



## Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida

**For Immediate Release**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. ROUNDTREE, JR. RETIRING**



GAINESVILLE, ALACHUA COUNTY, FL – After 15 years of service on the Eighth Judicial Circuit Court, which includes Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union counties, the Honorable Robert E. Roundtree, Jr. will retire on June 30, 2017.

Roundtree graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor's of Building Construction in 1975 and from the Florida State University College of Law in 1979. Before taking the bench, Roundtree clerked for the First District Court of Appeal in Tallahassee and then as a civil attorney in Gainesville for 20 years.

Roundtree was appointed to the circuit court in 2002. He presided over family, dependency, delinquency, civil, probate, and guardianship cases throughout the Eighth Judicial Circuit, serving as the Circuit Civil Administrative Judge in 2010. Roundtree was elected Chief Judge in April 2012 and re-elected for a second two-year term on July 1, 2015.

Roundtree's tenure as a circuit judge and Chief Judge has certainly left its mark. He has positively impacted the statewide court system through his work on the Trial Court Budget Commission (TCBC), which he currently chairs. The TCBC oversees the preparation and implementation of the statewide trial court budget, and is responsible for setting budgeting and funding policies and procedures for the trial courts.

Roundtree championed innovation throughout his judicial career. Through his leadership, individuals without an attorney can now seek legal assistance in family law matters at the new John A. H. Murphree Law Library and Self Help Center, which opened October 28, 2016. Roundtree led the Eighth Circuit's transition to a paperless

court and he supported the continued development of the Eighth Circuit's "homegrown" software systems, ICMS and OpenCourt, which resulted in great savings to taxpayers statewide. OpenCourt is now used in 330 courtrooms across 10 circuits and 36 counties. ICMS is used as the judicial viewer and case management system in 5 circuits and 23 counties.

He also worked in collaboration with the Alachua County Clerk of Court J.K. "Buddy" Irby, Public Defender Stacy A. Scott, and State Attorney William P. Cervone to fund and construct the new Public Defender's Office in Alachua County.