



Thirteenth Judicial Circuit ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE HONORABLE RONALD FICARROTTA RE-ELECTED AS CHIEF JUDGE



Tampa, FL – The **Honorable Ronald N. Ficarrotta** was unanimously re-elected by his colleagues as Chief Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, to another two-year term beginning July 1, 2021. Judge Ficarrotta has served as Chief Judge of the Thirteenth Circuit since January, 2015. Chief Judge Ficarrotta conveys his deepest appreciation to his fellow judges for their confidence and trust shown by re-electing him to a fourth term, as he continues to guide the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit through the pandemic.

As Chief Judge, he serves as the administrative officer of the court, and works closely with the Trial Court Administrator, **Gina Justice**, to develop and implement local policy and procedure. The Chief Judge is also responsible for overseeing the assignment of 62 judges to divisions, and represents the judiciary at both the local and state level on a number of committees and workgroups.

Chief Judge Ficarrotta was appointed to the Hillsborough County bench in 1994 by Governor Lawton Chiles. In 1999 he was appointed to the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit bench by Governor Jeb Bush. Chief Judge Ficarrotta has presided over Family Law, Domestic Violence, County Criminal and Felony Division cases throughout the circuit. He currently presides over the Thirteenth Circuit's Adult and Juvenile Mental Health Courts.

Chief Judge Ficarrotta, a Tampa native, graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Advertising from the University of Florida in 1979, and received his Juris Doctor from South Texas College of Law in 1982. Before being appointed to the bench, Chief Judge Ficarrotta worked as an Assistant State Attorney in Hillsborough County.