



## Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida

**For Immediate Release**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**



#### **THE HONORABLE TOBY S. MONACO ELECTED AS CHIEF JUDGE**

ALACHUA COUNTY, FL – The Honorable Toby S. Monaco was unanimously elected as Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit. His term begins January 1, 2017. The Chief Judge serves as the administrative officer of the court, and works closely with the Trial Court Administrator to develop and implement local court policy and procedure. The Chief Judge is also responsible for overseeing the assignment of judges to divisions, and represents the judiciary at both the local and state level on a number of committees and workgroups.

Judge Monaco was elected to the Eighth Judicial Circuit bench in September 2000 and began his term as a Circuit Judge in January 2001. Judge Monaco served as the Administrative Judge of the Family Divisions from March 2002–July 2003. He was also the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Civil Divisions from January 2005–February 2010, and from January 2013–December 2016. Judge Monaco currently serves on the Legislative Coordinating Committee of the Circuit Judges' Conference and Judicial Needs Assessment Committee. Since Judge Monaco's election to the bench, he has presided over family, dependency, delinquency, civil, probate, and guardianship cases throughout the circuit.

Judge Monaco graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Florida in 1970, and received his Juris Doctor with honors from the University Of Florida College Of Law in 1973. Before being elected to the bench, Judge Monaco practiced as a civil trial lawyer in Gainesville for over 25 years. He was President of the Eighth Judicial Circuit Bar Association in 1982-3, was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers in 1994, has been an adjunct instructor in trial practice at the UF Levin College of Law, was a founding board member of both the Justice James C. Adkins and Gerald T. Bennett Inns of Court, and has served on temporary assignment to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> District Courts of Appeal. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Gainesville.