

THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 9.06

METHOD OF SELECTION OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

WHEREAS, Florida rule of Judicial Administration 2.215(c) provides that the Chief Judge shall be chosen by a majority of the circuit and county court judges within a circuit for a term of two years commencing on July 1 of each odd-numbered year; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration do not provide a method for the election of the Chief Judge; and

WHEREAS, a consistent and clearly defined method for the election of the Chief Judge is deemed essential to the orderly administration of the Eighth Judicial Circuit; now

THEREFORE, it is hereby

ORDERED that:

1. On the first Tuesday following the first Monday of each odd-numbered year, the Court Administrator will publish on the Eighth Judicial Circuit intranet web site a nomination form to be used for nominating a candidate for the position of Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit, which will be substantially similar to the nomination form attached to this order.

2. All nominations for the position of Chief Judge shall be in writing on the published form and submitted to the Court Administrator on or before 5:00 p.m. on the first regular business day of February of each odd-numbered year.

3. Upon the closing of nominations, the Court Administrator will distribute to all circuit and county court judges a ballot, together with an envelope marked "Chief Judge Ballot" in which to put the completed ballot. The ballot shall contain an alphabetical list of nominated judges for the position of Chief Judge. The judges shall vote for their preference by marking an "x" beside the candidate of choice. The completed ballot is to be placed in the ballot envelope

and sealed. The ballot envelope shall be placed inside the judge's office stationery envelope and delivered to the Court Administrator before noon on the second Friday of February or at the judges meeting held for the purpose of electing the Chief Judge.

4. On the second Friday in February at noon, the judges shall meet for the purpose of electing the Chief Judge. The Court Administrator shall announce the number and names of judges who have cast ballots. In the presence of the attending judges, the Court Administrator will open the sealed ballots and tabulate the votes.

5. If no judge receives a majority on the first ballot, the Court Administrator will distribute another ballot containing the names of the two judges receiving the highest number of votes.

6. In the event of a tie vote on the second ballot, the meeting will be adjourned, a new nomination period will be set by the then current Chief Judge, and the entire election process will be repeated.

7. In the event of a tie vote after the entire election process has been repeated, as provided in paragraph 6, the matter will be referred to Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court.

8. In addition to the foregoing, the following general rules shall apply:

(a) The first judge to receive a majority of the votes of all circuit judges and county court judges is elected Chief Judge.

(b) No proxy voting is allowed.

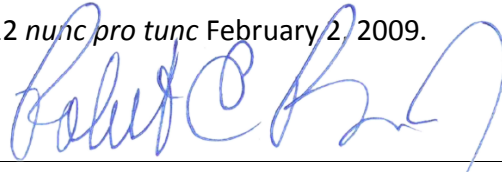
(c) Absentee votes are allowed and counted in each ballot.

(d) The Court Administrator will be responsible for conducting the election and will announce the results of each ballot.

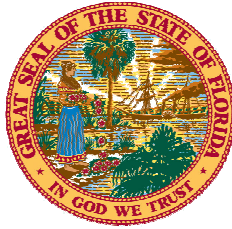
9. This order supersedes Administrative Order No. 8.1300, dated 12 December 2008.

This order renumbers and reformats prior Administrative Order No. 8.1300(A) entitled "Method for Selection of the Chief Judge."

ORDERED ON this 8th day of October, 2012 *nunc pro tunc* February 2, 2009.



Robert E. Roundtree, Jr., Chief Judge



**EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
NOMINATION FOR CHIEF JUDGE**

I, _____, Circuit Judge/County Court Judge, hereby
nominate _____ for Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial Circuit for the
term of July 1, ____ - June 30, ____.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Judge

ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION

I hereby accept the nomination for Chief Judge for the term of July 1, ____ - June 30,
_____.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Judge