom 2A
3:00pm



Judge Trent
Reichling

DECEMBER 5, 2025

Lee County Courthouse
Courtroom 1A
3:00pm



Judge Rachael
Loukonen

JANUARY 16, 2026

Lee County Courthouse
Courtroom 1A
3:00pm



Judge Robert
Ostrov

FEBRUARY 13, 2026

Hendry County Courthouse
2nd Floor
3:00pm

Future Court Leaders

Third graders from Avalon Elementary School visited Judge Deborah Cunningham in Collier County for a fairy-tale field trip in April 2025. The students watched a special performance of *State v. Goldilocks*, a mock trial that brought a classic story to life while teaching lessons about the justice system.

Chief Assistant State Attorney Rich Montecalvo played Papa Bear, Assistant State Attorney Sabsina Karimi took on the role of Mama Bear, and Commander Chris Goldhorn from Collier County Sheriff's Office portrayed Deputy Panther. Assistant State Attorney Kate Rumley stepped into the role of Goldilocks, Circuit Judge James Stewart acted as the prosecutor, and Attorney Adam Carney served as the defense attorney.

It was a fun and educational morning that gave the students a closer look at how the justice system works!



Social studies students from Canterbury School got a front-row seat to the justice system in action! They visited the Lee County Justice Center to watch juvenile detention hearings with Judge Gil Perez, seeing firsthand how the court handles cases involving young people.

After court wrapped up, the students had the chance to ask Judge Perez questions about the judicial branch, juvenile court, the types of cases he sees, and what consequences kids can face. It was an eye-opening conversation that gave them a deeper understanding of the legal system and how it impacts young lives.



Pine Ridge Middle School's 7th-grade civics students got a firsthand look at the justice system with a special visit to the Collier County Courthouse! Judge Rob Crown welcomed them into his courtroom, where he shared how cases move through the courts and the role the judiciary plays in our community. The students had great questions, and Judge Crown's insights gave them a glimpse into what it's like to be a judge. These future leaders left with an understanding of justice and maybe even some inspiration for careers in law!



March 2025 was a busy month in Collier County as we wrapped up a fantastic month of field trips! Overall, we had three judges speak to two different schools on five different days. Pictured in these photos are visits where Circuit Judge Joe Foster spoke with Pine Ridge 7th grade students about the felony docket and his role as a Circuit Judge.

Then, Collier County Judge Rob Crown met with Gulfview's 7th grade Civics class where he answered their thoughtful questions about becoming a judge and the workings of the court system. We hope to see some future lawyers and judges in the making!



Judge Foster



Judge Crown

On Law Day, we welcomed students from LaBelle High School's Criminal Justice Academy to participate in a Mock Trial in Judge Darrell Hill's courtroom at the Hendry County Courthouse.

Judge Hill generously shared his wisdom with these future legal leaders. The freshmen impressed everyone with their professionalism and preparation, and we're thankful to the attorneys and prosecutors who volunteered to make this an unforgettable learning experience.

This year's Law Day theme was, "Out of many, one," and it reflects how the rule of law strengthens our unity and resilience.





Civics students from Mid Cape Global had the opportunity to step into the shoes of attorneys, witnesses, and jurors during an educational visit to the Lee County Justice Center. Hosted by Lee County Judge Nicole Mirra, the students took part in a hands-on, interactive mock trial designed to bring their classroom lessons on the legal system to life.

The case on the docket? The Big Bad Wolf vs. Curly Pig. From opening statements to witness testimony and the final verdict, students played every role in the courtroom, learning how the justice system functions through real-time participation.

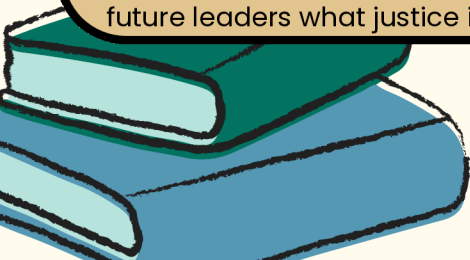
Judge Mirra walked them through the process, offering tips and explanations along the way. It was a fun, hands-on way to learn about courtroom procedures and the role of the judiciary. For many students, it was their first time in a courthouse or even in a courtroom!

Experiences like this help make civics feel real and show that learning doesn't always happen at a desk.



Mrs. Elsberry's 4th grade class from St. Charles Borromeo visited the Charlotte County Justice Center for a fun and educational day in court! The students got to meet Judge Geoffrey Gentile and learn how the justice system works from the people who keep it running every day.

A big thank you to the Assistant State Attorneys, Assistant Public Defenders, and the Clerk's Office for helping bring the courtroom to life and showing our future leaders what justice in action looks like!

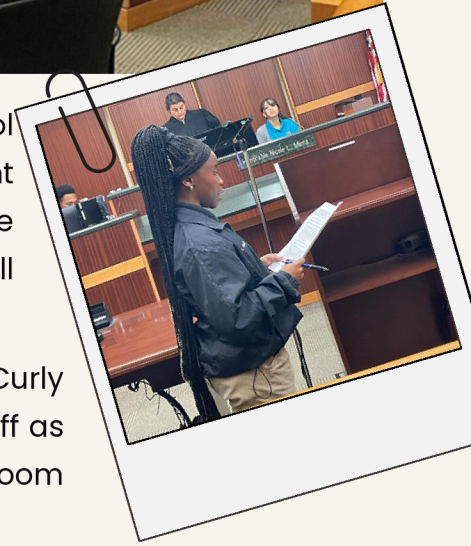


JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT 2025



Students from Ida Baker High School and East Lee County High School visited the Lee County Courthouse as part of their first Junior Achievement Day's on two separate occasions earlier this year. The program gave students a hands-on look at careers in law and justice through a full morning of activities.

One highlight of the visit was a mock trial based on The Big Bad Wolf vs. Curly Pig. Students took on the roles of attorneys, witnesses, judge, jury, and bailiff as they worked through each part of the trial and learned how courtroom proceedings work.



Lee County Judge Nicole Mirra led the experience and answered questions about different types of cases, the role of a judge, and how the court system functions. Attorneys from the State Attorney's Office and the Public Defender's Office mentored students acting as prosecution and defense. Students also spent time with staff from the Lee County Clerk and also visited the Juvenile Assessment Center for a firsthand look at juvenile booking.

The day gave students a closer look at the justice system and introduced them to possible careers in public service.



Problem Solving Courts: *The Power of Second Chances*

For Problem Solving Court Month in May 2025, we hosted an inspiring event at the Lee County Courthouse, featuring special guest speakers Tommy Bohannon and Bert Blyleven. Both shared powerful messages about persistence and overcoming challenges with our Problem Solving Court participants and the community.

Tommy Bohannon attended North Fort Myers High School and was drafted in the 2013 NFL Draft by the New York Jets. Mr. Blyleven was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2011 after playing in the MLB for 22 years. Thanks to Tommy and Bert for reminding us that resilience makes all the difference!

Lee County Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass joined us, along with our Treatment Court team, attorneys and Judges Josephine Gagliardi and Nicole Mirra for this memorable day.

Treatment Court Month takes place every year throughout May. It's a time to recognize the incredible efforts of problem-solving courts in addressing substance use and mental health disorders. It's through collaboration and commitment that we continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve!

"Everyone in this room is here to help you, so now it is up to you to take charge of your life and to do the best you can." - Bert Blyleven





Collier County Adult Drug Court Team members, Judge Janeice Martin, alumni, and clients showed their dedication by coming out VERY early on May 4th to partner with Gulf Coast Runners for the Tropicool 5K!

Whether they were running, walking, handing out water, or cheering on participants, their energy and support made a difference. This event supports scholarships for local high school runners, and we're proud to see our team giving back to the community while promoting healthy, positive lifestyles.

Thank you to Collier County's Board of County Commissioners for signing a Proclamation designating May 2025 as National Drug Court Month. The Proclamation was accepted by Judge Janeice Martin, Presiding Judge of the Collier County Drug Court, along with the dedicated treatment court team.

Drug courts focus on reducing crime and saving money through intensive intervention and treatment for individuals struggling with addiction within the criminal justice system. By emphasizing accountability, honesty, and personal responsibility, drug courts help participants find lasting recovery, repair relationships, and become contributing members of society.



Thank you to the Lee County Government Board of County Commissioners for recognizing May 2025 as Problem-Solving Court Month!

Our team along with Judge Gagliardi and Judge Mirra were proud to attend the BOCC meeting and accept the official proclamation. This recognition means a great deal to our team and to the participants we serve every day. We're incredibly grateful for the ongoing support from our county leaders as we continue helping people overcome challenges and rebuild their lives.



Members of the Lee County Problem Solving Courts Team and Judge Josephine Gagliardi, along with Charlotte County Judge Sean Lux, joined recovery courts from across the country at the All Rise Conference in Orlando, Florida.

All Rise is the only national conference for treatment court professionals, dedicated to ensuring every individual in the justice system has access to evidence-based treatment and recovery. This powerful gathering focused on the latest evidence-based practices to support individuals in the justice system impacted by substance use, mental health, co-occurring disorders, and trauma.

We're proud to share that Judge Gagliardi also led the statewide Problem Solving Courts meeting during the conference, helping shape the future of treatment courts in Florida.



TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY!

The Lee County Courthouse was filled with curious minds and big smiles as we celebrated National Take Your Child to Work Day.

The day began with a behind-the-scenes look at courthouse security where the kids learned how the x-ray machines operate and saw examples of items that have been confiscated after being brought to the courthouse.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office School Threat Enforcement Team (STET) shared the importance of the "Hear Something, Say Something" message when something suspicious is seen online or in person. Through a game of telephone, the kids saw firsthand how rumors can spiral into full law enforcement investigations. They then toured the Department of Juvenile Justice's Juvenile Assessment Center and saw what a holding cell looks like and how booking works for juveniles.

Later, the group observed two Drug Court graduations and one Veterans Treatment Court graduation with Judge Gagliardi, hearing powerful stories from participants who have completed their respective programs.

The Fort Myers Police Department K9 Unit introduced K9 Onyx, a German Shepherd currently in training. The kids learned about the intense training that both dogs and officers go through. Onyx was brought to the U.S. on a scholarship honoring fallen Officer Adam Jobbers-Miller, whose name Onyx carries as his middle name.

The day ended on a sweet note with a visit from the LCSO Ice Cream Response Truck.



STAY TUNED FOR... *Pretrial and Probation Week!*



This July we celebrate the annual Pretrial and Probation Week in the Lee County Criminal Division. This week recognizes the incredible work done by community corrections professionals to restore trust and create hope and keep our communities safe.

These officers play a vital role in our justice system. They conduct intake and investigations for every person arrested in Lee County, manage cases, and supervise individuals on pretrial release, misdemeanor diversion, and county probation. These officers are committed to helping defendants be successful and stay out of the justice system.

Come back and check out our next newsletter to find out more how we celebrated them or if you can't wait, check out our social media!

CONGRATULATIONS TO...



JUDGE JOSEPHINE GAGLIARDI

Congratulations to Judge Josephine Gagliardi, who received the Southwest Florida Council of Boy Scouts of America Leadership Award in recognition of her service as Council President! Judge Gagliardi has dedicated her time and leadership to guiding young scouts, helping them grow through service, skill-building, and community involvement.

BRIDGET WASHBURN

Congratulations to Bridget Washburn, Treatment Courts Manager for the Lee County Criminal Division, on receiving the 2025 Liberty Bell Award, the highest honor given by the Lee County Bar Association. She was recognized for her exceptional dedication to problem-solving courts, collaboration with agency partners, and support for individuals facing mental health, substance use, and veteran-related challenges.



JUDGE DEVIN GEORGE

Congratulations to Lee County Judge Devin George on being honored by the Lee County Association of Women Lawyers at their annual Judicial Reception! Judge George's dedication to advancing women in the Lee County legal community makes this recognition especially meaningful.



LINDA CUNARD AND LISA DI SALLE

Congratulations to our Finance and Accounting Manager Lisa Di Salle for 15 years of Service to the Administrative Office of the Courts and Linda Cunard for her 20 years of Service!



TRIAL COURT ADMINISTRATOR SCOTT WILSKER

Congratulations to our Trial Court Administrator Scott Wilsker on 25 years of Service to the Administrative Office of the Courts!

Around the Courts & In the Community



The Lee County Mental Health Court Team had the privilege of hosting visitors from the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Missouri. Their team traveled to Fort Myers through a grant to observe Judge Josephine Gagliardi's Mental Health Court in action. Their goal was to gain firsthand knowledge and strategies for enhancing their own programs.

During the docket, participants openly shared their thoughts on the program, giving our visitors valuable insights for their own courts. The discussion provided valuable takeaways for everyone involved! Before heading home, they also observed Veterans Treatment Court and Drug Court with Judge Nicole Mirra.



February 2025 Collier Judicial Appreciation Luncheon!

Thank you to the Collier County Women's Bar Association for hosting a Judicial Appreciation Luncheon recognizing the hard work and dedication of our judges.

The event brought together members of the legal community to show appreciation for the judiciary's service to Collier County. We are grateful for the recognition and continued support.

April 2025 Lee County Pro Bono Subcommittee Seminar!

The 20th Judicial Circuit and the Lee County Bar Association Pro Bono Subcommittee hosted a Family Law Seminar at the Lee County Justice Center in downtown Fort Myers. This complimentary, half-day event welcomed attorneys of all experience levels, from those new to family law to seasoned practitioners seeking to sharpen their skills. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from both the bench and the bar through informative sessions on form review, appellate practice, and a judicial panel featuring members of the 20th Judicial Circuit.



Administrative Professionals Day!

We celebrated Administrative Professionals Day by recognizing the hard work and dedication of the incredible administrative assistants and support staff who keep things running smoothly behind the scenes in Lee County and across all our counties in the 20th Judicial Circuit.

Lunch and Learn: Bench Banter CLE!



We had a great turnout at the Lee County Justice Center on June 12 for the Lee County Bar's Lunch & Learn: Criminal Law Bench Banter CLE. It was an hour packed with candid insight, practical advice, and a few laughs, too.

Judges Branning, Thompson, Gill, Mirra, George, and Marcus shared their perspectives from the criminal bench, offering real-world tips that attorneys don't always hear in a traditional CLE setting. The conversation was guided by Assistant State Attorney and SVU Chief Francine Donnorummo.

Events like these highlight the importance of continuing education and collaboration between the bench and the bar.



Judges Swing Victory

Congratulations to The Benchwarmers! Judge Lisa Porter, Judge Devin George, Judge Tara Paluck, and Judge Margaret Steinbeck won this year's Annual Lee County Bar Association Golf Tournament. Their teamwork, skill, and a few lucky putts led them to a well-earned victory. The courthouse may be their usual playing field, but this time, they ruled the green.



Heroes Unmasked!

Heroes Unmasked, a Southwest Florida nonprofit dedicated to supporting children facing medical challenges, visited the Lee County Courthouse to create a special day for Ava Rivera, a courageous young girl referred through the organization.

Judge Devin George, the Lee County Bar Association, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office played key roles in making the day unforgettable. Their time, kindness, and support helped turn the courthouse into a place of celebration, strength, and joy.

Through collaboration and compassion, the event gave Ava and her family a lasting memory.



Justice Through Service

Judge Josephine Gagliardi participated in the Lee County Homeless Coalition's annual Homeless Service Day and Veterans Stand Down event at Next Level Church in Fort Myers.

As part of the event, she assisted with traffic court, helping individuals resolve outstanding cases and remove legal barriers that can impact housing, employment, and recovery.

The event connects individuals and families experiencing homelessness with essential services, including food, hygiene kits, medical care, traffic court, and access to VA benefits.

Judges Join in Celebrating Local Traditions

Glades County Judge Will Dorman took part in the Chalo Nitka Festival Parade in downtown Moore Haven! First held in 1948 to celebrate the paving of Main Street, Chalo Nitka has grown into one of Florida's longest-running festivals. What started as a fishing contest is now a week-long celebration of Glades County's southern hospitality and the traditions of the Seminole Tribe of Florida.



Circuit Judge Darrell Hill participated in the 2025 Swamp Cabbage Festival Parade, joining the community in celebrating LaBelle's 100th anniversary! This year's theme was "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: A Travel Through History."



From Circuit to Supreme

Circuit Judge Michael McHugh attended a program, reception, and dinner at the U.S. Supreme Court hosted by YPO, an international organization of young CEOs. Five current Supreme Court Justices and one retired Justice participated in the event. Judge McHugh took part in a group discussion on a recently decided Supreme Court case. He's pictured above with Justice Kavanaugh.

Level Up LEARNING & RESOURCES



Behind the wheel and in the classroom!

Collier County Judge Blake Adams joined Palm Beach County Judge Sherri Collins, Dean of the Traffic Adjudication Lab, in teaching this year's Traffic Adjudication Lab, held this May in Melbourne Beach.

The conference trains judges and traffic hearing officers from across the state on civil and criminal traffic matters, including commercial motor vehicles and CDL issues. Judge Adams and Judge Collins co-taught sessions on Civil Infractions and All Things Commercial.



Wellness, Resources, & Fun!

Employees connected with health-centered vendors, received on-site services, participated in wellness demonstrations, and even enjoyed some friendly competition during Lee County's annual Employee Health Fair.

A special shoutout to Pretrial Officer Edgar Cruz, who volunteered for a great cause by braving the United Way Dunk Tank!



Investing in Knowledge!

Three members of our 20th Judicial Circuit HR team attended a dynamic employment law seminar focused on workplace protections, leadership, and legal compliance. They gained valuable insights on avoiding common HR pitfalls and on building resilience and leading with confidence. The team also participated in a legal Q&A session that addressed today's most pressing HR challenges.



Florida Court Personnel Institute

Our Chief of Personnel, Dawn Whittington, joined MaryBeth D'Auria, Chief of Personnel from the Ninth Circuit, to present Challenges in the Workplace at this year's Florida Court Personnel Institute.

The Florida Court Personnel Institute plays a vital role in enhancing professionalism by offering ongoing education and training for court employees.



Checking all the Boxes!

Some of our Judges attended an April 2025 Collier County Bar Association Checking all the Boxes Seminar. With sessions covering everything from professionalism and wellness to tort reform and legal tech, the agenda was packed with timely topics and expert speakers, including our own Judges Lauren Brodie and Joseph Foster.

Welcome

NEW HIRES



Mandy Allen

Program Specialist

Jennifer Castillo

Probation Secretary

Caitlin Pezzello

Collier Admin. Secretary

Kevin Santana Diaz

Probation Officer

James Monroe

Pretrial Officer

Stacey Brush

HR Specialist

Victor Catella

Security Representative

Megan Fertenbaugh

Civil Case Manager

Jeffrey Jones

Security Representative

Humberto Morales

Security Representative

Malisa Stineman

Judicial Assistant



Rhyann Nolen

Intake Specialist

Yudith Prado Rodriguez

Security Representative

Jeffrey Ramsey

Facilities Coordinator

Francisco Rivera

Security Representative

Johana Samperio

Probation Secretary

Kirsten Tjarks

Civil Case Manager

Katherine Sharp

Circuit Judicial Assistant

Angelica Vazquez-Salgado

Court Interpreter

Audra Katona

Digital Court Reporter

Lucas Leichtweis

Digital Court Reporter



Hailey Dennard

Digital Court Reporter

Barbara Stachnik

Court Program Specialist

Alexa Nicastro

Trial Court Staff Attorney

Denise Black

Digital Court Reporter

Sandra-Dee Small-Tortora

HR Administrative Assistant

Ana Suazo Reyes

Civil Administrative Assistant

Carol Andrews

Judicial Assistant

Doresmi Torres Griffiths

Court Program Specialist

Shelby Jordan

Circuit Judicial Assistant

Harry Qian

CJIS Network Server & Security Administrator

David Schwar

Computer Information Systems Programmer

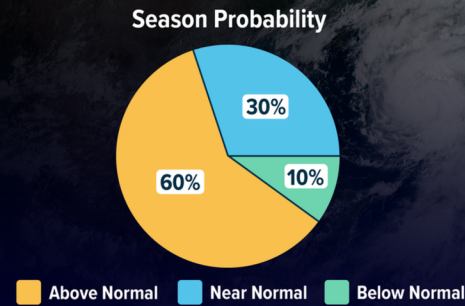


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2025 HURRICANE OUTLOOK

2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook



Named Storms
13 - 19

Hurricanes
6 - 10

Major Hurricanes
3 - 5

Be prepared: Visit hurricanes.gov and follow NOAA's @NWS and @NHC Atlantic on X. May 2025

2025 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names

Andrea
Barry
Chantal
Dexter
Erin
Fernand
Gabrielle

Humberto
Imelda
Jerry
Karen
Lorenzo
Melissa
Nestor

Olga
Pablo
Rebekah
Sebastien
Tanya
Van
Wendy

Be prepared: Visit hurricanes.gov and follow NOAA's @NWS and @NHC Atlantic on X. May 2025

STAY CONNECTED. STAY INFORMED. STAY PREPARED.

NOAA National Weather Service forecasters at the [Climate Prediction Center](https://climatepredictioncenter.noaa.gov) predict above-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic basin this year. There's a 60% chance of an above-normal season, a 30% chance of a near-normal season, and just a 10% chance of below-normal activity.

[The 2025 outlook calls](#) for a 70% probability for each of the following ranges of activity during the 2025 hurricane season, which officially runs from June 1st through November 30th:

- 13-19 Named Storms (winds of 39 mph or higher)
- 6-10 Hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher)
- 3-5 Major Hurricanes (category 3, 4 or 5; with winds of 111 mph or higher)

Regardless of the forecast, every hurricane season requires preparation. Reliable, up-to-date storm information should always be obtained from official sources like the [The National Hurricane Center](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov) AND/OR [The National Weather Service](https://www.weather.gov). Just as the 20th Judicial Circuit has a comprehensive emergency plan, we encourage all employees and members of the public to have a plan in place for their home and family.

Court Operations and Employee Safety

Our top priority is the safety of employees and their families. We also aim to keep the courts open and operational to the greatest extent possible. In the event of closures, we work to resume mission-critical operations as soon as safely possible.

When storms develop, we monitor the progress closely. In the event that a Hurricane Warning is issued for all or part of our area, the Chief Judge will decide whether the affected courts should be closed.

Should one threaten our area, employees will be notified of actions to be taken in a number of ways: email, social media, direct communications from Court managers and supervisors, and information releases through the media (TV, radio, newspapers). We have also implemented the Send Word Now emergency notification system. This will allow Court Administration to contact employees and court partners via email, text, and phone.

After a storm, updates about reopening and returning to work will be shared using the same methods. The public should monitor our website, local media, and social media accounts.

To assist you in planning and preparing for a storm you may find the following websites helpful. Share these with your friends and family to ensure that they're prepared.

[READY.GOV](https://www.ready.gov)

[NATIONAL HURRICANE
PREPAREDNESS](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/preparedness)

[FL DEPT OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT](https://www.fldepm.com)

[AMERICAN RED CROSS](https://www.americanredcross.org)

[FLORIDA SUPREME COURT
EMERGENCY ORDERS](https://www.flcourts.org/emergency-orders)



THE CIRCUIT TIMES

Official Newsletter of the 20th Judicial Circuit of Florida




If you have pictures or a story to share,
please email Sara Miles at
smiles@ca.cjis20.org

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 [SWFLCourts](https://www.instagram.com/SWFLCourts)

 [SWFLCourts](https://twitter.com/SWFLCourts)

 [20th Judicial Circuit
Administrative Office of the Courts](https://www.linkedin.com/company/20th-Judicial-Circuit-Administrative-Office-of-the-Courts)

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