

Supreme Court of Florida

No. AOSC08-82

IN RE: APPELLATE COURT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

The purpose of the Appellate Court Technology Committee, which is a standing committee of the Florida Courts Technology Commission, is to provide technical guidance and consultation to the Florida Courts Technology Commission and the Office of the State Courts Administrator regarding information systems development and operational policies and procedures relating to automation in Florida's district courts of appeal.

As a result of the economic challenges currently facing the nation and the State of Florida, our state government has experienced a substantial revenue shortfall. As a result of the decline in state financial resources, the Florida State Courts System has sustained significant reductions in operating funds and staff positions during Fiscal Years 2007/08 and 2008/09. The State of Florida may face additional reductions in state government, which may impact the courts as well.

During these demanding fiscal times, there is still a need for the important work of the Appellate Court Technology Committee to proceed. Accordingly, the term of the Committee is extended until June 30, 2010.

The progress of the Committee's work will, however, be impacted by the reduced operational funds and staffing that are available. The Committee is therefore directed to make every effort to conserve resources by: prioritizing its work and considering a gradual, phased-in approach within available resources; using discretion in the establishment of subcommittees that require operating funds and staff support; limiting the number of in-person meetings; and utilizing such options as telephone conference calls, videoconferencing, and other electronic meeting options as appropriate.

During the next two years, the committee shall perform the following tasks:

1. Coordinate with and provide advice to the Florida Courts Technology Commission regarding the development of standards and policies for implementing new technologies, system security, public access to district court information, and system support, including the identification of budget issues and funding sources.
2. Develop, recommend, and implement policy and procedures, consistent with the overall policy of the Supreme Court of Florida, relating to technology issues affecting the district courts of appeal.
3. Recommend and coordinate the purchase/upgrades of hardware and software in relation to the district courts' office automation system and network.

4. Promote orientation/education programs on technology and its effective utilization in the district court environment.

The Committee should work to incorporate the principles of accessibility into all court technology projects, through consideration and application of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; sections 282.601 through 282.606, Florida Statutes; and any other applicable state or federal disability laws.

The Committee is authorized to propose amendments to rules of court procedure on matters involving appellate court technology, as well as pursue those amendments with the appropriate Florida Bar rules committees. In that regard, the Committee is directed to establish appropriate liaison relationships with the appropriate Bar rules committees.

Should the Committee make recommendations that require additional funding or resources to implement, the Committee is directed to establish the necessary liaison relationship with the District Court of Appeal Budget Commission. At a minimum, the Committee shall provide the chair of the budget commission with copies of Committee reports and recommendations that reference the need for additional court funding or resources.

The following persons are appointed to serve on the committee for a term to expire on June 30, 2010:

The Honorable Gary M. Farmer, Chair
Fourth District Court of Appeal

A representative of the First District Court of Appeal,
to be designated by that court's chief judge

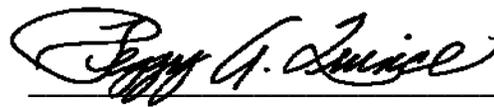
A representative of the Second District Court of Appeal,
to be designated by that court's chief judge

A representative of the Third District Court of Appeal,
to be designated by that court's chief judge

A representative of the Fifth District Court of Appeal,
to be designated by that court's chief judge

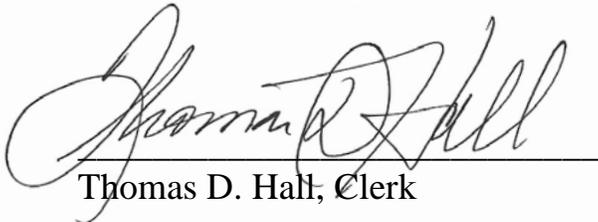
The Office of the State Courts Administrator shall provide the necessary
staff support to enable the Committee to perform its duties.

DONE AND ORDERED at Tallahassee, Florida, on September 23, 2008.



Chief Justice Peggy A. Quince

ATTEST:



Thomas D. Hall, Clerk

