

W. LOWELL BRAY, JR.
Pasco Administrative Judge

KERRY LYNN RICE
Director of Administrative Services




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CIRCUIT COURT
SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA

December 24, 2009

TO: Members of the West Pasco Bar Association
Members of Pasco County Bar Association

FROM: W. Lowell Bray, Jr., Pasco Administrative Judge 

RE: NOTICE TO BAR OF NEW FORMS MANDATED BY CIVIL
AND FAMILY RULES OF PROCEDURE

As you may be aware, in SC08-1141, "In Re: Amendments to the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure – Management of Cases Involving Complex Litigation," the Florida Supreme Court amended several Rules of Civil Procedure and Family Law Rules of Procedure, and some of the forms for cases filed under those rules. As a result, effective January 1, 2010, a new Civil Cover Sheet, Form 1.997, and a new Family Court Cover Sheet, Form 12.928, are required for cases filed on or after January 1, 2010. The revised Form 1.997, is required for all cases filed under the Florida Rules of Civil Procedure (see the revised Form for further instruction). The revised Form 12.928, is required for all cases filed under the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure or the Florida Rules of Juvenile Procedure. Please ensure that you use the new forms beginning January 1, 2010.

The Final Disposition Form, Form 1.998, was also amended. The latest amendment to Form 1.998 was effective October 15, 2009. Additionally in SC08-1141, a new form Order Designating a Case Complex, Form 1.999, was created effective May 28, 2009. As both of those forms have been required for some time, please ensure that you are already using the revised forms when appropriate under the Rules of Civil Procedure.

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The Cover and Final Disposition forms provide for expanded case category designations to more accurately capture critical information needed to assess court activity.

The amendments to Civil Rules of Procedure 1.100(c)(3) require that a Final Disposition form 1.998 must also be filed with the Clerk if the action is settled without a court order or judgment being either entered or dismissed by the parties.

In order to provide the necessary information to the Clerk of Circuit Court for the purpose of reporting judicial workload data pursuant to Florida Statute section 25.075, I am asking that you ensure that these forms are timely filed when opening, reopening, closing or designating a case complex.

As a convenience for the Bar, the Clerk has provided a link to the Supreme Court order and forms, along with related documentation, which can be accessed through the website at www.pascoclerk.com.

WLBjr/klr

CC: Ms. Paula O'Neil, Pasco Clerk and Comptroller
Kerry Lynn Rice, Director of Admin. Services