



# Supreme Court of Florida

## PROCLAMATION

### AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, Law Day is a celebration of this country and this state's great heritage of liberty, justice, and equality under law; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Law Day 2005 is "The American Jury: We the People in Action"; and

WHEREAS, trial by jury is guaranteed in the Sixth and Seventh Amendments of the United States Constitution, applicable to the States through the Fourteenth Amendment, and in Article I, sections 16 and 22 of the Florida Constitution, and has been recognized as a cornerstone of our freedoms since the first state Constitution of 1838;

WHEREAS, jury service is a privilege and a responsibility of citizenship, and few civic activities provide such a direct contact with our democracy as does jury service, which affords an opportunity for citizens with a variety of life experiences and backgrounds to actively participate in the justice system; and

WHEREAS, jurors are intelligent, informed adults who are full partners in court proceedings, and by entrusting jurors from the community to decide legal cases we reinforce our beliefs that everyday people can make the right decisions and that we are an open, democratic government; and

WHEREAS, the decisions that jurors make affect millions of lives every day and have a profound impact on this state's economy and society; and

WHEREAS, as Florida celebrates Law Day 2005 we acknowledge the vital role of juries in our justice system and we recognize the importance of educating our fellow citizens about the rewards and benefits of jury service.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara J. Pariente, Chief Justice of Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2005 as Juror Appreciation Month. I urge the judiciary, attorneys, Bar associations, citizens, schools, businesses, and media of Florida to use this occasion to dedicate themselves to the preservation and strengthening of the jury system and to expressing appreciation for those Floridians who answer the call to jury service.

AND THE SAME is hereby ordered and done at Tallahassee on March 15, 2005.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Barbara J. Pariente".

BARBARA J. PARIENTE, Chief Justice



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas D. Hall".

ATTEST: Thomas D. Hall, Clerk