

Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC14-45

IN RE: STANDING COMMITTEE ON FAIRNESS AND DIVERSITY

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity was established to help advance the State Courts System's efforts to eliminate from court operations bias that is based on race, gender, ethnicity, age, disability, financial status, or any characteristic that is without legal relevance.

Court committees are a vital component in the governance of the judicial branch. Committees established by the Supreme Court assist in the development of policies and operating procedures that enhance the administration of justice. The Standing Committee must, however, continue to be cognizant of the limitations on the resources available to support its efforts as it develops a work plan that will accomplish, to the best of the committee's abilities, the important tasks assigned in this administrative order. Therefore, the chair should use discretion in the establishment of subcommittees that require operating funds and staff support. With regard to meetings, the Standing Committee should strive to

utilize the most economical means appropriate to the type of work being accomplished.

During the next two years the Standing Committee shall perform the following tasks:

1. The Standing Committee shall continue to explore funding opportunities for fairness and diversity education programs. The Standing Committee should continue working with the Florida Court Educational Council to identify the resources necessary to ensure that all judges and court staff are afforded the opportunity to attend a fairness and diversity education program.
2. The Standing Committee shall develop an educational campaign on implicit bias. This campaign may include developing and publishing information about educational resources for judges and court staff on implicit bias; preparing guidance and model educational activities for judges and court staff about perspective-taking; and coordinating discussion groups, panels, presentations, or other awareness efforts about the role of implicit bias in decisions and actions.
3. The Standing Committee shall develop a best practices guide to provide practical advice and direction on the implementation of court

diversity strategies and initiatives, which can serve as a resource for Florida's trial and appellate courts.

4. The Standing Committee shall build upon the outreach efforts undertaken during its 2012-2014 term by continuing to collaborate with The Florida Bar, local bar associations, community organizations, Florida law schools, and other partners, for the purpose of advancing fairness and diversity initiatives within the Florida justice system.

Should the Standing Committee make recommendations about the education and training needs of judges and court staff, the committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationships with the Florida Court Education Council. At a minimum, the Standing Committee shall provide the Chair of the Florida Court Education Council with copies of its reports and recommendations that reference court education, prior to the finalization of those reports.

Should the Standing Committee make recommendations that require additional funding or resources to implement, the Standing Committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationship with the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission or the Trial Court Budget Commission, as appropriate. At a minimum, the Standing Committee shall provide the chair of the respective budget

commission with copies of its reports and recommendations that reference the need for additional court funding or resources, prior to the finalization of those reports.

Should the Standing Committee on Fairness and Diversity make recommendations that impact on court technology, the Standing Committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationship with the Florida Courts Technology Commission. At a minimum, the Standing Committee shall provide the Chair of the Florida Courts Technology Commission with copies of its reports and recommendations that reference court technology, prior to the finalization of those reports.

The Standing Committee should submit its reports to the Chief Justice through the State Courts Administrator.

The following individuals are appointed or reappointed to serve on the Standing Committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2016:

The Honorable Scott M. Bernstein
Circuit Court Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Kevin Blazs
Circuit Court Judge, Duval County

The Honorable Ken Burke
Clerk of Court, Pinellas County

Ms. Linda Calvert-Hanson, Director
The Henry Latimer Center for Professionalism

The Honorable Peter F. Estrada
Circuit Court Judge, Tenth Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Gill S. Freeman
Circuit Court Judge, Eleventh Judicial Circuit

The Honorable Walter M. Green
County Court Judge, Alachua County

Ms. Pamela Guerrier
Attorney at Law, West Palm Beach

The Honorable Claudia Isom
Circuit Court Judge, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

Ms. Michelle Ku
Attorney at Law, Orlando

The Honorable Alicia Latimore
Circuit Court Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit

Mr. Ricardo Martinez-Cid
Attorney at Law, Miami

Ms. Raquel Matas
University of Miami, School of Law

Mr. Alan Lopez Perez
Attorney at Law, Bartow

The Honorable Errol H. Powell
Administrative Law Judge, Retired

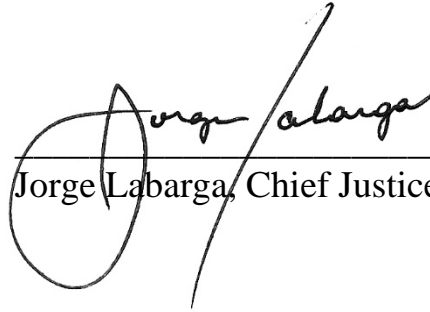
Ms. Shelia Sims
Senior Deputy Trial Court Administrator
First Judicial Circuit

Mr. Khurram Wahib
Attorney at Law, Coral Gables

Ms. Monica J. Williams
Attorney at Law, Tampa


The Honorable Scott M. Bernstein shall serve as chair of the Standing Committee through June 30, 2016. Staff support shall be provided by the Office of the State Courts Administrator.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on July 8, 2014.



Jorge Labarga, Chief Justice

ATTEST:



John A. Tomasino, Clerk of Court

